

# The Board of Education

Town of Brooklyn  
119 Gorman Road  
Brooklyn, CT 06234

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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 April 24, 2019 in the Central Office Community Room. In attendance were Mrs. Genna, Mrs. Trivella, Mr. Atchinson, Mrs. Lyons, Mr. Richards, and Dr. Perkins-Banas. Mrs. Buell, Superintendent, and Mr. Otto, Board of Finance, were also present. Members of the teaching staff and public were in the audience.

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

Mrs. Genna called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Public Comment

None

4. Approval of Minutes of the Board of Education Regular Meeting March 27, 2019

a. Board of Education Regular Meeting March 27, 2019

Motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 27, 2019  
(Perkins-Banas/Richards)  
Unanimous vote to approve

5. Correspondence and Communication

a. Presentation by CSW regarding PV Project

CSW gave a presentation on the PV Project for both Brooklyn Middle School and Brooklyn Elementary School for rooftop installation, forecasted offset for each school, timeframe and highlights for the project. CSW also stated that April 1, 2020 is the date that zrecs starts, which is the date that the school will start to receive payments from Eversource for producing renewable energy and the system will be operational.

Mrs. Genna entertained a motion:

1. The Brooklyn Board of Education approves the Educational Specifications for the roof-mounted photovoltaic system project at Brooklyn Middle School.
2. The Brooklyn Board of Education approves the Educational Specifications for the roof-mounted photovoltaic system project at Brooklyn Elementary School.

(Richards/Perkins-Banas)

Unanimous vote to approve

Mrs. Genna stated the Board of Education will be taking a short recess at 7:25 p.m. so that the PV Building Committee can have their meeting based on the BOE approval above.

Mrs. Genna called the meeting back to order at 7:47 p.m.

b. Presentation by Killingly High School

Elise Guari and Kevin Marcoux gave a presentation on Killingly High school on what Killingly High School has to offer Brooklyn students, which included Academic Highlights, College acceptance, and Advanced Placement (AP) courses offered. They also reported on Honor Roll and SAT scores on how Brooklyn students are scoring compared to other Killingly High School students and on the state level as well.

c. Thank you Mr. Logee

Mrs. Buell stated that Mr. Logee made a donation of a Book Nook in the Brooklyn Elementary School Library in his wife's memory and a thank you note was sent to Mr. Logee.

d. Beagary Charitable Trust Donation

Mrs. Buell stated that the Beagary Charitable Trust committed to donate \$40,000 (\$10,000 each year) towards purchasing chromebooks to help with the transition of the 1:1 environment at the middle school and by helping to offset the costs to

taxpayers. The Trust also committed to donating \$12,500 toward the STEAM programs for 3D printers for each school, and to create a greenhouse at the elementary school.

6. Brooklyn's Best

**BES**

1. SR Grant accepted to be submitted.
2. Girls Scouts will start the Gaga Pit soon.
3. Interview committee (Sarah Froehlich, Kristin Syversen, Charlene Barbour, Aoife Heaslip (parent), and Mark and Paula) will begin the process of finding two new candidates for our open positions.
4. Pre-K registration and screening was a success.
5. Grade 2 has held an after school math club to engage and excite students.

**BMS**

1. Five 6th grade students were sent to Invention Convention at UCONN.
2. 5th grade had field trips to Opera New England and State Capital.
3. Group of 8th graders attended Human Rights Conference at Woodstock Academy.
4. 5th grade students cleaned up the trails for Earth Day.

7. Administrative Reports

a. Current Budget Balance

Mrs. Buell reviewed the current budget balance and stated the budget is still in progress and she is continuing to work with the accountants and they are making progress.

b. Current Grant Report

Grant Report is still on track

c. High school Tuition

Reports are updated; increased slightly due to families moving into Brooklyn.

d. Enrollment Report

Reports are updated; no major changes

8. Board of Education Committee Reports

Nothing to Report

## 9. Board Representatives to other Committees

Mrs. Buell stated that the Building Committee did approve the Educational Specifications earlier tonight.

Mrs. Trivella stated that Eastconn met last night, April 23, 2019. Meeting was about the budget and closing out the fiscal year. Also, Eastconn is starting to structure similar to the Academy as far as having similar committees.

Mrs. Genna stated that the Board of Finance has been meeting to hear all town departments budgets. Mr. Otto stated that the date for the public hearing may need to be moved due to not having final figures from the state until possibly the end of May.

Mrs. Genna stated that the Capital Committee met last week. There wasn't a quorum so there was just a discussion of going over the requests they have to date. They will be meeting again tomorrow, April 25, 2019, to prioritize the list to present the items to the Board of Finance on May 1, 2019.

## 10. Old Business

None

## 11. New Business

### a. First Read Policy 6142.101

Mrs. Buell stated that the schools lunch review was earlier this year and one of the findings was the BOE Policy 6142.101 did not include the language:

#### **Other School-based Activity to support Wellness**

##### **Water**

To promote hydration, free, safe, unflavored drinking water will be available to all students throughout the school day throughout every school. The District will make drinking water available where school meals are served during mealtimes.

- Water cups/jugs will be available in the cafeteria if a drinking fountain is not available.
- All water sources and containers will be maintained on a regular basis to ensure good hygiene and health safety standards. Such sources and containers may include drinking fountains, water jugs, hydration stations, water jets and other methods for delivering drinking water.
- Students will be allowed to bring and carry (approved) water bottles filled with only water with them throughout the day.

Mrs. Trivella made a motion to approve the changes to Policy 6142.101  
(Genna/Perkins-Banas)  
Unanimous vote to approve

- b. Request by Yale to conduct student research  
IRB Research Protocol  
School Research FAQs

Mrs. Buell discussed the research project requested by Yale and they're looking at how students adapt to their social environment. The student research project will be strictly voluntary, parents will be provided with this information and would have to provide written consent. Mrs. Buell suggests that the BOE makes this project available to families.

Mrs. Genna made a motion to approve the request by Yale to conduct student research.  
(Trivella/Richards)  
Unanimous vote to approve

- c. NESDEC Enrollment Report

Mrs. Buell reviewed the NESDEC Enrollment Report.

## 12. Other

## 13. Public Comment

Mr. Kerouac had a request about posting updates for budgets on the website.

## 14. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:50 p.m.  
(Lyons/Trivella)  
Unanimous vote to approve

I, The Brooklyn Board of Education Clerk, certify that these meeting minutes are accurate.

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Donna DiBenedetto  
Board Clerk

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Date