

**BROOKFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Brookfield Public Schools**  
**REGULAR MEETING - WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2022**  
**BROOKFIELD HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
**MINUTES**

Chairman Bob Belden called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**PRESENT:**

Bob Belden, Joy Greenstein Amy Foster, Rosa Fernandes, Debbie Brooks, Dr. Mike Murphy, Sharon Butow Superintendent Dr. John Barile, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Anna Mahon, Director of Business & Operations Ken Post, Director of Special Services Amy DeNicola-Hickman, Director of Technology Eric Conklin, BHS Principal Marc Balanda, WMS Principal Deane Renda, HHES Principal Dr. Dave Pepsoski, CES Principal Deb Farias and members of the staff and public.

**STUDENT SPOTLIGHT- WHISCONIER MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Whisconier Middle School highlighted their History Simulations in Social Studies classes.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ryan Roudenis and Tony Carr spoke about the Attitudes and Behaviors survey.  
Casey and Own Clarkson spoke about privacy and security

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE- KAITLYN ZEZZA**

Kaitlyn Zezza gave an update on the happenings at BHS.

**WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE**

Monique Matthews, Erin Scalera Chris Tavino and Andy Corea wrote regarding a FERPA violation.  
Denise Rice wrote regarding special education staffing and concerns and an FOIA request.  
Mark Ferry wrote regarding the Candlewood school delays.  
Jason Eddy wrote regarding the safe school climate committee and the budget round table.  
Shari Styranovski wrote regarding special education concerns.  
Joe Carollo and SWC coaches wrote a letter of recommendation  
Tara Carr and Elena Lopez wrote regarding the Attitudes and Behaviors Survey.  
Ryan Roudenis wrote regarding public comment.

**APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES**

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

Regular Meeting- 10/19/2022

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

**SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

Dr. Barile spoke about recent events in the schools celebrating Veteran's Day. He spoke about this week being American Education Week. Superintendent Barile talked about BHS Best Buddies and the CABA Communications Awards. Attorney Christine Chinni gave the Board an overview on FERPA requests. Dr. Barile said the district is working with Attorney Chinni to implement improved practices to prevent FERPA violations. DR. Barile gave the Board a staffing update and Dr. Mahon spoke about NEASC & the Merit Scholar program. The Superintendent spoke about the upcoming Brookfield Education Foundation Gala and gave an update on the Cybersecurity insurance.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Policy/Communications- 10/19/2022-** Mrs. Brooks said the subcommittee discussed 3 new policies coming to the Board for a first reading. Communications discussion included district wide videos and better ways of communicating the budget roundtable to the public.

**Security Task Force- 11/3/2022-** Mr. Belden said the task force spent most of their discussion on physical security priorities and budget for BHS & WMS.

**Facilities- 11/3/2022-** Mrs. Greenstein said the subcommittee received a capital projects update including the BHS HVAC project, the WMS wall and security enhancements and the funding for those enhancements.

**CAPE- 11/9/2022-** Dr. Murphy said the subcommittee discussed instructional coaching, SEL Assessment and they also received an update on the CT State Department of Education K-3 reading assessment and program update.

**Strategic Planning- 11/10/2022 (verbal report) -** Mr. Belden gave an update on the current work of the Strategic Planning Committee with Jonathan Costa.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

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

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **DISCUSSION OF ATTITUDES AND BEHAVIOR SURVEY**

The Board discussed the Attitudes and Behavior survey. Colette Sturm, Chairman for Brookfield Cares, gave the Board an overview the support and resources that Brookfield Cares provides Mrs. Sturm spoke about the survey and how it yields its results. The Board had discussion and asked Mrs. Sturm questions about opting in and opting out of surveys.

### **CLASS SIZE REPORT**

The Board received the Class Size report as prepared by Assistant Superintendent Dr. Anna Mahon.

### **ML (MULTILINGUAL LEARNERS) BY GRADE REPORT**

The Board received a report on ML's (Multilingual Learners) as prepared by Assistant Superintendent Dr. Anna Mahon.

### **HOME SCHOOL REPORT**

The Board received a report on home schooling as prepared by Assistant Superintendent Dr. Anna Mahon.

### **NEW POLICY 6162.51, SURVEY OF STUDENTS, NEW POLICY # 5145.53- TRANSGENDER AND GENDER NON-CONFORMING YOUTH AND NEW POLICY # 6115, CEREMONIES & OBSERVANCES-SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE**

A. Foster moved, R. Fernandes seconded, and after discussion, the Board voted 7-0 to approve new Policy 6162.51, Survey of Students, new Policy # 5145.53- Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Youth, and new Policy # 6115, Ceremonies & Observances Separation of Church and State for a first reading as recommended by the Policy/Communications subcommittee.

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

**PRIORITIZED 2023-2024 AND UPDATED 10-YEAR PRIORITIZED CAPITAL PROJECTS DISCUSSION/APPROVAL**

The Board discussed the 2023-2024 and updated 10-year Prioritized Capital Projects List as recommended by the Facilities subcommittee.

After discussion, R. Fernandes moved, J. Greenstein seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to send the 10 year prioritized capital projects list to the Town as presented.

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

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**CANDLEWOOD LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROJECT UPDATE**

The Board discussed the Candlewood Lake Elementary School building project

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Erin Scalera and Denise Rice spoke about Special Education

**3 MAIN POINTS**

1. Whisconier Spotlight
2. Brookfield Cares study
3. CLES

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Mrs. Foster listed upcoming events

**ADJOURNMENT**

Without objection, Chairman Bob Belden adjourned the meeting at 10:26 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lisa Gramling, Board Clerk

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Amy Foster, Secretary  
Brookfield Board of Education