

BROOKFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
Brookfield Public Schools
REGULAR MEETING, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2020
TOWN SCHOOL OFFICE CURRICULUM ROOM
7:00 P.M.
MINUTES

Chairman Rosa Fernandes called the meeting to order at 7:07p.m.

Present via Video: Rosa Fernandes, Bob Belden, Debbie Brooks, Jen Laden, Amy Foster, Joy Greenstein and Michael Murphy

Absent: Jen Laden and Dr. Maureen Ruby

Also Present: Superintendent Dr. John Barile, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Maureen Ruby (via video) Director of Business & Operations Ken Post, Director of Technology Eric Conklin and Director of Human Resources Terri Kavanagh

WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE

Laura Orban wrote regarding the Special education cost cooperative.

Ron Jaffe shared an article about health centers at Danbury area schools, shared an article from the Search Institute and shared an article about public meetings in the time of Covid-19.

Jean Hartnett wrote regarding Sandy Hook Promise.

Mark Mulvaney wrote regarding school lunches.

Amy Chiafari wrote regarding pay for paraprofessionals.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

A. Foster moved, J. Greenstein seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the minutes listed below as recommended:

Regular Meeting- 3/4/2020

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, D. Brooks, J. Greenstein, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Paul Avery (Brookfield Sanitarian) gave a health update on COVID-19.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Facilities- 3/4/2020- Mrs. Greenstein said the subcommittee spent the majority of the meeting talking about the BHS Boys Locker Room project.

Finance- 3/9/2020- Mr. Belden said the subcommittee spoke about Special Education costs, current year financials and the budget.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Foster moved, J. Greenstein seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the items on the consent agenda as recommended:

February financials

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, D. Brooks, J. Greenstein, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

NEW BUSINESS

HEALTHY FOOD OPTION CERTIFICATION

A. Foster moved, J. Greenstein seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 that Pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, the Brookfield Board of Education certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, culinary programs, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or non-school organizations and groups.

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, D. Brooks, J. Greenstein, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

HEALTHY FOOD-FOOD & BEVERAGE EXEMPTION

A. Foster moved, J. Greenstein seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 that the Brookfield Board of Education will allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards and beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the food and beverage items are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The “regular school day” is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held.

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, D. Brooks, J. Greenstein, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

OLD BUSINESS

POLICIES

DELETE CURRENT POLICY #4118.52, RIGHTS, RESPONSIBILITIES & DUTIES- ACCEPTABLE COMPUTER NETWORKING AND REPLACE WITH CABA POLICY #4118.51, SOCIAL NETWORKING AND CABA POLICY #4118.4, ELECTRONIC MAIL

A. Foster moved, J. Greenstein seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the deletion of Policy #4118.52, Rights, Responsibilities & Duties- Acceptable Computer Networking, and replace it with CABA Policy #4118.51, Social Networking, and CABA Policy #4118.4, Electronic Mail for a final reading as recommended by the Policy/Communications subcommittee. First reading was on February 19, 2020.

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, D. Brooks, J. Greenstein, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

POLICY #4118.5, ACCEPTABLE COMPUTER NETWORK USE

A. Foster moved, J. Greenstein seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the revisions to Policy #4118.5, Acceptable Computer Network Use for a final reading as recommended by the Policy/Communications subcommittee. First reading was on February 19, 2020.

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, D. Brooks, J. Greenstein, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

POLICY #4118.6, CELL PHONE DISTRICT-ISSUED COMMUNICATION DEVICE

A. Foster moved, J. Greenstein seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the revisions to Policy #4118.6, Cell Phone District-Issued Communication Device for a final reading as recommended by the Policy/Communications subcommittee. First reading was on February 19, 2020.

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, D. Brooks, J. Greenstein, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

BOARD OF EDUCATION’S BUDGET ESTIMATE 2020-2021

The Board continued its discussion on the Board of Education’s 2020-2021 adopted budget. Dr. Barile provided the Board with a list of reductions for discussion.

B. Belden moved, D. Brooks seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to allow Chairman Fernandes to share preliminary information to include broad and directional statements made by Dr. Barile and Mr. Post and authorize Chairman Fernandes to share with the public.

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, D. Brooks, J. Greenstein, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

NEW SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT

The Board received an update on the new school building project.

R. Fernandes moved, A. Foster seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to amend agenda to include discussion/possible motion of suspending bylaws.

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, D. Brooks, J. Greenstein, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

B. Belden moved, J. Greenstein seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to suspend, temporarily, Bylaw #9321, Time, Place and Notification of Meetings, and Bylaw #9325.43, Electronic Participation, for the purpose of conducting electronic meetings.

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, D. Brooks, J. Greenstein, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

3 MAIN POINTS

1. COVID 19
2. Budget
3. New School Project

UPCOMING EVENTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Foster moved, B. Belden seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing strategy and negotiations as it relates to collective bargaining at 9:12 pm.

Chairman Rosa Fernandes called the meeting to order at 9:13 pm.

Present: Rosa Fernandes, Bob Belden, Jen Laden, Joy Greenstein, Debbie Brooks, Mike Murphy and Amy Foster

Superintendent Dr. John Barile, Director of Business & Operations Ken Post, Director of Technology Eric Conklin, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Maureen Ruby and Human Resources Director Terri Kavanagh were invited in at 9:13 pm.

The Board entered into executive session for the purpose of discussing strategy and negotiations as it relates to collective bargaining.

Superintendent Dr. John Barile, Director of Business & Operations Ken Post, Director of Technology Eric Conklin, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Maureen Ruby, Human Resources Director Terri Kavanagh, Rosa Fernandes, Bob Belden, Jen Laden, Joy Greenstein, Debbie Brooks, Mike Murphy and Amy Foster exited out of executive session at 10:15 pm.

ADJOURNMENT: Without objection, Chairman Rosa Fernandes adjourned the meeting at 10:16 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Gramling, Board Clerk

Amy Foster, Secretary
Brookfield Board of Education