

The Board of Education

Town of Brooklyn
119 Gorman Road
Brooklyn, CT 06234

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

Mae Lyons
Nathan Richards

August 22, 2018

The Brooklyn Board of Education held its regular monthly meeting on August 22, 2018 in the Central Office Community Room. In attendance were: Mrs. Genna, Mrs. Lyons, Mr. Atchinson and Mr. Richards. Mrs. Buell, Superintendent, and Mr. Otto, Board of Finance were also in attendance. Members of the teaching staff and public were in the audience.

Absent: Mrs. Trivella

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

Mrs. Genna called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM

2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Public Comments

Ms. Alix is the owner of property located in Brooklyn. She is planning to build a home on the property and is anticipating the home to be completed by the middle of the school year. She would like her two children, ages 4 and 15, to be enrolled as Brooklyn students at the start of the 2018 - 2019 school year. She asked the Board of Education members to consider her request to allow her children to attend Brooklyn Elementary School and Woodstock Academy at the start of the 2018 - 2019 school year.

4. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Board of Education Regular meeting June 27, 2018

Motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of June 27, 2018
(Lyons / Richards)
Unanimous vote to approve

5. Correspondence and Communication
 - a. Thank you notes

Mrs. Buell stated that she has thank you notes to send to members of the community for donating time and money, as well as staff for serving on hiring committees, and an anonymous donor.

b. Employee Letter

This agenda item will be discussed in executive session.

c. Parent Communications Regarding Residency

Mrs. Buell stated that she received a letter from Ms. Alix regarding her residency and enrollment request. She cited Policy 5118, the residency requirements. She recommended that the Board of Education deny the request to enroll the children as Brooklyn students until construction on the home is complete.

Motion to uphold Mrs. Buell's recommendation to deny enrolling the children as Brooklyn students at the start of the school year.

(Richards / Atchinson)

Unanimous vote to approve

6. Brooklyn's Best: Public Announcement of Brooklyn Elementary Principal, Paula Graef
Brooklyn Administrators will review the School Advancement Plan

Mrs. Buell recognized the custodial staff for their hard work during the summer months.

Mrs. Buell introduced Mrs. Paula Graef, the new elementary school principal.

Mrs. Graef, Mrs. Tamsin and Mr. Torchia reviewed the School Advancement Plan and stated that the administrators will present the plan to their respective faculties for their review and feedback.

7. Administrative Reports:

a. Ending balance 2017-18

Motion to return \$115,436.54 to the Town of Brooklyn to close out the fiscal Board of Education budget.

(Lyons / Richards)

Unanimous vote to approve

b. Current budget balance

Mrs. Buell reviewed the current budget. She will provide an overview summary at the September Board of Education meeting.

c. Enrollment Report, Projected Enrollment for 2018-19

Mrs. Buell reviewed the enrollment report as of August 21, 2018.

d. Announcement of New Hires

The following is a list of the new hires for the 2018 - 2019 school year:

Melissa Violette	Kindergarten
Sarah Froehlich	Grade 1
Colleen Sokolowski	Grade 3
Amanda Lundsford	Grade 3
Dakota Nicholson	Grade 4
Allison Woods	Special Education (elementary)
Christina Cassio	Grade 5
Rachel Mackewicz	Grade 8 Science
Donna Bachaus	Math Interventionist (part-time)
Sabrina Pascarelli	Reading Interventionist (part-time)
Candace Anderson	School Psychologist
Joyelle Caron	Educational Resource Room

The new teacher orientation and bus tour was a success.

e. Opening of School and other Important Dates

August 23, 2018 there will be a meeting with administrators and M & J Bus Company. This meeting will serve to open communication between the bus company and administrators for the 2018 - 2019 school year.

Administrators will be roaming the Brooklyn Fair from 1:30 to 3:00 on Friday, August 24, 2018 to answer questions and greet families and students.

Monday, August 27, 2018 is convocation from 8:30-10:00 am in the Brooklyn Middle School auditorium.

Wednesday, August 29, 2018 is the first day of school for students.

Thursday, August 30, 2018 is the first day of school for students in preschool.

Thursday, September 6, 2018 is the back to school barbeque.

8. Board of Education Committee Reports

Nothing to report at this time.

9. Board Representatives to Other Committees

Mr. Atchinson stated that 32 Brooklyn students made the 4th quarter honor roll at Killingly High School.

Mr. Atchinson suggested starting an IT Committee.

10. Old Business

a. Status of projects

Mrs. Buell is looking into the ineligible costs concerning the roof project.

The white roofing material that has leached is a work in progress. The company is looking into ways to clean it.

There is a possibility of putting in speed bumps on the new pavement. Any marks on the new pavement will be repaired by the paving company.

The pads have been poured and are ready for the generator which will arrive in early October.

Some of the wiring for the energy management project has not been completed. The work will probably continue into September.

Mrs. Buell provided the educational specifications for the solar project to the Board of Education members.

11. New Business

a. Interview new Board of Education Members

Dr. Melissa Perkins-Banas, a neuropsychologist and business owner, expressed her interest in being a member of the Board of Education. She answered questions posed by the Board of Education, and explained her background and desire for wanting to give back to the Brooklyn community.

b. First Read of Policies

Policies were handed out for the first read process.

c. Insurance Claim for Lightning Strike

Mrs. Buell made a claim to CIRMA, the school's insurance company, for the tree and air conditioning unit that were struck by lightning.

12. Other

Mrs. Genna stated the Board of Selectmen met to discuss possible changes as to how Board of Education members are elected and the length of their term. There is a town meeting in September to discuss this issue.

Mrs. Genna and Mrs. Trivella attended the CABA Summer Leadership Conference.

Mrs. Buell encouraged the Board of Education members to attend the CABA conference on November 16th and 17th of this year.

There is a parcel of property for sale on School Street. Mrs. Buell will draft a letter to the Town of Brooklyn asking them to consider purchasing the property for possible future use by the school or town.

13. Public Comments

Ms. Alix asked if the Board of Education members had made a decision regarding her request to enroll her children as Brooklyn students at the start of the school year. Mrs. Genna explained that the Board of Education made a motion to uphold Mrs. Buell's recommendation to deny her request. Ms. Alix stated that that she would be retaining an attorney to handle this matter.

14. Executive Session: Personnel Matter

Motion to enter into executive session and invite Superintendent Buell (8:55 pm)
(Lyons / Richards)
Unanimous vote to approve

Motion to come out of executive session at 9:24 pm
(Atchinson / Lyons)
Unanimous vote to approve

15. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 9:24 pm
(Atchinson / Lyons)
Unanimous vote to approve

Respectfully Submitted

Joann M Engel

Recording Secretary

Keith Atchinson

Board of Education Secretary