

June 25, 2014

The Brooklyn Board of Education held its regular monthly meeting on June 25, 2014 in the middle school library. In attendance were: Mrs. Lyons, Attorney Kelley, Mr. Rossi, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Majek, and Mr. Otto, Board of Finance, Mr. Voccio, Selectman. Also present were Dr. Berry, Superintendent, and Ms. Rotella, Elementary School Principal. Members of the teaching staff and public were in the audience.

Mr. DonFrancisco arrived at 7:26 pm

Mr. Gene Michael Deary, Chairman of the Board of Finance was also in the audience during the later portion of the meeting.

Absent:

1. Call to Order

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

2. Comments by:

- a. BEA – None
- b. Local 1303-AFSCME – None
- c. PTO – None
- d. Public – None

3. Minutes of

- Board Meeting held on May 28, 2014

Motion to approve the minutes of the Board of Education meeting held on May 28, 2014

(Kelley / Majek)

Unanimous vote to accept

4. Correspondence:

- None

5. Consent Agenda

- None

6. Administrative Reports:

a. Elementary School Principal

Report was enclosed in the Board of Education member's packets.

b. Middle School Principal

Report was enclosed in the Board of Education member's packets.

c. Assistant Principal

Report was enclosed in the Board of Education member's packets.

d. Special Education Director

- Special Education Enrollment

Report was enclosed in the Board of Education member's packets.

e. Superintendent

- Summer Programs – Dr. Berry informed the Board of Education members that the summer recreation program is taking place this summer as well as a summer instructional program for four students in the autism program. There will be two teachers and four students in the program until the first week of August.
- Teacher of the Year 2014-2015 – Dr. Berry informed the Board of Education members that the 2014-2015 teacher of the year is Mrs. Lisa McCormack. She is a highly respected 6th grade teacher who has worked in both the elementary and middle school buildings.
- Spanish Credit KHS - Dr. Berry informed the Board of Education members that there has been an offer from KHS to provide academic credit to Brooklyn students who have been successful in Spanish I at The Brooklyn Middle School, thus enabling them to receive 1 credit for Spanish I and also take Spanish II as a freshman student at KHS. The Board of Education members agreed that students, who are ready, should take Spanish 2 as freshmen. Dr. Berry will call Killingly High School and inform them of the Board's decision.

- July Meeting

Motion to have no Board of Education meeting in July 2014
(Johnson / Majek)
Unanimous vote to accept

- Budget report – Dr. Berry informed the Board of Education members that she has been in contact with the Killingly Schools Business Office and Killingly’s Superintendent repeatedly and they are unable determine what Brooklyn owes for special education tuition at this time. Brooklyn School’s financial office is unable to close the books at this time due to this outstanding bill from Killingly. Dr. Berry will email the Board members when she knows the final dollar amount owed to Killingly High School.
- Enrollment Report - Dr. Berry informed the Board of Education members that the enrollment for the 2014-2015 school year in kindergarten is 71 at present. At this time, the Office of Early Childhood is determining whether the cut off date for 5 year olds should be January 1st or October 1st.

7. Public Comments

None

8. Committee Reports

- a. Budget – See earlier discussion
- b. Policy – Nothing to report this month
- c. Curriculum – Nothing to report at this time. Mrs. Johnson stated that Common Core standards should to be worked on and implemented.
- d. Negotiations – Mrs. Lyons informed that she has not heard anything from Attorney Littlefield, but that they are going to mediation on the contract with Local 1303.
- e. Capital – There was no meeting this month.
- f. EastConn – Mrs. Johnson informed that there is no meeting in June or July.

g. High School Relations – Woodstock Academy

Attorney Kelley was not able to attend the meeting. However, he did attend graduation. Alex Tedeschi, a Brooklyn student, was valedictorian. Many Brooklyn students received recognition for being on the honor roll and members of the National Honor Society. Brooklyn students also received awards for sports, and joint athletic scholar awards.

h. High School Relations – Killingly High School

Mrs. Johnson stated that she emailed Mr. Marcoux asking for specific names of Brooklyn students who achieved honor roll status, or received any awards and/or special recognitions. She also stated that she would like Dr. Berry to keep the Brooklyn Board of Education members informed as to how Killingly's budget cuts affect students at Killingly High School. Mrs. Johnson stated that the Board of Education should keep parents of Brooklyn students informed on this issue.

i. Recreation Committee – There was no meeting.

j. Board of Selectman Liaison – Mrs. Lyons did not attend the meeting.

k. Board of Finance Liaison - Mrs. Lyons did not attend the meeting.

Representatives from the:

PTO – none
BEA – none
BOF – none

9. Old Business - None

10. New Business

Mr. Gene Michael Deary, Chairman of the Board of Finance was present to answer questions and have a discussion with the Board of Education members as to procedures for capital improvements.

The Board of Education members would like to see a step by step procedure in place clearly defining the responsibilities of all parties involved in capital projects.

Mr. Deary stated that the ultimate responsibility for capital projects lies with The Board of Education.

Mr. Voccio stated that it is a formalized process and recommended that a building committee be established.

The Board of Education and Facilities Committee will prioritize its list of capital improvements and do more investigative work before going to the Board of Finance.

It was also stated that the future Finance Director should help facilitate the frame work around capital projects and the communication between the Board of Education and the Town of Brooklyn. The Finance Director should act as a resource for all town boards and commissions.

11. Other

Motion to empower the Board chairperson to appoint line item transfers and payment of remaining bills for fiscal year 2013-2014
(Johnson / Rossi)
Unanimous vote to approve

Motion to participate in the 2014-2015 National School Breakfast and Lunch Program with Dr. Berry and Mr. Yanku designated to sign all necessary forms
(Johnson / Rossi)
Unanimous vote to approve

12. Public Comments

None

13. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:40 pm
(Johnson / Kelley)
Unanimous vote to accept

Respectfully Submitted

Joann M. Engel
Recording Secretary

John DonFrancisco, Secretary