

BRANFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

DATE: December 19, 2018

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
N	Maria Ehrhardt	Board of Education
Y	Ellen Michaels	Board of Education
Y	Dawn Perrotti	Board of Education
Y	John R. Prins	Board of Education
N	Shannen Sharkey	Board of Education
Y	Riyanshu Bam	Student Representative
N	GianCarlo Giannini	Student Representative
Y	Mia Josephy-Zack	Student Representative
Y	Lisa Kroeber	Student Representative
N	Minsok Lee	Student Representative
N	William Riggs	Student Representative
Y	Hamlet M. Hernandez, Superintendent	Central Office
Y	Rachel Sexton, Assistant Superintendent	Central Office

Others present:

BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM DESCRIPTION

01

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM by Chair, Michael Krause.

02

MINUTES APPROVAL

A. MOTION (Perrotti/Michaels) to approve minutes from the November 14, 2018 Full Regular BOE Meeting.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

COMMUNICATION

Mr. Krause welcomed the new BOE Student Representatives present at tonight's meeting; Riyanshu Bam and Mia Josephy-Zack. New BOE Student Representative, Minsok Lee, was unable to attend this evenings meeting.

Mr. Krause also passed around thank you notes that we sent to Superintendent Hernandez and the Board.

John O'Connor, BOE Vice Chair, discussed the Branford Education Hall of Fame nominations that will take place on February 12, 2019 at the Branford Fire Headquarters.

A letter was shared with the BOE from a parent who is concerned about vaping issues. Superintendent Hernandez stated that WIS and BHS Administrators are already looking into it.

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PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments made during this portion of the meeting.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

Lisa Kroeber, BOE Student Representative, discussed, the BHS band orchestra concert and the boys track team. She stated that the BHS musical is the Addams Family. She also reported that as part of the Students Choice Program, students got to taste and vote on lunch choices. Lisa also reported that new bathroom policies were put into place. The hockey team is doing well, students are talking about colleges and looking forward to the holiday break.

The new BOE Student Representatives, Riyanshu Bam and Mia Josephy-Zack, both grade 11 students finished the Student Representative Report by introducing themselves to the BOE members.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT/WIS NEXT GENERATION UPDATE

Superintendent Hernandez started his report by stating that all monthly safety drills will be completed by Friday of this week. He also stated that he attended a DCF Summit today that was put on by CAPSS and Shipman and Goodwin, LLC. Attorney, Tom Mooney, discussed the call back system that has been implemented. This system allows a caller to leave a number and they will receive call back.

Superintendent Hernandez stated that he is looking into the call back number for the District. He also reported that the DCF Form 136 (the form that is used to report suspected neglect or abuse) is going electronic. Superintendent Hernandez stated that there were other things discussed relative to investigations and statutes and he found that this summit was very informative.

Superintendent Hernandez also reported that CAS is offering a Vaping Workshop. He stated that education of parents and students is a huge piece for this issue. He continued by stating that vaping is risky behavior that is a pathway to other risky behaviors and needs to be worked on collaboratively with our community. Early intervention is important and is something that we have started to do.

Superintendent Hernandez discussed the WIS construction project. He stated that steel will be in place by January. There is a progress payment that is expected tomorrow. He continued by stating that we cannot process the next payment request until the first payment has been received.

Superintendent Hernandez circled back to his report to discuss the commencement of the budget process. He pointed out that it Assistant Superintendent Sexton is going through the process for the first time. Superintendent Hernandez stated that the budget presentation is scheduled for February 6, 2019.

Superintendent Hernandez finished his report by sharing with the Board a letter that he wrote to the school community in preparation for the winter recess expressing his deepest admiration to the BPS students, staff and parents for all that they do to make BPS a wonderful school district.

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03

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. BHS Robotics Club Donation

The Robotics Club Co-Founders/BHS students; Christian Bjork, Daniel DeCerbo-O'Brien and Joshua Josephy-Zack gave a brief presentation on what the Robotics Club is about and what they have been working on.

MOTION (O'Connor/Prins) to accept the \$2,000 donation made to the BHS Robotics Club by the Branford Community Foundation.

Approved Unanimously

B. FIRST READINGS

MOTION (Borrus/Regan) to recommend the following policies for a second reading:

- a. 6142 – Basic Instructional Program
- b. 6142.1 Family Life and Sex Education

Approved Unanimously

04

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

A. Second Readings

MOTION (Michaels/Prins) to approve the following policies:

- a. 6114 – Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness
- b. 6114.1 – Fire Emergency (Drills)/Crisis Response Drills
- c. 6114.7 – Safe Schools

Approved Unanimously

B. 2019 BOE Meeting Schedule

MOTION (O'Connor/Perrotti) to approve the 2019 BOE Meeting Schedule as discussed at the December 12, 2018 Communications Committee Meeting.

Approved Unanimously

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ACTION ITEMS

There were no public comments made during this portion of the meeting.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Communication Committee (Joanne Borrus, Chair). Next scheduled meeting: Wednesday, January 9, 2019, 6:00 P.M., Branford High School Lower Media Center.

B. Personnel & Finance Committee (John O'Connor Chair). Next scheduled meeting: Wednesday, January 9, 2019, 6:30 P.M., Branford High School Lower Media Center.

C. Teaching & Learning Committee (John Prins, Chair). Next scheduled meeting: Wednesday, January 9, 2019, at 7:00 P.M., Branford High School Lower Media Center.

D. Policy Committee (Ellen Michaels, Chair). Next scheduled meeting: Wednesday, January 16, 2019, 6:00 P.M., Branford High School Lower Media.

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BOARD REPORTS:

ACES – Ellen Michaels stated that she was unable to attend the last ACES meeting.

BECC – Dawn Perrotti stated that Clifford Beers attended the last Round Table. She also stated that the next Round Table is January 22, 2019 and the Pre-K Fair is February 23, 2019

CABE – John Prins reported that at the last CABE meeting they passed out their newsletter. March 20, 2019 is CABE Day on the Hill. Mr. Prins also spoke briefly about the 15th Annual Leadership Institute.

PTA MEETINGS

BHS - John O' Connor & Shannen Sharkey

Scheduled Meetings: No set meeting schedule.

WIS – Joanne Borrus, Dawn Perrotti & Betsy Regan

Scheduled Meetings: Regular meetings have gone to twice a year – none scheduled at this time.

WIS PTA Executive Board Meetings: All Meetings are 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. at WIS

December 19, 2018, January 16, February 20, March 20, April 17, and May 15, 2019

JBS – Maria Ehrhardt & Shannen Sharkey

Scheduled Meetings: All meetings take place in JBS Library

January 8 @ 3:45p, February 4 @ 6:45p, March 5 @ 3:45p, April 3 @ 6:45p, May 2 @ 3:45p,
and June 3 @ 6:45p

Tisko – Michael Krause & Betsy Regan

Scheduled Meetings: Not known at this time.

Murphy – Ellen Michaels & John Prins

Scheduled Meeting: All meetings to be held in the MTM Café at 7:00 PM

January 15, February 19, March 19, April 16, and May 21, 2019

05

ADJOURN

Chairman Krause adjourned the meeting at 8:05 PM

**The next Full Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 16, 2019,
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