

BROOKFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
Brookfield Public Schools
REGULAR MEETING- BROOKFIELD HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2023
7:00 P.M.
MINUTES

Chairman Bob Belden called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

PRESENT:

Bob Belden, Joy Greenstein Amy Foster, Rosa Fernandes, Debbie Brooks, Dr. Mike Murphy, Sharon Butow Superintendent Dr. John Barile, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Anna Mahon, Director of Business & Operations Ken Post, Director of Special Education Amy DeNicola-Hickman, BHS Principal Marc Balanda, WMS Principal Deane Renda, CES Principal Deb Farias, and members of the staff & public.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Andy Corea spoke about Special Education Department resignations, (Para's, School Psychologist, etc)

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT- BHS

Brookfield High School highlighted an example of game-based learning in high school Mathematics with BHS Math teacher Jason DiStasio, who shared a brief video presentation.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT-KAITLYN ZEZZA

Kaitlyn Zezza gave an update on the happenings at BHS.

WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE

Christina Zimmerman wrote regarding midterm exams.

Jen Dzen wrote regarding the 2023 legislative platform.

Melissa Yager wrote regarding the ESY program.

Ray DiStephan wrote regarding a point of order.

Erin Scalera wrote regarding concerns at WMS.

Nick Schmidt wrote regarding a parent letter to the Greenwich BOE, a "Learning 2025" program and the portrait of the graduate.

Aga Stepniak and Elena Lopez wrote regarding the social emotional learning update.

Andy Corea wrote regarding the board's unconstitutional public comment Restrictions.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

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

Regular Meeting 1/18/2023

Student Expulsion Hearing- 1/19/2023

Joint Meeting-BOE, BOF, BOS 2/9/2023

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

SUPERINTENDENT’S UPDATE

Dr. Barile invited the SWC Cheerleading coaches and team members to share the success of the SWC championship for cheer. The Superintendent gave an update on new HHES Unified Sports program. Special Education teacher Haley Yule and SRO Kelsey Sullivan shared a few slides on the program. Mr. Post gave a brief update on the School Lunch program.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Special Finance- 1/17/2023- Mrs. Fernandes said the subcommittee discussed the Board’s adopted budget and the funding of the Special Education Program Review.

Policy/Communications- 1/18/2023- Mrs. Brooks said the subcommittee had discussion with Dr. Barile about where the district stands with its policy work. CABA sent their edits for the Personnel #4000 series, and that work will begin at the beginning of the next school year. The subcommittee discussed 6 policies. Discussion continued on the Survey of Students policy, FERPA policy, Bullying policy and the Restraint & Seclusion policy. Communications discussion included the CGI videos, budget flyer, get out the vote, and CLES ribbon cutting events.

Strategic Planning- 1/31/2023- Mr. Belden said the meeting was a wrap up session and the committee had a chance to review the write up of the process that was developed. The presentation will be given to the full Board in March.

Security Task Force- 2/2/2023- Mr. Belden said the Task Force received an update on capital items pertaining to security, as well as an update on the Sandy Hook Promise. Mr. Belden talked about the completion of the Vulnerability Assessment. The Task Force will discuss the results of the vulnerability assessment and Cyber security at its next meeting.

CAPE- 2/8/2023- Dr. Murphy said the subcommittee discussed the Preschool program for 2023-2024 and the Next Gen Accountability report. They discussed DESSA SEL Assessment administration and teacher evaluation plan. Upcoming CAPE agenda items included an updated textbook for AP Environmental Science and K-8 Math curriculum.

Facilities- 2/9/2023- Mrs. Greenstein said the subcommittee discussed the School Dude reports and the BHS floor restoration and exterior doors. Mrs. Greenstein said that many work orders have been completed and are now closed. Capital projects discussion at BHS included HVAC work and work on the boy’s locker room will begin as soon as they receive the permit. The quote for the seating for the WMS Seminar Room was received and came in double so they will go out for a new quote. They discussed the flooring at WMS. Many school-wide security projects are underway. A contract has been awarded to Marx/Okubo for the building condition study. Dan Caldwell and Eric Conklin are working with the insurance company regarding the Christmas day flood at BHS and costs are being kept separate. Minor damage to some ceiling tiles was done to a science classroom at BHS due to a burst coil in a unit ventilator. Vanessa Greenstein came and spoke about the “Voice for Change” grant that was awarded last year. She spoke of future plans to possibly put multi lingual signage in the library and purchase other furniture if funding becomes available. Mrs. Greenstein said Mr. Belden suggested that Town excess funds be used for student led projects.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Foster moved, R. Fernandes seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the items listed below on the consent agenda as recommended.

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

NEW BUSINESS

BROOKFIELD CARES-PRESENTATION OF SURVEY RESULTS

The Board received a report from Colette Sturm from Brookfield Cares regarding the survey results from the asset survey conducted at WMS Grades 6-8 and BHS last fall.

POLICIES

POLICY #5118.111, CHILDREN OF NON RESIDENT STAFF/QUALIFIED TUITION REDUCTION

A. Foster moved, R. Fernandes seconded, and, after discussion, the Board voted 7-0 to approve Policy #5118.111, Children on Non-Resident Staff/Qualified Tuition Reduction, for a first reading as recommended by the Policy/Communications subcommittee.

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

POLICY& REGULATION #5114, SUSPENSION, EXPULSION/DUE PROCESS

A. Foster moved, R. Fernandes seconded, and, after discussion, the Board voted 7-0 to approve Policy/Regulation #5114, Suspension, Expulsion/Due Process, for a first reading as recommended by the Policy/Communications subcommittee.

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

OLD BUSINESS

NEXT GENERATION ACCOUNTABILITY UPDATE

The Board received an update on Next Generation Accountability as presented by Assistant Superintendent Dr. Anna Mahon.

BOARD OF EDUCATION’S ADOPTED BUDGET 2023-2024

The Board had a brief discussion on the Board of Education’s 2023-2024 adopted budget.

CANDLEWOOD LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE

The Board received a brief update on the Candlewood Lake Elementary School building project.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Andy Corea spoke about public comment restrictions.

3 MAIN POINTS

1. Brookfield CARES presentation
2. Next Generation Accountability presentation
3. CLES Update

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mrs. Foster listed upcoming events

ADJOURNMENT

Without objection Chairman Bob Belden adjourned the meeting at 9:37pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Gramling, Board Clerk