

November 12, 2014

The Brooklyn Board of Education held its regular monthly meeting on November 12, 2014 in the middle school cafeteria. In attendance were: Mrs. Lyons, Attorney Kelley, Mr. Rossi, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Majek, and Mr. Voccio, Board of Selectman. Also present was Dr. Berry, Superintendent and Mrs. King, elementary school principal. Members of the teaching staff and public were in the audience.

Absent:

Mr. DonFrancisco arrived at 8:06

1. Call to Order

Mrs. Lyons called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.

2. Presentation by Norwich Free Academy

Members of the Norwich Free Academy faculty presented information to the board of education members. The presentation consisted of video messages from students, a power point presentation of an overview of academics and electives that NFA offers, and parent testimonials.

3. Comments by:

- a. BEA –
- b. Local 1303-AFSCME –
- c. PTO –
- d. Public – A parent of a 7th grade student, and PTO member, stated that her child came home with a permission slip to visit the teen center with the class. She stated that she does not feel that students should miss instructional time to visit the teen center. She also expressed concerns as to the payment of transportation for the visit. Dr. Berry informed that the school was asked by the Recreation Department to expose the students to the center. She also informed the Brooklyn's recreation department would be reimbursing the school for the cost of transportation.

4. Minutes of

- Board Meeting held on September 24, 2014 and October 9, 2014

Motion to approve the meeting minutes of September 24, 2014 and October 9, 2014
(Kelley / Johnson)

Unanimous vote to approve

5. Correspondence:

- Letter of Resignation

Dr. Berry presented a letter of resignation from Mr. Kevin Collins to the Board of Education members. She stated that Mr. Collins has been as asset to the Brooklyn Schools for the past 28 years, and will be retiring in June, 2015.

Motion to accept the resignation of Mr. Collins with great appreciation for the last 28 years of service.

(Johnson / Kelley)

Unanimous vote to accept

6. Consent Agenda

- None

7. Administrative Reports:

a. Elementary School Principal

- Report on Staff Development

Mrs. King gave a presentation on staff development. She spoke to the changes in staff development because of the changes in the teacher evaluation program. She gave an explanation and overview of the Bloom Board program and how teachers set goals and how they are assessed. Discussion ensued.

b. Middle School Principal

Report was enclosed in the board members' packets for their review.

c. Assistant Principal

- Athletic Report

Report was enclosed in the board members' packets for their review.

d. Special Education Director

- Special Education Enrollment

Report was enclosed in the board members' packets for their review.

e. Superintendent

- Payment of Bills

Bills were not included in the packets. They will be available at the December meeting.

- Enrollment Report

The Enrollment Report was included in the packets for review.

- Fire Alarm Systems – Status of Project

Dr. Berry stated that the fire alarm project is moving forward. She informed the board of education members that on Friday, she would have the final draft to send out to bid, and submit to the Capital Committee. She stated that she would also give copies of the final drafts to the board of education members.

- State Grant Request

Dr. Berry informed the board of education members that she is planning to request grant money from the state for repairs to the Rose Wing roof.

Motion to authorize Dr. Berry to execute all documents legally required to apply for grant money to make repairs to the Rose Wing roof
(Kelley / Rossi)

Dr. Berry stated that there are currently four projects that the board members should be aware of:

- 1) updating the computer wiring system - \$60,000
- 2) updating the telephone system - \$26,000
- 3) updating the school security system - \$60,000 (equip 10 outside doors with keycard entry)
- 4) updating the fire alarm system – currently in the process

- ECHIP Report Health Insurance

Dr. Berry informed the board of education members that the ECHIP health insurance plan could be a cost savings to the Brooklyn Board of Education and the members should consider joining the EastConn Health Insurance Program.

- Woodstock Billing

An email correspondence was included in the members' packets for review.

- Teacher of the Year Program, November 10th

The teacher of the year for 2013 – 2014 is Lisa McCormack.

- Superintendent's Student Award Program, November 17th

The award ceremony will be held at the Killingly High School on November 17, 2014.

- Finance Director

Sherry Holmes, the new finance director for the town and the school, has started and is a welcome addition to the staff. She will attend the next Board of Education meeting for introductions.

Dr. Berry informed the members that she has received approximately 40 resumes for the Property Services Manager position. Deadline for applications will be Thursday, November 13, 2014 or Friday, November 14, 2014.

8. Public Comments

None

9. Committee Reports

- a. Budget – nothing to report at this time
- b. Policy

Attorney Kelley informed that at this time he does not have much to report. He stated that he is supposed to receive updated policies as they are received in the office. However, he does not receive them regularly, as requested. The goal of the Policy Committee is to eventually have all the policies online.

c. Curriculum

Mrs. Johnson stated that there is nothing to report at this time because there has not been a meeting. The state is dictating the curriculum.

d. Negotiations

Mrs. Lyons informed that mediation with the Local 1303 has ended and negotiations are headed to arbitration. She stated the union representative, Ms. Webster, and the Board's attorney, Ms. Littlefield, recently met to discuss the issues to be settled in arbitration.

e. Capital Projects

Discussed earlier in the meeting

f. EastConn

Mrs. Johnson circulated paperwork concerning Quinebaug Middle College and its report.

g. High School Relations – WA

There is a meeting next Tuesday, November 18, 2014.

h. High School Relations – KHS

Nothing to report at this time

i. Recreation Committee

The teen center has officially opened.

j. Board of Selectman Liaison

Nothing to report at this time

k. Board of Finance Liaison

There is a meeting next Wednesday, November 19, 2014.

l. School Climate Reports

Nothing to report at this time

Representatives from the:

PTO – none

BEA – none

BOF – none

10. Old Business

Attorney Kelley handed out copies of the contract between the Brooklyn Board of Education and Killingly High School for the board members to review. He stated that he has asked for this item to be put on the agenda for the last two meetings and it has not been included. They will discuss further at a later date.

11. New Business

None

12. Other

None

13. Public Comments

None

14. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 9:27 pm

(Johnson / Rossi)

Unanimous vote to adjourn

Respectfully Submitted

Joann Engel
Recording Secretary

John DonFrancisco
Secretary