

**BROOKFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Brookfield Public Schools**  
**REGULAR MEETING - WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2019**  
**BROOKFIELD HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER, BROOKFIELD, CT**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
**MINUTES**

Chairman Colette Sturm called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**Present:** Colette Sturm, Bob Belden, Rosa Fernandes, Jen Laden and Debbie Brooks

**Absent:** Joy Greenstein and Eve Sturdevant

**Also Present:** 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, BHS Principal Marc Balanda, WMS Principal Deane Renda, HHES Principal Melissa Labroschiano, CES Principal Mary Rose Dymond, and members of the staff, press and public.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

#### **WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE**

Ron Jaffe- An article regarding civics education

Christina Zimmerman-Regarding the State's change with minimum wage

Chris Delia-regarding a budget question concerning laptops

#### **APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES**

C. Sturm moved, B. Belden seconded, and the Board voted 5-0 to approve the minutes listed below as recommended:

Regular Meeting- 7/17/19

C. Sturm, B. Belden, J. Laden, R. Fernandes and D. Brooks voted aye.

#### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Barile reported that as of today, total enrollment is at 2636. He reported on the Lions Club golf outing. Dr. Barile sent out a video and newsletter to parents. The 1<sup>st</sup> day of school is 8/28.19. Dr. Barile attended the VFW renaming ceremony. Twenty three new teachers attended orientation today. August 26<sup>th</sup> is convocation. Mr. Post reported on the EFS report due 9/4/19. Dr. Barile gave an update on Leadership Advance, where security, teacher efficacy, legislative updates and theme of gratitude were discussed.

#### **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Facilities 7/17& 8/13-** Mrs. Brooks reported that the custodians have been busy with summer cleaning. She gave an update on Hillyard and the cafeteria floors at Center School. The subcommittee was given a presentation by the Girl Scouts to install hand sanitizers in the schools which was discussed and approved by the subcommittee.

**Policy/Communications 7/17-** Mrs. Fernandes said the subcommittee continues its work on the #3000 policy series. They discussed the 504 policy and the SEL video.

**Healthy School Start Time- 8/5/19-** Mrs. Fernandes said members from the Ridgefield Public Schools attended the meeting to discuss start times. The subcommittee continued its discussion on the three surveys targeted at students, parents and staff.

**Finance- 8/12/19-** Mr. Belden said the Board and the Town are working on a common non lapsing fund policy. They discussed the preliminary year-end financial report on the new online payment option for parents. Discussion included the transportation contract bid with the possibility of negotiating a two year extension with the current provider.

**Personnel & Negotiations- 8/14/19-** Mrs. Sturm said the committee went into executive session to discuss strategy and negotiations as it relates to collective bargaining, minimum wage adjustments, pay rate guidelines and unaffiliated salaries.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

C. Sturm moved, B. Belden seconded to approve the items on the Consent Agenda as recommended.

After discussion, B. Belden, seconded, and the Board voted 5-0 to amend the consent agenda to include the inclusion of Ryan Fitzsimmons (BHS Math Teacher who resigned).

C. Sturm, B. Belden, J. Laden, R. Fernandes and D. Brooks voted aye.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **POLICIES**

##### **POLICY #3541, TRANSPORTATION**

B. Belden moved, J. Laden seconded, and the Board voted 5-0 to approve Policy # 3541, Transportation, for a first reading as recommended by the Policy/Communications subcommittee.

C. Sturm, B. Belden, J. Laden, R. Fernandes and D. Brooks voted aye.

##### **POLICY # 3532, INSURANCE**

B. Belden moved, J. Laden seconded, and the Board voted 5-0 to approve Policy # 3532, Insurance, for a first reading as recommended by the Policy/Communications subcommittee.

C. Sturm, B. Belden, J. Laden, R. Fernandes and D. Brooks voted aye.

##### **POLICY #5118, RESIDENCY**

B. Belden moved, J. Laden seconded, to approve Policy # 5118, Residency, for a first reading as recommended by the Policy/Communications subcommittee.

After discussion, B. Belden moved, J. Laden seconded, and the Board voted 5-0 to table Policy #5118 to the next meeting.

C. Sturm, B. Belden, J. Laden, R. Fernandes and D. Brooks voted aye.

#### **PAY RATE GUIDELINES**

B. Belden moved, J. Laden seconded, and after an overview of changes by Mr. Post, the Board voted 5-0 to approve the Pay Rate Guidelines as recommended by the Personnel and Negotiations subcommittee and the Administration.

C. Sturm, B. Belden, J. Laden, R. Fernandes and D. Brooks voted aye.

### **REQUEST FOR ABA PARAPROFESSIONALS**

B. Belden moved, J. Laden seconded, and the Board voted 5-0 to approve the request to hire 3 ABA Paraprofessionals as recommended by the Personnel and Negotiations subcommittee and the Administration and as funded through the IDEA grant.

C. Sturm, B. Belden, J. Laden, R. Fernandes and D. Brooks voted aye.

### **AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE PRESENTATION/POSSIBLE MOTION**

The Board received an American Sign Language presentation as recommended by BHS Principal Marc Balanda and World Language/ELL Coordinator Kemen Holley.

After discussion, B. Belden moved, J. Laden seconded, and the Board voted 5-0 to;

- A. Adopt the Virtual High School American Sign Language Program for the upcoming school year;
- B. That the Board approve a Class Facilitator- 23 hour position in the approved job listing, and
- C. Budget changes to accommodate both the class monitor and 3<sup>rd</sup> party stipend from the current basis of the \$85,000 in the salary and health benefits line.

C. Sturm, B. Belden, J. Laden, R. Fernandes and D. Brooks voted aye.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **POLICIES**

#### **POLICY #3452, ACTIVITY FUNDS MANAGEMENT**

B. Belden moved, R. Fernandes seconded, and the Board voted 4-0 to approve Policy # 3452, Activity Funds Management, for a final reading as recommended by the Policy/Communications subcommittee. First reading was on July 17, 2019.

C. Sturm, B. Belden, J. Laden, R. Fernandes and D. Brooks voted aye.

#### **POLICY #3170, BUDGET ADMINISTRATION**

B. Belden moved, R. Fernandes seconded, and the Board voted 4-0 to approve Policy # 3170, Budget Administration, for a final reading as recommended by the Policy/Communications subcommittee. First reading was on July 17, 2019.

C. Sturm, B. Belden, J. Laden, R. Fernandes and D. Brooks voted aye.

#### **POLICY #6163.32, SERVICE ANIMALS**

B. Belden moved, R. Fernandes seconded, and the Board voted 5-0 to approve Policy # 6163.32, Service Animal Policy, for a final reading as recommended by the Policy/Communications subcommittee. First reading was on July 17, 2019.

C. Sturm, B. Belden, J. Laden, R. Fernandes and D. Brooks voted aye.

### **NEW SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT**

The Board received an update on the new school building project from Mrs. Sturm. She said we are moving toward the design development phase. Many things still need to be done before the physical plans are done including surveys, etc. Design meetings are scheduled at 6:00pm at HHES on the following dates: September 26<sup>th</sup>, October 22<sup>nd</sup> and November 19<sup>th</sup>.

### **3 MAIN POINTS**

ASL

Public Forums- New School Building Design  
Enrollment

Mrs. Sturm listed upcoming events

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION ANTICIPATED**

B. Belden moved, . Laden seconded, and the Board voted 5-0 to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing strategy & negotiations as it relates to collective bargaining, the Superintendent's goals and pending litigation regarding a former employee at 8:24 pm.

C. Sturm, B. Belden, J. Laden, R. Fernandes and D. Brooks voted aye.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Present: Colette Sturm, Rosa Fernandes, Debbie Brooks, Bob Belden, and Jen Laden

Absent: Joy Greenstein, Eve Sturdevant

Invited in: Superintendent Dr. John Barile at 8:29 pm.

Superintendent Dr. John Barile, Colette Sturm, Rosa Fernandes, Debbie Brooks, Bob Belden, and Jen Laden exited out of executive session at 9:16 pm.

C. Sturm moved, B. Belden seconded, and the Board voted 5-0 to approve the MOA between the Brookfield Board of Education and the Brookfield Education Association subject to the receipt of applicable documentation.

C. Sturm, B. Belden, J. Laden, R. Fernandes and D. Brooks voted aye.

Adjournment: Without objection, Chairman Colette Sturm adjourned the meeting at 9:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lisa Gramling, Board Clerk

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Colette Sturm, Chairman  
Brookfield Board of Education