

The Board of Education

Town of Brooklyn
119 Gorman Road
Brooklyn, CT 06234

Aimee Genna, Chair
Joan Trivella, Vice Chair
Keith Atchinson, Secretary

Mae Lyons
Nathan Richards
Melissa Perkins-Banas

Mission: The Brooklyn Schools will foster a drive for learning within each student to reach his/her greatest potential. To achieve this mission, the school will continually improve its educational programs and services to meet this community's expectations for a quality education for all.

The Brooklyn Board of Education held its regular monthly meeting on December 18, 2018 in the Central Office Community Room. In attendance were: Mrs. Genna, Mrs. Lyons, Mr. Richards, and Dr. Perkins-Banas. Mr. Atchinson was absent and Mrs. Trivella was absent (Woodstock Academy). Mrs. Buell, Superintendent, and Mr. Otto, Board of Finance, were also in attendance. Members of the teaching staff and public were in the audience.

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

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

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Public Comment

None

4. Approval of Minutes of the Board of Education Regular Meeting November 28, 2018

a. Board of Education Regular Meeting November 28, 2018

Motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of November 28, 2018
(Richards/Lyons)
Unanimous vote to approve

5. Correspondence and Communication

a. Mrs. Buell announced the Superintendent Award Winners who were recognized at Killingly High School on December 4, 2018 with other area winners:

Grade 4: Aubrey Butler and Ronan Curran

Grade 8: Angela Newell and Kamden Meyer

b. Letter of intent to Retire: David Partyka

The Board of Education accepted Mr. Partyka's letter of retirement and wished him the best in his retirement.

c. Donation: Brooklyn Mobil Scholarship

Mrs. Buell shared that she accepted a donation from Brooklyn Mobil of \$500 to go towards the Brooklyn Activity Fund.

6. Brooklyn's Best

BES

1. Mr. March and the students did an excellent job with the chorus concert
2. We had a very successful paint night for the Brighter Christmas Fund
3. PTO Holiday Bazaar and Library Book Fair were a huge success!
4. Enjoyed music from the Charlie Brown Jazz Assembly
5. Sean Maloney was honored at the Bushnell in Hartford for being a semifinalist for the ToY
6. Professional Development with Linda Kauffmann for 2 days (reading and writing workshop)

BMS

1. Lion's Award Winners recognized: Grade 5 Gabriella Payne, Grade 6: Kylee Beausoleil, Grade 7: Tyesha Matthews, Grade 8: Avery Juhola
2. Honor's and High Honors students recognized at our Assembly on Dec. 12
3. Current sports include Boys and Girls Basketball and Cheerleading
4. 85 students attend the 7/8 Dance
5. Student Council raised \$291 for hurricane relief and money for Veterans
6. Fall athletes will be recognized at an assembly on December 21
7. Band Concert is December 19
8. Chorus Concert is December 17
9. Students voted on a Bobcat Mascot for our middle school spirit wear fundraiser

7. Administrative Reports:

a. Current budget balance

The budget was reviewed by Mrs. Buell. 38% of the budget has been expended, 54% of the budget has been encumbered, 8% of the budget has not been encumbered at this time.

Mrs. Buell stated that there has been a significant savings of \$8,000 with electricity in a month due to replacing all the light bulbs in both schools to LED bulbs. There will be even more savings once the schools go solar.

b. Current Grant Report

Mrs. Buell stated not much has changed with the Grants in process and Federal Grants are on track.

c. High School Tuition Report

Mrs. Buell explained how the High Schools bill their tuition. Woodstock Academy bills are based on the number of students enrolled October 1st of the previous year. Killingly High School bills are based on October 1st of the previous year, but based on the actual number of students attending. At this time, there's a surplus of approximately \$169,000.

d. Enrollment Report

The Enrollment Report was reviewed by Mrs. Buell. There is a decrease of 1 student from last month, but still greater than last year at this time.

Mr. Otto questioned why the Out of District Students weren't included in the total. Mrs. Buell explained these students are Special Education students that are not attending Brooklyn Schools currently.

8. Board of Education Committee Reports

a. Development of a Solar Building Committee

Mrs. Lyons stated that the Selectmen would be the one to appoint members of the Solar Building Committee. Mrs. Buell, on behalf of the Board of Education, will send a letter to Selectman Ives stating that Mr. Richards and Mrs. Lyons are interested in being on the Solar Building Committee.

b. Transportation Committee Meeting to discuss traffic flow around BES/BMS

Mrs. Lyons is interested in being on the Transportation Committee Meeting. Mrs. Buell believes parents would want to be involved as well, especially parents that are in the parent pick-up/drop-off line on a daily basis to express their ideas.

9. Board Representatives to other Committees

Nothing to report at this time

10. Old Business

a. Approval of Policy changes:

- i. 5144.1 Use of Physical Force
- ii. 5144.2 Use of Exclusionary Time Out Setting
- iii. 5141.21 Administering Medication

Motion to approve Policy 5144.1 as discussed

(Richards/Perkins-Banas)
Unanimous vote to approve

Policy to be removed: 5144.2

Tabling Policy 5141.21

11. New Business

a. Recruiting & Hiring Solution Services Update

Mrs. Buell gave an update on the multiple year contract with Frontline as well as providing information on what EASTCONN offers. EASTCONN has the same software and might be cheaper to go through EASTCONN. There was discussion about the possibility of applicants being confused with being hired by EASTCONN instead of Brooklyn Public Schools. Mrs. Buell stated there is a package deal if the Board were to decide to go through Frontline, since the schools are using other software from Frontline. Using this system will have the benefit of a larger teacher pool. Mrs. Buell feels we need to move forward.

Motion was made by Mrs. Genna to enter into agreement with Frontline for Recruiting & Hiring Solution Services for the remainder of this year and next year.

(Lyons/Richards)

Unanimous vote to approve

b. First review of the 2019-20 School Calendar

Mrs. Buell shared that she has EASTCONN's calendar, but Woodstock and Killingly's aren't ready yet. There was a discussion in regards to comments made that parents like the preset snow days and trying to have the students out earlier in June. Mrs. Lyons mentioned about the possibility of having Columbus Day as a Professional Development Day for teachers. Mr. Otto mentioned that Columbus Day is a state holiday. Mrs. Buell doesn't want to touch Columbus Day with it being a state holiday. Mrs. Buell will try to follow the same calendar in place this year for next year's calendar when putting together a few drafts for the Board to consider.

12. Other

None

13. Public Comment

Mr. Kerouac asked now that the Teen Center is officially closed if there were any other options for teens to attend here in town other than school sports, clubs, etc.

14. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:15 PM
(Lyons/Richards)
Unanimous vote to approve

Respectfully Submitted

Donna L. DiBenedetto

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Board Clerk