

BRANFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

DATE: January 24, 2018

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

SUBJECT: Board of Education Meeting

Page 1 of 3

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	John R. Prins	Board of Education
Y	Shannen Sharkey	Board of Education
N	Emily Borst	Student Representative
N	Madison Daniels	Student Representative
N	Jayleen Flores	Student Representative
N	GianCarlo Giannini	Student Representative
N	Lisa Kroeber	Student Representative
N	William Riggs	Student Representative
N	Daniel Shamas	Student Representative
Y	Hamlet M. Hernandez, Superintendent	Central Office
Y	Dr. Anthony Buono, Assistant Superintendent	Central Office

Others present:

BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM DESCRIPTION

CALL

01 Meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by Chairman, Michael Krause.

COMMUNICATION

Chairman Krause discussed the recent Naturalization Ceremony that took place at Walsh Intermediate School on January 9th. Branford Education Hall of Fame honorees will be selected on February 6th at 7:00 PM at Fire Headquarters. On January 12th, the WIS project went out to bid. Chairman Krause commended several students for their achievements in various sports, including girls and boys soccer, field hockey, football and girls volleyball. Chairman Krause, announced that the McGuirks have decided to retire from their position of field hockey coaches. He commended for their achievements and thanked them for their years of service.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Celia Toche, District parent, discussed the recent Branford Families screening of Screenagers. She stated that it was well attended with over 125 people in attendance. Ms. Toche thanked Principal Raeanne Reynolds and Lynda Mollow for helping to make this screening such a success. Ms. Toche also discussed the ability to have homework less digitally driven with a paper alternative available. She also stated that having paper alternatives will work to lesson screen time.

Continued...

BRANFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

DATE: January 24, 2018

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

SUBJECT: Board of Education Meeting

Page 2 of 3

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT/WIS NEXT GENERATION UPDATE

Superintendent Hernandez started his report by providing an update on the WIS project. He stated that bids were sent out on January 12th and expected to be returned on January 14th. Although he anticipated that the date might be extended. A model of WIS was received at Central Office. A member of Joe Carbone's staff is working on making a case for displaying the model.

Testing for the PCB issue has been completed with all areas coming back within normal levels. The Auxiliary Gym will begin to be utilized again on Monday. All information regarding this issue and its resolution can be found on the Walsh School Project website.

Superintendent Hernandez reported that the Family Resource Center was just awarded an NIAC Certification. He stated that this certification is not a requirement, but the District participates in this process any way.

Superintendent thanks Celia Toche, Raeanne Reynolds and Lynda Mollow for their work on Screenagers. He said that it was a great event and the content of the movie is an issues that needs to be address over time to find the right balance as a community collaborative.

Superintendent Hernandez also discussed the Naturalization Ceremony that took place at WIS. He stated that the Honorable Judy Margolis presided over the ceremony and was very impressed with WIS and placed and emphasis on the students. He stated that Judge Margolis would be retiring soon and he was hoping that the district could invite her back to talk to the students.

Superintendent Hernandez ended his report by saying that the BHS & WIS Dance Teams were headed to Florida for competition and he wished them well.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

02 A. Superintendent's Mid-Term Oral Goal Update – Contract Discussion

MOTION (Prins/Borrus) to move into Executive Session at 7:50 PM. All Board Members present at tonight's Board meeting as well as Superintendent Hernandez were present during the Executive Session.

MOTION (O'Connor/Borrus) to return the meeting to regular session at 8:58 PM.

03

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. 2018-2019 School Year Calendar

The Board members discussed different options for the 2018-2019 school year calendar. Among the things discussed Superintendent Hernandez mentioned that the school year calendar is a sensitive subject and a topic of great interest to the community and to students. The 2018-19 calendar will be discussed with the teacher's union and also with administrators for their input. To help with moving WIS construction along it was suggested that students return after Labor Day. Chairman Krause suggest that the District be given Columbus Day off to alleviate the long stretch without a day off, as this was something the BOE Student Representative mentioned at a previous meeting.

Continued...

BRANFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

DATE: January 24, 2018

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

SUBJECT: Board of Education Meeting

Page 3 of 3

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS (Continued)

B. Superintendent's Contract

Motion (O'Connor/Prins) to approve a 1% salary increase for the Superintendent as discussed in tonight's Executive Session.

APPROVED - 6 Yes, 2 No

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

Celia Toche, asked the BOE members when deciding on a school year calendar to keep in mind the need for parents to coordinate with summer programs for child care.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Communication Committee (Joanne Borrus, Chair).

Next scheduled meeting: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at 6:00 P.M., Branford High School Lower Media Center.

B. Personnel & Finance Committee (Judy Hotz, Chair)

Next scheduled meeting: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at 6:30 P.M., Branford High School Lower Media Center.

C. Teaching & Learning Committee (John Prins, Chair)

Next scheduled meeting: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at 7:00 P.M., at Branford High School, Lower Media Center.

D. Policy Committee (John O'Connor, Chair).

Next scheduled meeting: Wednesday, February 7, 2018 at 6:00 P.M., Branford High School Lower Media Center.

BOARD REPORTS

BECC – Ellen Michaels stated that among the things discussed at the last BECC meeting, they reflected on their accomplishments; Round Tables, procured grants, their 403 (1) (C) status, The Week of the Young Child and also social media.

CABE – John Prins stated that their last meeting among the things that were discussed was the budget process, the legislative agenda and also a theme for the 2018 convention in Mystic.

05

ADJOURN

Motion (Sharkey/Michaels) to adjourn. Chairman Krause adjourned the meeting 9:11 PM.

**The next Full Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 28, 2018
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