

BRANFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

DATE: April 26, 2017

LOCATION: Branford High School Lower Media Center
185 East Main Street, Branford, CT

SUBJECT: Board of Education Meeting

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ATTENDANCE

HERE	ATTENDEE	AFFILIATION
Y	Michael Krause, CIC, Chair	Board of Education
Y	John O'Connor, Vice-Chair	Board of Education
Y	Betsy Regan, Secretary	Board of Education
Y	Joanne Borrus	Board of Education
Y	Maria Ehrhardt	Board of Education
Y	Judith Hotz	Board of Education
Y	Kate Marsland	Board of Education
N	John R. Prins	Board of Education
Y	Shannen Sharkey	Board of Education
N	Kiersten Bjork	Student Representative
N	Emily Borst	Student Representative
N	Madison Daniels	Student Representative
N	Jayleen Flores	Student Representative
N	Carol Frye	Student Representative
N	HyunJin Lim	Student Representative
N	Jack Nelson	Student Representative
Y	Daniel Shamas	Student Representative
Y	Hamlet M. Hernandez, Superintendent	Central Office
N	Dr. Anthony Buono, Assistant Superintendent	Central Office

Others present:

BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM DESCRIPTION

CALL

01 Meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by Chairman, Michael Krause.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

02 MOTION (Marsland/O'Connor) to approve the March 29, 2017 Full Regular BOE Meeting Minutes.
MINUTES APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

COMMUNICATION

Chairman Krause shared with Board members a petition that he received from Carl Seeley, President of the Branford Education Association (BEA) on behalf of Walsh Intermediate School (WIS) Principal, Robin Goeler.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Peter Strauss, Retired WIS Assistant Principal, shared his perspective regarding the reassignment of two District principals.

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RECOGNITIONS

A. John (Jake) Palluzzi

Chairman Krause and Superintendent Hernandez recognized Branford High School Basketball Coach. Mr. Palluzzi retired from coaching basketball at Branford High School after 29 years.

B. ELL Literacy Night Staff

Chairman Krause and Superintendent Hernandez recognized Ms. Kim Volkens and the District ELL staff for making ELL Literacy Night Events at the Blackstone Library a District wide success.

C. Welcoming Branford Event Staff

Chairman Krause and Superintendent Hernandez recognized Mr. Paul Dzialo and the ERACE staff members for their hard work on the recent Welcoming Branford event at the Blackstone Library.

BOE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Student Representatives, Daniel Shamas, reported on end of the year happenings at Branford High School (BHS). He stated

that exams are coming up next week, all courses are at an endpoint and there is “a lot” of summer work coming up. He ended his report by stating that Prom is May 19th.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT/ WALSH INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL NEXT GENERATION UPDATE

Superintendent Hernandez began his report by stating the BHS Choir, will be holding an event called Peace Project at Woolsey Hall on April 30th. He stated that this a is a truly moving and powerful program and encouraged all to attend.

Superintendent also stated that he has received letters from NEASC for both BHS and Walsh Intermediate School (WIS). He stated that the letters were complementary and start to lay out a path for the next ten years. Superintendent Hernandez said that he is happy with the process and proud of the excellent job that BHS and WIS staff did.

Superintendent Hernandez continued his report by stating that on Friday, April 28th there will be a press conference to recognize the three winners of the essay contest to rename the Negro Heads Buoy. He stated that this contest was commissioned by Senator Kennedy and a Committee was convened to pick the three essay winners, for first second and third place. The first place essay to rename the buoy will be submitted to the State the first and then to the federal for approval. The first place winner received a scholarship provided by the Community Foundation and the second and third place winners were given a scholarship with money donated by Dr. Roger Lowlicht.

Superintendent Hernandez stated that Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) testing will be from May 2nd through May 12th. There are four portions of the test. The test is computerized and not is not timed the same way the CMT’s are, there is the ability to be paused.

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**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT/ WALSH INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
NEXT GENERATION UPDATE (Continued)**

Superintendent Hernandez continued his report by stating that the project is moving forward with the WIS Design Development Phase is due at the end of May. The model classroom is in the process of being set-up, although not identical the design team will try recreating what an actual classroom will look like.

Superintendent Hernandez finished his report by stating that he along with Chairman Krause; Michele Krumenacker, FRC Director; Paul Dzialo, ERACE Director and Don Neel, Chief Operating Officer, attended the RTM Sub-Committee meeting and over all the meeting went well with a good discourse, with the Committee hearing more about the District’s budget.

03

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Project Graduation Donation

MOTION (Borrus/Marsland) to approve a \$2,510 (\$10 per student at 251 seniors) donation to BHS Project Graduation.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

B. Safe School Climate Plan

MOTION (O’Connor/Hotz) to approve the Safe School Climate Plan as discussed at tonight’s Policy Committee meeting.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY with two language modifications

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Communication Committee (Joanne Borrus, Chair). Next scheduled meeting: Wednesday, May 10, 2017 at 6:00 P.M., Branford High School Lower Media Center.

B. Personnel & Finance Committee (Judy Hotz, Chair) . Next scheduled meeting: Wednesday, May 10, 2017 at 6:30 P.M., Branford High School Lower Media Center.

C. Teaching & Learning Committee (John Prins, Chair) Next scheduled meeting: Wednesday, May 10, 2017 at 7:00 P.M., at Branford High School, Lower Media Center.

D. Policy Committee (Kate Marsland & John O’Connor, Co-Chairs). Next scheduled meeting: Wednesday, May 17, 2017 at 6:00 P.M., Branford High School Lower Media Center.

BOARD REPORTS:

ACES – Judy Hotz reported that ACES heard their final inschool budget, a report from their Auditor and potential ways to reduce spending. They are waiting to hear what the final budget will be when the final cuts from the State are known.

CABE – Chairman Krause reported that CABE has already begun to organized the November CABE/CAPSS Convention.

BECC – Kate Marsland discussed the Week of the Young child events, including the Art Walk. The Second to the Last Round table will be held tomorrow night, the theme is Sensation Station. Dr. Marsland ended her report by stating that BECC will be participating in the Great Give May 2nd-3rd.

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PTA MEETINGS

Tisko – Judy Hotz & Betsy Regan. Scheduled Meetings: May 8, 2017. All meetings will be held in the Tisko Cafeteria at 6:00 pm.

Murphy – Kate Marsland & John Prins. Scheduled Meeting: March 2017. Currently the time and location is to be determined.

BHS - John O’ Connor & John Prins. Scheduled Meetings: No set meeting schedule

WIS – Michael Krause, Joanne Borrus & Betsy Regan. Scheduled Meetings: No meetings scheduled at this time.

Sliney – Maria Ehrhardt & Shannen Sharkey. Scheduled Meetings:, March 1, 2017, May 3, 2017. All meeting will be held in the Sliney Library at 7:00 pm.

04

ADJOURN

Chairman Krause adjourned the meeting 7:52 PM with no action taken.

**The next Full Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 17, 2017 at 7:00 PM
in the Branford High School, Lower Media Center.**

**PLEASE NOTE: Parking for Board Meetings held at Branford High School Lower Media Center
is in Lot C. Access to meetings is through the F3 library doors.**

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Regan
Secretary

Prepared by
Kerry Eyrich