

# The Board of Education Town of Brooklyn

119 Gorman Road  
Brooklyn, CT 06234

Aimee Genna, Chair  
Kelly Coddling, Vice Chair  
Keith Atchinson, Secretary

Eric Anderson  
Mae Lyons  
Joan Trivella

April 26, 2017

The Brooklyn Board of Education held its regular monthly meeting on April 26, 2017 in the middle school library. In attendance were: Mrs. Genna, Mrs. Coddling, Mr. Atchinson, Mrs. Lyons, Mr. Anderson (7:02), Mrs. Trivella, and Dr. Conway, Superintendent. Mr. Tusia, Director of Property Services, Mrs. Holmes, Finance Director, and Mr. Otto, Board of Finance, were also in attendance. Members of the teaching staff and public were in the audience.

Mrs. Lyons arrived at 7:08 / left at 7:25 pm

1. Attendance, Establishment of a Quorum, Call to Order

Mrs. Genna called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**Motion to add two agenda items:**

**12 g) Acceptance of Teacher Resignations - to be discussed after Agenda Item 12 f**

**12 h) Proposed Retrofitting of all interior lighting in the Brooklyn Public Schools - to be discussed after Agenda Item 4**

**(Coddling / Trivella)**

**Unanimous vote to approve**

2. Public Comments

None

3. Approval of Minutes
  - a) Special Meeting March 22, 2017
  - b) March 22, 2017
  - c) Special Meeting March 30, 2017
  - d) Special Meeting April 17, 2017

**Motion to approve the Special Meeting Minutes of March 22, 2017, and the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 22, 2017**

**(Trivella / Atchinson)**

**Unanimous vote to approve**

**Motion to approve the Special Meeting Minutes of March 30, 2017, and the Special Meeting Minutes of April 17, 2017**

**(Coddling / Anderson)**

**Abstained from vote for April 17, 2017: Coddling**

**Vote passed**

4. Correspondence and Communications

a) Presentation of Certificates

Dr. Conway presented certificates of achievement to Mrs. Genna and Mrs. Trivella for their completion of the CABE Leadership Institute.

12 h. Proposed Retrofitting of all interior lighting in the Brooklyn Public Schools

Dr. Conway stated that the total cost to replace bulbs and fittings in both schools to LED lights would be \$127,370.00. The Eversource incentive is approximately \$41,000 for the 48 month obligation, and the monthly savings in the electricity bill would be about \$2,200. Discussion ensued regarding the benefits of the proposal.

5. Set aside Policy 9311

**Motion to set aside Board Bylaw 9311 Formulations, Adoption, Amendment of Policies to approve the policies as presented and listed on the April 26, 2017 Consent Agenda at one regular meeting.**

**(Coddling / Trivella)**

**Unanimous vote to approve**

6. Consent Agenda Items – Policies

- a. 6142.101 – Wellness – Existing policy does not fulfill legislative requirement; Replace with CABE as revised
- b. 6142.2 – Reading/Language Arts – Replace with CABE; updated philosophy and more global
- c. AR 6142.2 – Reading/Language Arts – Suggested revisions to BPS regulation
- d. 6142.61 – Physical Activity – Suggested revisions to BPS policy
- e. 6142.62 – Recess – Suggested revisions to BPS policy
- f. 6144 – Controversial Issues – Replace with CABE; adopt
- g. 6144.1 – Exemption from Instruction – Replace with CABE
- h. AR 6144.1 – Exemption from Instruction – Rescind; not necessary, cover in policy

- i. 6145 – Extra-Class Activities – Replace with CABE Version II  
Option 1: Closed Forum; adopt
- j. AR 6145 – Extra-Class Activities – Adopt
- k. 6145.2 – Interscholastic/Intramural Competition – Replace with CABE as revised; adopt
- l. AR 6145.2 – Interscholastic Competition – Rescind, covered under policy and athletic regulations
- m. 6145.3 – Student Publications – Replace with newer updated CABE version
- n. 6146 – Graduation Requirements – Adopt
- o. 6146.2 – Statewide Proficiency/Mastery Examinations – replace with CABE as revised
- p. 6151 - Class size – Rescind; non-mandatory subject of bargaining
- q. 6153 - Field Trips – Replace with CABE as revised
- r. 6156.5 – Lesson Plans – Rescind; It is a regulation, there is no CABE policy or regulation
- s. 6159 – Individualized Education Program/Special Education Program – Replace with CABE; n.b. BPS and CABE are almost identical, new sections are noted.
- t. 6159.1 – Instructional Arrangements – Suggested revisions

**Mrs. Genna pulled the following policies for discussion:**

- a. 6142.101 – Wellness – Existing policy does not fulfill legislative requirement; Replace with CABE as revised
- c. AR 6142.2-Reading/Language Arts-Suggested Revisions to BPS regulation
- n. 6146 – Graduation Requirements – Adopt
- t. 6159.1 – Instructional Arrangements – Suggested revisions

**Motion to approve the following policies:**

- b. 6142.2 – Reading/Language Arts – Replace with CABE; updated philosophy and more global
- d. 6142.61 – Physical Activity – Suggested revisions to BPS policy
- e. 6142.62 – Recess – Suggested revisions to BPS policy
- f. 6144 – Controversial Issues – Replace with CABE; adopt
- g. 6144.1 – Exemption from Instruction – Replace with CABE
- h. AR 6144.1 – Exemption from Instruction – Rescind; not necessary, cover in policy
- i. 6145 – Extra-Class Activities – Replace with CABE Version II  
Option 1: Closed Forum; adopt

- j. AR 6145 – Extra-Class Activities – Adopt
- k. 6145.2 – Interscholastic/Intramural Competition – Replace with CABE as revised; adopt
- l. AR 6145.2 – Interscholastic Competition – Rescind, covered under policy and athletic regulations
- m. 6145.3 – Student Publications – Replace with newer updated CABE version
- o. 6146.2 – Statewide Proficiency/Mastery Examinations – replace with CABE as revised
- p. 6151 - Class size – Rescind; non-mandatory subject of bargaining
- q. 6153 - Field Trips – Replace with CABE as revised
- r. 6156.5 – Lesson Plans – Rescind; It is a regulation, there is no CABE policy or regulation
- s. 6159 – Individualized Education Program/Special Education Program – Replace with CABE; n.b. BPS and CABE are almost identical, new sections are noted.

**(Trivella / Coddling)**

**Unanimous vote to approve**

6142.101 - Wellness *as is*

AR 6142.2 - Reading/Language Arts *as is*

6146 - Graduation Requirements *Rescind*

6159.1 - Instructional Arrangements *change language “teacher aid” to “paraprofessionals”*

**Motion to approve the policies listed above as amended, and rescind Policy 6146-Graduation Requirements**

**(Trivella / Coddling)**

**Unanimous vote to approve**

- u. 6161 - Equipment/Books/Materials: Provision/Selection - replace with CABE
- v. 6161.1 - Evaluation of Instructional Materials – replace with CABE
- w. AR 6161.1 - Evaluation of Instructional Materials – replace with CABE; adopt
- x. AR 6161.2 - Care of Instructional Materials – Rescind, not needed – covered in policy
- y. 6161.31 - Title I Program - adopt
- z. 6162.31 - Testing Program/Exclusions – replace with CABE; updated
- aa. AR6162.6 - Copyright Law Compliance – replace with CABE; updated
- bb. 6164.11 - Drugs, Tobacco, Alcohol – replace with CABE; updated
- cc. 6164.12 - Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) – replace with CABE; adopt
- dd. 6171.2 - Special Education/Preschool – replace with CABE as revised
- ee. 6172.4 - Title I Parent Involvement – replace with CABE; updated

- ff. AR6172.4 - Title I Parent Involvement – approve as revised
- gg. AR6172.41 - Title I Programs – rescind; NCLB has been re-authorized
- hh. 6173 - Homebound/Hospital Instruction – replace with CABE; updated
- ii. 6174 - Summer School – rescind; we do not have summer school nor do we use it for promotion purposes
- jj. AR6174 - Summer School – rescind
- kk. 6177 - Use of Commercially Produced Video Recordings
- ll. 6180 - Evaluation of the Instructional Program – replace with CABE; adopt

**Mrs. Genna pulled the following policies for discussion:**

- u. 6161 - Equipment/Books/Materials: Provision/Selection - replace with CABE
- v. 6161.1 - Evaluation of Instructional Materials – replace with CABE
- aa. AR6162.6 - Copyright Law Compliance – replace with CABE; updated

**Motion to approve the following policies:**

- w. AR 6161.1 - Evaluation of Instructional Materials – replace with CABE; adopt
- x. AR 6161.2 - Care of Instructional Materials – Rescind, not needed – covered in policy
- y. 6161.31 - Title I Program - adopt
- z. 6162.31 - Testing Program/Exclusions – replace with CABE; updated
- bb. 6164.11 - Drugs, Tobacco, Alcohol – replace with CABE; updated
- cc. 6164.12 - Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) – replace with CABE; adopt
- dd. 6171.2 - Special Education/Preschool – replace with CABE as revised
- ee. 6172.4 - Title I Parent Involvement – replace with CABE; updated
- ff. AR6172.4 - Title I Parent Involvement – approve as revised
- gg. AR6172.41 - Title I Programs – rescind; NCLB has been re-authorized
- hh. 6173 - Homebound/Hospital Instruction – replace with CABE; updated
- ii. 6174 - Summer School – rescind; we do not have summer school nor do we use it for promotion purposes
- jj. AR6174 - Summer School – rescind
- kk. 6177 - Use of Commercially Produced Video Recordings
- ll. 6180 - Evaluation of the Instructional Program – replace with CABE; adopt

**(Trivella / Coddling)**

**Unanimous vote to approve**

6161 - Equipment/Books/Materials: Provision/Selection ***move “instructional materials” to new page and renumber as appropriate***

6161.1 - Evaluation of Instructional Materials ***in the last paragraph add “gender identity or expression”***

AR6162.6 - Copyright Law Compliance ***fix hanging header, remove repetitive***

*sentence on page 8 that appears in paragraphs c and d*

**Motion to approve the policies as amended  
(Coddling / Trivella)  
Unanimous vote to approve**

7. Administrative Reports
  - a. Monthly Budget Status Report

Mrs. Holmes presented the monthly budget status report for March, 2017. She stated that there will be an overage in the transportation line item.

8. Public Comments

None

9. Board of Education Committee Reports

Mrs. Genna stated that the Transportation Committee met to clarify some language in the transportation contract, and it is currently a work in progress.

Mrs. Trivella informed about Woodstock Academy, and that the search continues for an Executive Director at EastConn.

Mrs. Genna informed that the Capital Committee approved all four requests that were brought before them. She also attended the Board of Finance meeting, at which Dr. Conway presented the budget for the Brooklyn Schools.

10. Board Representatives to Other Committees

Nothing to report

11. Old Business

- a) New Policies – 2nd Reading
  - 1) 6114 Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness (update – never adopted)
  - 2) AR 6114.1 Fire Emergency Drills/Crisis Response Drills (update – never adopted)
  - 3) 6120 Objectives of the Instructional Program (Recommended Policy)
  - 4) 6141.2 Separation of Church and State (Recommended Policy)
  - 5) 6141.312 Migrant Students (Mandated Policy)
  - 6) AR 6141.322 Computers: Websites/Pages (never adopted)

**Motion to approve the following policies:**

6114 Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness  
AR 6114.1 Fire Emergency Drills/Crisis Response Drills  
6120 Objectives of the Instructional Program  
6141.2 Separation of Church and State  
6141.312 Migrant Students  
AR 6141.322 Computers: Websites/Pages

**(Coddling / Trivella)**

**Unanimous vote to approve**

12. New Business

a) Teacher Retirement Announcement

A grade 6 teacher, Sharon Loughlin, submitted a letter announcing her retirement. The Board of Education members accepted her letter of retirement with regret as well as gratitude and best wishes in her retirement.

Mr. Otto stated that Mrs. Loughlin is a phenomenal teacher who has dedicated nearly 40 years to the Brooklyn School System. She deserves much gratitude and additional thanks.

A new packet of policies was distributed for review.

b) New Policies 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

- 1) 5145.42 Non-Discrimination – Racial Harassment – Recommended CABE policy (p.1-2)
- 2) 5145.6 Student Grievance Procedure – Recommended CABE policy (p.3)
- 3) AR 5145.6 Student Grievance Procedure – Recommended CABE Regulation (p. 4-6)
- 4) 6142.1 Family Life Education – Recommended CABE Policy (p. 7)
- 5) AR 6142.101 School Wellness – Recommended CABE regulation (p. 8-28)
- 6) 6145.8 Activity Funds Management – Recommended “Good Practice” policy (p. 29)
- 7) 6146.1 Grading System – mandated policy (p. 30-31)
- 8) 6162.51 Survey of Students – Recommended “Good Practice” (p. 32-34)
- 9) 6162.6 Copyright Law Compliance – BPS had a regulation but no policy (p. 35)

c) Decision Regarding Administrative Regulation 6164.11 Alcohol/Drug Abuse by students

**Motion to rescind Policy AR 6164.11 Alcohol/Drug Abuse by students**

**(Coddling / Trivella)**

**Unanimous vote to approve**

d) Decision Regarding Policy 6164.2 Guidance Services

**Motion to rescind Policy 6164.2 Guidance Services  
(Trivella / Coddling)  
Unanimous vote to approve**

e) Advisory Committee Regarding Policy 6154 Homework

Mrs. Genna stated a temporary advisory committee would be appointed under the direction of Dr. Conway to discuss the Brooklyn School District's Homework Policy.

f) Set Date for Grade 8 Graduation and Last Day

**Motion for the last day of school and graduation for 8th grade to be June 19, 2017  
(Coddling / Anderson)  
Unanimous vote to approve**

g) Acceptance of Teacher Resignations

The following teachers have submitted letters of resignation:

Rebecca Swanson  
Arielle Zadora  
Mary Barrett

Mrs. Genna thanked the teachers for their time and efforts and wished them the best.

13. Other

Mr. Otto suggested using past practice of giving all non-tenured teachers letters of non-renewal until the budget passes.

14. Public Comments

A member of the audience urged the Board of Education members to conduct exit interviews for the three elementary teachers who submitted letters of resignation.

15. Adjournment

**Motion to adjourn at 8:08 pm  
(Anderson / Coddling)  
Unanimous vote to approve**

Respectfully Submitted



*Joann M. Engel*

Recording Secretary