

September 28, 2016

The Brooklyn Board of Education held its regular monthly meeting on September 28, 2016 in the middle school library. In attendance were: Mrs. Genna, Mrs. Lyons, Mr. Atchinson, Mrs. Coddling and Mrs. Trivella. Dr. Conway, Superintendent, Mr. Yanku, Middle School Principal, Mrs. Michaud, Elementary School Principal, Mr. Weaver, Elementary School Assistant Principal, Mr. Otto, Board of Finance and Mrs. Holmes, Business Manager were also in attendance. Members of the teaching staff and public were in the audience.

Absent: Mr. Anderson

Mrs. Coddling arrived at 7:06

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

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

2. Public Comments

None

3. Approval of Minutes

- August 24, 2016 Meeting Minutes
Amend page 1, item 2e to read Mr. Tusia
- August 31, 2016 Special Meeting
- September 2, 2016 Special Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes of August 24, 2016 as amended as well as the Special Meeting Minutes of August 31, 2016 and the Special Meeting Minutes of September 2, 2016.

(Trivella / Lyons)

Unanimous vote to approve

4. Correspondence and Communications

The Board of Education received a letter from a parent in Killingly. The Board of Education members have not had a chance to review the letter at this time.

a. Introduction of new Superintendent

Dr. Conway, Interim Superintendent, introduced herself.

b. Introduction of new Brooklyn Elementary Assistant Principal

Mrs. Michaud introduced Mr. Weaver, Elementary School Assistant Principal.

5. Educational Presentation

a. 2016 Science CMT results

Mr. Yanku presented the 2016 Science CMT results. Seventy-five percent of grade 5 students scored at or above goal. Eighty-three percent of grade 8 students scores at or above goal.

b. Climate Survey Results

Mr. Yanku presented an overview of the Middle School student, parent and staff Climate Surveys. While the school had many strengths, an area for improvement noticed in all three surveys is regarding groups of students who exclude others.

Mrs. Michaud presented an overview of the Elementary School student, parent and staff Climate Surveys. Brooklyn Elementary School had many strengths in all three surveys. The school will be working on developing a good public image and lowering mean-spirited behavior in students. There was a very low parent survey response (BMS – 50% of families; BES – 41% of families). Both schools will try to increase parent participation in the surveys.

c. Standards-based report card implementation

Due to difficulties aligning the student database information software with the report card strands, the Standards Based report card will not be implemented until the 2017-2018 school year. The elementary school administrators and the Report Card Committee continue to work on the layout of the report card and the development of the report card rubric.

The school calendar will be amended to reflect new dates that report cards will be issued.

6. Consent Agenda Items

There were no items on the consent agenda.

Mr. Yanku, Mrs. Michaud and Mr. Weaver were dismissed at 7:50 pm.

7. Administrative Reports

Mrs. Trivella informed that bus routes for high schools continue to be worked out for optimization.

A parent has requested a bus hearing. A possible date for the hearing is October 12th or 19th at 5:30.

8. Public Comments

Mrs. Arends requested parental notification from the bus garage if a situation arises where the bus is unable to pick up a student. She also asked for a copy of the climate surveys.

Mrs. Patricia Morrison asked if the administrators have considered sending the surveys to all community members for their input.

Mrs. St. Laurent expressed concern about high school students sitting three to a seat on the buses.

Mrs. Wimmer stated that the Conservation & Development Committee sends surveys to community members.

9. Board of Education Committee Reports

The Board of Finance voted in Heather Allen as its newest member.

10. Board Representatives to Other Committees

Mrs. Trivella and Dr. Conway attended a retreat for Woodstock Academy. Mrs. Trivella also attended a convocation at Woodstock Academy.

Mr. Atchinson will send out a link to watch the Board of Education meetings as they are streamed. The school website continues to be a work in progress.

Dr. Conway distributed a packet of policies to be reviewed by board members for the October board meeting. A fourth and final packet of updates from CABE will be reviewed next.

11. Old Business

Nothing to discuss

12. New Business

a. Finance Report

Mrs. Holmes explained the finance reports.

b. Superintendent Search

Dr. Conway recommended that the Board of Education members begin their search, utilizing firms to help in the search for a new superintendent.

There will be a meeting on October 12, 2016 at 5:30 pm for a transportation hearing, followed by a meeting with search firms beginning at 6:00 pm.

Mrs. Genna stated that she and Dr. Conway attended a CABE meeting on running an effective Board of Education meeting.

13. Other

Nothing to discuss

14. Public Comments

Mrs. Sallum asked about the new format of meeting agenda.

Mrs. Arends stated that she appreciated receiving the climate survey results so quickly. She would like to see them made available online. She expressed concern about the condition of the cross-country trails, in that they could pose a safety issue.

15. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 9:04 pm.
(Trivella / Coddling)
Unanimous vote to approve

Respectfully submitted

Joann M. Engel
Recording Secretary