

BROOKFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
Brookfield Public Schools
(ZOOM) REGULAR MEETING, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2020
7:00 P.M.
MINUTES

Chairman Rosa Fernandes called the meeting to order at 7:05 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 Labrosciano, CES Principal Mary Rose Dymond and members of the faculty, staff and administration.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT-WHISCONIER MIDDLE SCHOOL

The Board and Superintendent received a presentation from WMS staff and students regarding CT Arts for Learning and a presentation on Social/Emotional Learning.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Tanvi Chennuru gave an update on the happenings at BHS

WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE

Dennis Kardaris, Joe Penny and Christina Zimmerman wrote regarding remote learning.
William Fox and Jackson Sharpe wrote regarding boys volleyball at BHS.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

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

Regular Meeting- 12/2/2020

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Dr. Barile stated that 12/17/2020 will be a snow day instead of remote learning day. He said the Brookfield Broadcast newsletter will be going out soon and also gave a brief COVID update. Dr. Barile thanked Bob Serio from RnB Enterprises for his generous technology donation. Mr. Conklin gave a brief Chromebook and remote learning report.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Facilities- 12/2/2020- Mrs. Greenstein said the subcommittee discussed the School Dude reports as well as a custodial staffing update and the mouse issue at BHS. They received an update on capital improvements and the WMS water system controls.

Special Finance Meeting- 12/7/2020- Mr. Belden reported on both the special and regular finance subcommittee meetings. Discussion included November financial reports and, in length, the Superintendent's proposed 2021-2022 budget. The subcommittee will meet again on December 21st for further discussion.

New School Naming Committee- 12/8/2020- Dr. Murphy said the subcommittee discussed the possible names for the new school and narrowed it down to 3-5 names.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

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

NEW BUSINESS

POLICIES

DELETION OF POLICY#5141.23, COMMUNICABLE/INFECTIOUS DISEASE

A. Foster moved, J. Greenstein seconded, to approve the deletion of Brookfield’s Policy #5141.23, Communicable/Infectious Disease, as recommended by the Policy/Communications subcommittee.

B. Belden moved, R. Fernandes seconded and the Board voted 7-0 to amend the motion to add the language “for a first reading” to the rest of the policy motions.

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

POLICY #6114, EMERGENCY AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

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 CABA’s version, as recommended by the Policy/Communications subcommittee for a first reading.

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 CABA’s version, as recommended by the Policy/Communications subcommittee for a first reading.

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, B. Belden seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the adoption of CABA Policy #6114.8, Pandemic/Epidemic Emergencies, as recommended by the Policy/Communications subcommittee for a first reading.

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

NEW SCHOOL NAMING COMMITTEE/POSSIBLE MOTION

The Board received a PowerPoint presentation and a list of recommended names for the new school for Board discussion. A survey will go out and results will be discussed at the second Board meeting in January.

After discussion, B. Belden moved, A. Foster seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 that the Board accept the findings and recommendations of the school naming committee, and thank them for an excellent piece of work, and that the Board embark on a survey of parents to be organized with the school administration, and that the Board collect that input for their decision which would be targeted at the January 20, 2021 Board meeting. Mr. Belden amended his motion to add the addition of sending the survey to all Brookfield residents, not just parents.

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

OLD BUSINESS

REVIEW OF THE SUPERINTENDENT’S 2021-2022 BUDGET PROPOSAL

The Board reviewed and continued its discussion on the 2021-2022 budget proposal as presented by Superintendent Dr. John Barile on 12/2/2020. The Board received more information from Athletic Director Steve Baldwin and Director of Technology Eric Conklin regarding the rationale for their budget requests.

NEW SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT

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

3 MAIN POINTS

1. WMS Student Spotlight
2. New School Naming Discussion
3. Budget Discussion

Mrs. Foster listed upcoming events.

ADJOURNMENT: Without objection, Chairman Rosa Fernandes adjourned the meeting at 10:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Gramling, Board Clerk

Amy Foster, Secretary
Brookfield Board of Education