

The Board of Education Town of Brooklyn

116 Gorman Road
Brooklyn, CT 06234

Aimee Genna, Chair
Kelly Coddling, Vice Chair
Keith Atchinson, Secretary

Eric Anderson
Mae Lyons
Joan Trivella

October 26, 2016

The Brooklyn Board of Education held its regular monthly meeting on October 26, 2016 in the middle school library. In attendance were: Mrs. Genna, Mrs. Coddling, Mr. Atchinson, Mrs. Lyons, Mr. Anderson, and Mrs. Trivella, Dr. Conway, Superintendent, Mr. Yanku, Middle School Principal and Mrs. Holmes, Business Manager. Mr. Otto, Board of Finance was also in attendance. Members of the teaching staff and public were in the audience.

Mrs. Coddling arrived at 7:10 pm.

Mrs. Trivella left at 8:53 pm.

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

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

2. Public Comments

None

3. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the Board of Education meeting minutes of September 28, 2016, Transportation Hearing minutes of October 12, 2016, and the meeting minutes of October 12, 2016.

(Trivella / Lyons)

Unanimous vote to approve

4. Correspondence and Communications

a) Board Member Recognition

Mrs. Genna presented a letter and a pin from CAFE recognizing and thanking Mrs. Lyons for her ten plus years of service as a member of the Brooklyn Board of Education.

5. Educational Presentation

a) School Improvement Plans

Mr. Yanku gave an overview of how the middle school is meeting goals to ensure student success. There are flex blocks built into student schedules, STAR assessments, an after school enrichment program, a math committee and data committee working on math curriculum, and an after school help club sponsored by the National Junior Honor Society. He is working on adding more information to the school website, and improving teacher communication with parents.

6. Consent Agenda Items - Policies

Consent Agenda approval of the following policies:

0100
0210
0300
0521
0522
1100
1221
1240
1315
1325
1413
2111
2131
2141
4111 / 4211
4112.51 / 4212.51
5141.4
5131.6
5144

Mrs. Genna removed the following policies from the Consent Agenda:

0210
1100

1324
4111
4211
5141.4
5131.6
2131

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.
(Trivella / Anderson)
Unanimous vote to approve

Policy:

210 – fix typo *Nutmeg School*
1100 – clarify 3rd paragraph regarding email correspondence
1324 – clarify language regarding fundraising and solicitation of funds will be discussed at agenda item #11
2131 – fix typo *form* to *from*
4111 – insert language
5141.4 – insert language
5131.6 – insert language

Motion to approve the following policies:

210
1100
2131
4111
4211
5141.4
5131.6

(Coddling / Anderson)
Unanimous vote to approve

7. Administrative Reports

The report was included in the Board of Education members' packets.

8. Public Comments

None

9. Board of Education Committee Reports

Mrs. Genna congratulated Mr. Otto on his recent appointment as Chairman of the Board of Finance.

Mr. Otto suggested that the Board of Education members keep a close eye on their costs, and ways to reduce their budget due to potential budget reductions required by the state.

10. Board Representatives to Other Committees

Mrs. Trivella informed that the Woodstock Academy has purchased the Hyde School. She stated that some Woodstock Academy students from Brooklyn have been recognized for both athletics and academics.

Mr. Atchinson and Dr. Conway attended a presentation at Killingly High School. The presentation was for the current 8th grade students to inform them of the academic and extracurricular opportunities offered at Killingly High School.

Mr. Atchinson stated that the school website is almost finished. It should launch within the next two weeks. There will be a link to the Brooklyn Board of Education YouTube page.

Mrs. Trivella informed that EastConn recently purchased new buildings and will be partnering with the State of Connecticut in the Windham building.

11. Old Business

Policy 1324, concerning the distribution of fundraising information, was discussed.

Motion to table Policy 1324.

(Trivella / Atchinson)

Unanimous vote to approve

Motion to un-approve Policy 1325

(Coddington)

no second – Motion Failed

12. New Business

a) School Roof Briefing

Mr. Tusia, Property Services Manager, gave an overview of the roofs at both the elementary school and middle school buildings. The town has approved funding for an architect. The Board of Education members will have to decide how many roofs they will repair or replace, the type of material that will be used to repair or replace, and the consideration of solar panels now or in the future.

The middle school roof, which is made of asphalt, is 20 years old, but is in good shape. The insulation and pitch meets code. There is an estimate to replace the roof (\$2.1 – \$2.4 million), or repair the roof (\$5,000 - \$10,000) extending its life by 5-10 years. The current state reimbursement rate is 72.8%

The elementary roof is over 20 years old, and it is made of a PVC material. It is currently very brittle and is in danger of shattering. The cost to replace the roof using a three-ply asphalt material, with a 25-year warranty, is approximately \$1.5 million with the town being responsible for 27.14% (\$413,000). Another material option is a standing seam metal, which comes with a 40-year warranty. Solar panels can be clipped to it without penetrations. This would come at a cost of approximately \$2,031,000, with a cost to the town of approximately \$551,000.

The Board of Education needs to decide whether they are going to repair or replace roofs, they type of roofing materials that will be used, and whether or not solar panels will be utilized.

Motion for the Brooklyn Board of Education to approve that the administration post a Request for Qualifications and Proposals for Project Management Services for School Roof Replacement at Brooklyn Middle School and Brooklyn Elementary School.

(Lyons / Trivella)

Unanimous vote to approve

b) Appoint Search Committee

Motion for the Search Committee to consist of Mrs. Genna, Mrs. Coddling, Mr. Atchinson, Mrs. Trivella, Mrs. Lyons, Mr. Anderson, and Mr. Otto. Dr. Conway will serve as an advisor.

(Coddling / Atchinson)

Unanimous vote to approve

Mrs. Trivella provided a comparison of the five search firms and their costs and services offered. Discussion regarding the same ensued.

Motion for the Brooklyn Board of Education to engage NESDEC for executive search consulting services for a new superintendent of schools.

(Trivella / Anderson)

Unanimous vote to approve

c) Review Mission Statement

Dr. Conway reviewed the mission statement for the Brooklyn Schools. She stated that the mission statement should include reaching goals, improving programs, and quality education. Quality education should consist of 3 goals: up-to-date curriculum, good instruction and assessments.

Mr. Otto stated that he would like to see increased focus on preparation and success of students in the external world, outside the classroom settings.

d) Finance Report

Mrs. Holmes presented the Finance Report for September and handed out the check register for invoices paid in October.

e) Discussion of Food Services

Dr. Conway informed that Mrs. Marquis, Food Services Director, is retiring at the end of November and suggested that the Board of Education members take the opportunity to look into outside food service vendors.

Motion that the Brooklyn Board of Education direct administration to initiate the exploration of utilizing an outside food service vendor for the school nutrition services.

(Anderson / Coddling)

Unanimous vote to approve

13. Other

Dr. Conway handed out the 3000's policies for review.

14. Public Comments

Mr. Otto suggested that the Board of Education members review the academic achievements of Brooklyn students in high school.

15. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 9:16 pm
(Coddington / Anderson)
Unanimous vote to approve

Respectfully submitted

Joann M. Engel
Recording Secretary