

BROOKFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
Brookfield Public Schools
REGULAR MEETING - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2014
BROOKFIELD HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER, BROOKFIELD, CT
7:00 p.m.
MINUTES

Chairman Scott McCarthy called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Present: Scott McCarthy Paul Checco, Susan Queenan, Steve Harding, Victor Katz, and Tara Lerner

Absent- Harry Shaker

Also Present: Acting Superintendent Ralph Iassogna, Assistant Superintendent Genie Slone, Director of Special Services Interim Director of Finance and Operations Gregg Miller, Director of Special Services Charlie Manos, Interim BHS Principal Mark Jewett and members of the public.

PUBLIC COMMENT

none

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

none

WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE

none

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

S. Queenan moved, P. Checco seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to approve the minutes listed below as recommended:

Regular Meeting- 10/1/14

S. McCarthy, P. Checco, S. Queenan, V. Katz, S. Harding and T. Lerner voted aye.

P. Checco moved, V. Katz seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to amend the agenda to move up item #7A, Swim Team Trip, to this portion of the agenda.

S. McCarthy, P. Checco, S. Queenan, V. Katz, S. Harding and T. Lerner voted aye.

SWIM TEAM TRIP

After an overview from BHS Swim Team Coach Brain Reiff, S. Queenan moved, S. Harding seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to approve a trip to travel to Orlando, Florida from Wednesday, February 11, 2015- Monday, February 16, 2015 for their annual training.

S. McCarthy, P. Checco, S. Queenan, V. Katz, S. Harding and T. Lerner voted aye.

CONSENT AGENDA

S. Queenan moved, S. Harding seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to approve the items on the consent agenda as recommended.

S. McCarthy, P. Checco, S. Queenan, V. Katz, S. Harding and T. Lerner voted aye.

The Board had brief discussion on concussions and class size.

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Mr. Iassogna gave an update on the Brookfield Cares Forum held on 10/14/14, "Courageous Kids dare to Speak about Drugs and Other Challenging Behaviors". He thanked the three panelists and everyone involved in the planning of this event.

Mr. Iassogna gave a brief overview that the budget process is underway and meetings will be commencing shortly. Mr. McCarthy asked about the State Grant for Chart of Accounts.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Business and Facilities- 10/6/14- Mr. Checco said the subcommittee approved the Financials for September, 2014. The subcommittee met with John DuFour from All-Star transportation regarding the bus contract. Mike Matson, Chairman of RBAC spoke about the OPEB (post retirement medical) liability. They discussed key areas in the 2014-15 budget that may reflect budget shortfalls; the roof replacement project at BHS, the format of the enrollment report, and other items.

NEW BUSINESS

HOME SCHOOL REPORT

S. Queenan moved, S. Harding seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to accept the Home Schooling report as recommended by Assistant Superintendent Dr. Genie Slone.

S. McCarthy, P. Checco, S. Queenan, V. Katz, S. Harding and T. Lerner voted aye.

PRELIMINARY BUDGET DISCUSSION/GOALS

The Board discussed the goals they have for the 2015-2016 budget. Mr. Checco said he would like class sizes restored to their respective guidelines and lower Pay to Participate fees. Mrs. Queenan agreed and requested funding for track uniforms, science tables at WMS and a college coach for seniors. Mr. Katz agreed with class size and uniforms and asked to see the restoration of a third world language and maintenance mechanic. Mr. Harding asked for a special education teacher at WMS and student textbooks in each classroom. Chairman McCarthy agreed with class size restoration and asked to have the 2 days put back on the calendar for student instruction. He also spoke about enrichments programs and special education, as well as restoring the 3rd world language and phasing in a 4th. He asked for a thorough and comprehensive capital improvement list and the removal of the portable classrooms. The Board also discussed locking in gas prices.

ADJOURNMENT

S. McCarthy moved, S. Queenan seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to adjourn its regular meeting at 8:35 PM.

S. McCarthy, P. Checco, S. Queenan, V. Katz, S. Harding and T. Lerner voted aye.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Gramling, Board Clerk

Susan Queenan, Secretary
Brookfield Board of Education