

**BROOKFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Brookfield Public Schools**  
**(ZOOM) REGULAR MEETING - WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2021**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
**MINUTES**

Chairman Rosa Fernandes called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**(Present via Zoom):** Rosa Fernandes, Bob Belden, Debbie Brooks, Amy Foster, Joy Greenstein, Jen Laden, Michael Murphy, Superintendent Dr. John Barile, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Maureen Ruby, Director of Business & Operations Ken Post, Director of Special Services Gina Wygonik, Director of Instruction Deb Farias, Director of Technology Eric Conklin, Director of Human Resources Terri Kavanagh, BHS Principal Marc Balanda, WMS Principal Deane Renda, HHES Principal Melissa Labroschiano, CES Principal Mary Rose Dymond and members of the faculty, staff and administration.

The Board held a moment of silence for HHES Diane Nason.

**STUDENT SPOTLIGHT- CENTER SCHOOL**

The Board and Superintendent received a presentation from CES staff and students who shared how their students have been growing skills in the 4C's during remote learning.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE**

Tanvi Chennuru gave an update on the happenings at BHS.

**WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE**

Laura Orban wrote regarding the district response to events at the Capitol on January 6th.

Ron Jaffe shared information on a teen inauguration special.

Vin Rajcula wrote regarding return to school.

Elijah Huling wrote regarding winter athletics.

**APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES**

A. Foster moved, J. Greenstein seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the minutes listed below as recommended:

Special BOE Meeting- 1/6/2021

Public Forum 1/6/2021

Regular Meeting- 1/6/2021

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, J. Greenstein, D. Brooks, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

Dr. Barile reported on the students being back to school and talked about the percentages of students who are in person vs. remote. Mr. Balanda is talking about putting a survey together for in person vs hybrid learning. The Superintendent gave an update on vaccines for the district as well as traffic at the buildings regarding pick up and drop off. BHS has been recognized as a Michael's Cup winner. CIAC & DPH have sent their winter recommendations for all CT Sports. Wrestling and Indoor Track will not be permitted to compete at this time. Basketball, Swimming and Hockey will compete. Dance and Cheer will

begin this Friday. Brookfield High School student Samhita Shirsat was the District 5 Winner for the MLK Essay Contest. R & B Enterprises will be donating a 65" Mobile SmartBoard at BHS and P.E. - 7 Smart Kapp Boards. The CAPSS Proposed Blueprint to Transform CT Public Schools was released this week.

### **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Finance- 1/11/21 and Special Finance- 1/18/21-** Mr. Belden reported on the financials and Special Education costs. The subcommittee also discussed the operating budget. They subcommittee met again on 1/18/2021 to further discuss the budget which will be discussed later in the BOE meeting.

**Facilities- 1/13/21-** Mrs. Greenstein said the subcommittee discussed School Dude reports, custodial staffing update and a water update at WMS. The subcommittee discussed the formation of an IAQ committee, facilities budget and possibly removing personal appliances from the schools, and a NEASC report follow up. There was a walkthrough at HHES with O & G and Tecton to prepare for preliminary work and construction. Conversation included relocating the awning at HHES.

**Equity & Inclusion- 1/14/21-** Mrs. Foster said the committee has its first meeting on 1/14/2021 and the members introduced themselves. Dr. Barile gave the committee an update on BOE/District actions since June. The committee discussed why Equity & Inclusion is important to Brookfield and its impact on the organization and community. They set the framework for the committee and their work ahead. Dr. Ruby gave the committee a brief overview of RULER.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

A. Foster moved, J. Greenstein seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the items listed on the consent agenda as recommended:

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **NEW SCHOOL NAMING**

A. Foster moved, B. Belden seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to discuss the name of the new elementary school as recommended by the New School Naming Committee.

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, J. Greenstein, D. Brooks, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

The Board discussed the survey results for naming the new school. After discussion, R. Fernandes moved, A. Foster seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to adopt Candlewood Lake Elementary School as the name for the new elementary school.

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, J. Greenstein, D. Brooks, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

#### **SETTING OF GRADUATION DATE-CLASS OF 2021**

A. Foster moved, J. Greenstein seconded, to set the graduation date for the Brookfield High School Class of 2021 for as recommended by BHS Principal Marc Balanda.

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, J. Greenstein, D. Brooks, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

After discussion with BHS Principal Marc Balanda, R. Fernandes moved, A Foster seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to amend the motion that the Board of Education set the graduation date for the Class of 2021 date for June 12<sup>th</sup> as recommended by BHS Marc Balanda.

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, J. Greenstein, D. Brooks, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

#### **EXTENSION OF FOOD SERVICE CONTRACT**

A. Foster moved, B. Belden seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the extension of the Whitsons Food Service contract for one year as recommended by Director of Operations Ken Post.

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, J. Greenstein, D. Brooks, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

### **TEACHER’S CONTRACT**

R. Fernandes moved, B. Belden seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to amend the agenda to add the approval of the Memorandum of Agreement between the Brookfield Board of Education and the Brookfield Education Association to after executive session.

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, J. Greenstein, D. Brooks, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **POLICIES**

#### **DELETION OF POLICY#5141.23, COMMUNICABLE/INFECTIOUS DISEASE**

A. Foster moved, J. Greenstein seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the deletion of Brookfield’s Policy #5141.23, Communicable/Infectious Disease for a final reading as recommended by the Policy/Communications subcommittee. First reading was on 12/16/2020.

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, J. Greenstein, D. Brooks, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

#### **POLICY #6114, EMERGENCY AND DISASTER PREPAREDENESS**

A. Foster moved, J. Greenstein seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the deletion of Brookfield Policy #6114, Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, and replace it with CABE’s version for a final reading as recommended by the Policy/Communications subcommittee. First reading was on 12/16/2020.

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, J. Greenstein, D. Brooks, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

#### **POLICY# 6114.6, EMERGENCY CLOSINGS**

A. Foster moved, J. Greenstein seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the deletion of Brookfield Policy #6114.6, Emergency Closings, and replace it with CABE’s version for a final reading, as recommended by the Policy/Communications subcommittee. First reading was on 12/16/2020.

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, J. Greenstein, D. Brooks, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

#### **NEW POLICY #6114.8, PANDEMIC/EPIDEMIC EMERGENCIES**

A. Foster moved, J. Greenstein seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the adoption of CABE Policy #6114.8, Pandemic/Epidemic Emergencies for a final reading as recommended by the Policy/Communications subcommittee. First reading was on 12/16/2020.

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, J. Greenstein, D. Brooks, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

#### **SUPERINTENDENT’S 2021-2022 BUDGET DISCUSSION-POSSIBLE MOTION**

The Board continued its discussion on the Superintendent’s 2021-2022 budget and approve submission of such to the First Selectman by January 31, 2021.

After discussion, R. Fernandes moved, J. Laden seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the 2021 2022 budget in the amount of \$47,287,469.

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, J. Greenstein, D. Brooks, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

#### **CAPITAL PROJECTS DISCUSSION**

The Board reviewed the 2021-2022 Prioritized Capital Projects List which was approved by the Board on October 21/2020.

#### **NEW SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT**

The Board received an update on the new school building project.

### **3 MAIN POINTS**

1. 2021-2022 Budget Adoption
2. Graduation
3. New School Name/Groundbreaking

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Mrs. Foster listed upcoming events.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION ANTICIPATED**

Chairman Rosa Fernandes called the meeting to order at 9:00 pm.

**Present:** Bob Belden, Debbie Brooks, Rosa Fernandes, Amy Foster, Joy Greenstein and Mike Murphy. Superintendent Dr. John Barile, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Maureen Ruby, Director of Business and Operations Ken Post and Human Resources Director Teresa Kavanagh were invited in at 9:00 pm.

Jen Laden joined at 9:07 pm.

Bob Belden, Debbie Brooks, Rosa Fernandes, Amy Foster, Joy Greenstein, Mike Murphy, Jen Laden, Superintendent Dr. John Barile, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Maureen Ruby, Director of Business and Operations Ken Post and Human Resources Director Teresa Kavanagh exited out of executive session at 9:21 pm.

R. Fernandes moved B. Belden seconded and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Brookfield Board of Education and the Brookfield Education Association.

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, J. Greenstein, D. Brooks, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Without objection, Chairman Rosa Fernandes adjourned the meeting at 9:22 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lisa Gramling, Board Clerk

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Amy Foster, Secretary  
Brookfield Board of Education