

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

Chairman Bob Belden called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:**

Bob Belden, Joy Greenstein Amy Foster, Rosa Fernandes, 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, HHES Principal Dr. Dave Pepsoski and members of the staff & public.

**ABSENT:** Debbie Brooks

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**STUDENT SPOTLIGHT- HUCKLEBERRY HILL**

Mrs. Tolle and students from her HHES class highlighted their "Mock Congress"

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

Kaitlyn Zezza gave an update on the happenings at BHS

**WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE**

Erin Scalera wrote regarding the March 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

Ron Jaffe wrote regarding the Strategic Plan.

Nick Schmidt wrote following up on opt out programs, surveys and assessments and cardiac screenings.

Denise Rice wrote regarding a complaint.

Mike Einzig wrote regarding a BHS library book.

Claudio and Sarah Amaral wrote regarding admission to the Shepaug Agstem program.

Monique Matthews and Marni McNiff wrote regarding the CREC focus groups.

Andy Corea wrote regarding a board member's comments at the March 1<sup>st</sup> meeting and a request to edit those meeting minutes.

**APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES**

A. Foster moved, R. Fernandes seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to approve the minutes listed below as recommended:

Regular Meeting- 3/1/2023

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

**SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

Dr. Barile gave updates on the hiring status for the Director of Business & Operations position, CREC and the current last day of school for staff and students.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Facilities- 3/1/2023 & Special Facilities- 3/9/2023-** Mrs. Greenstein said the subcommittee discussed the School Dude reports and received an update on all active capital projects from Mr. Caldwell and Mr. Post, as well as the scope of work for the building condition study. Miscellaneous discussion included the condition of the walls at BHS after the lockers were removed and Mr. Caldwell accompanied Selectman Shaker on a tour of Center school. The brief discussion at the meeting on 3/9/2023 focused on the BHS Guidance wing roof replacement.

**CAPE-3/8/2023-** Dr. Murphy said BHS STEM Director Andrew Hill presented a textbook for approval by CAPE and the full Board. Dr. Mahon engaged the subcommittee in an Impact of Strategic Plan discussion and led the subcommittee in a Strategic Plan exercise. Dr. Mahon also gave a follow up on the DESSA Assessment program.

**Special Finance - 3/9/2023-** Mrs. Fernandes said the subcommittee continued discussion on the 2023-2024 budget and funding for capital projects.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

A. Foster moved, R. Fernandes seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to approve the items on the consent agenda as recommended:

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

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **HEALTHY FOOD OPTION CERTIFICATION**

A. Foster moved, R. Fernandes seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 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, 2023, through June 30, 2024. 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.

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

### **HEALTHY FOOD-FOOD & BEVERAGE EXEMPTION**

A. Foster moved, R. Fernandes seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 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 and must be the same place as the food and beverage sales.

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

## **POLICIES**

### **POLICY/REGULATION #5125- FERPA**

A. Foster moved, R. Fernandes seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to approve to replace Brookfield’s Policy #5125, FERPA with CABE’s version and approve Regulation #5125- FERPA for a first reading as recommended by the Policy/Communications subcommittee.

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

### **POLICY # 5131.911- BULLYING**

A. Foster moved, R. Fernandes seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to approve to replace Brookfield’s existing Policy #5131.911- Bullying with CABE’s version and approve Regulation#5131.911, Bullying, for a first reading as recommended by the Policy/Communications subcommittee.

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

### **POLICY #5144.1- RESTRAINT & SECLUSION**

A Foster moved, R. Fernandes seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to approve the deletion of current Policy #5144.1 -Restraint and Seclusion and accept an updated version based on language adopted by Wallingford Public Schools and approve Regulation, for a first reading as recommended by the Policy/Communications subcommittee.

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

### **BHS GUIDANCE WING ROOF AND MAINTENANCE VEHICLE REQUEST FOR FUNDING**

A. Foster moved, R. Fernandes seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 that the Board of Education request the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance allocate additional funds for previously approved capital projects in the amounts of \$142,200 for the Brookfield High School Guidance Wing Roof Replacement and \$15,313 for the purchase of a Maintenance vehicle.

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

### **APPROVAL OF TEXTBOOK**

A. Foster moved, R. Fernandes seconded, to approve the following textbook as recommended by the CAPE subcommittee and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Anna Mahon: COURSE: (AP Environmental Science). Miller, G. & S. Spoolman. (2021). *Exploring Environmental Science*. Cengage. [Current edition of previously-used book]

After a brief overview from BHS STEM Director Andrew Hill and discussion with Dr. Mahon, R. Fernandes moved, A. Foster seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to amend the motion replacing Miller, G. & S. Spoolman. (2021). *Exploring Environmental Science*. Cengage, with Friedland, A. & Relyea, R. (2023). *Environmental Science for the AP Course*. Bedford, Freeman & Worth.

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

The Board voted unanimously to approve textbook Friedland, A. & Relyea, R. (2023). *Environmental Science for the AP Course*. Bedford, Freeman & Worth.

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

## **POLICIES**

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

A. Foster moved, seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to approve Policy/Regulation #5114, Suspension, Expulsion/Due Process, for a final reading as recommended by the Policy/Communications subcommittee. First reading was on February 15, 2023.

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

**BOARD OF EDUCATION’S 2023-2024 ADOPTED BUDGET**

The Board continued its discussion on the Board of Education’s 2023-2024 adopted budget.

**CANDLEWOOD LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT**

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**3 MAIN POINTS**

1. HHES Student Spotlight
2. CREC Update
3. CLES Update

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Mrs. Foster listed upcoming events

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Without objection, Chairman Bob Belden adjourned the meeting at 8:02 pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lisa Gramling, Board Clerk

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Amy Foster, Secretary  
Brookfield Board of Education