

BRANFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

DATE: January 16, 2019

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	Ellen Michaels	Board of Education
Y	Dawn Perrotti	Board of Education
Y	John R. Prins	Board of Education
Y	Shannen Sharkey	Board of Education
N	Riyanshu Bam	Student Representative
N	GianCarlo Giannini	Student Representative
N	Mia Josephy-Zack	Student Representative
Y	Lisa Kroeber	Student Representative
N	Minsok Lee	Student Representative
N	William Riggs	Student Representative
N	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 7:06 PM by Chair, Michael Krause.

02

MINUTES APPROVAL

A. MOTION (Prins/Michaels) to approve minutes from the December 19, 2019 Full Regular BOE Meeting.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

AGENDA CHANGES

The BHS Unified Sports Team was unable to attend this evening's meeting.

COMMUNICATION

Mr. Prins spoke about the CABA Distinction Award that the Board recently received. He stated that it will be on display at the Board Office. He also stated that this is the second CABA Distinction Award that the Board has received.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Greg Jerolman, Branford Resident, offered his opinion about District turnover.

RECOGNITION

The Board recognized the coaches and players of the WIS Girls Field Hockey Team for their outstanding season with a proclamation and a certificate of achievement.

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INTRODUCTION

Assistant Superintendent Sexton, introduced Sharon Weirsmen, the Interim Principal at John B. Sliney School (JBS) to the Board. Mrs. Weirsmen thanked the Board and the JBS Community for their warm welcome. She also stated that she is delighted to serve as the Interim Principal, appreciates the support that she has received and “will stay as long as we will have her.”

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

Lisa Kroeber, BOE Student Representative, stated that mid-terms start tomorrow, sports teams are doing very well. She spoke about the Main Street Showcase stating that it featured many talented singers. Lisa finished her report by saying that everyone is looking forward to a three day weekend.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT/WIS NEXT GENERATION UPDATE

In the absence of Superintendent Hernandez, Rachel Sexton presented the Superintendent’s Report. She began by stating that all safety drills will be done by the end of the month. Assistant Superintendent Sexton reported that exams will begin tomorrow and if there is a cancellation the exams will be pushed off by one day.

Assistant Superintendent Sexton gave an update on the search for the JBS Principal. She stated that the search for the Principal has been pushed off with the hope of the chosen candidate starting on July 1st. She continued by saying that Mrs. Weirsmen has been a good fit at JBS.

Ms. Sexton finished the Superintendent’s Report by saying that the budget process continues in a timely fashion.

03

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. BHS Field Trip Request

Mike Martone, BHS Choral Director, discussed the field trip request to go to California during the April break for 6 days. He stated that interest in this field trip is very high, there is 61 students signed up to go. There have been several opportunities for fund raising with some students raising enough money to pay for their entire trip. The chaperon ratio is 1 to 10 per student. Five chaperones have signed up so far.

MOTION (O’Connor/Prins) to approve the BHS Field Trip Request to Travel to California.

Approved Unanimously

B. 2019-2020 School Year Calendar Options

Assistant Superintendent Sexton presented three the different calendar options to the Board for a preliminary discussion. These options will be discussed further at the February Communication Committee Meeting. She pointed out the differences in the three options and stated that the options were designed to maximize the summer time for construction purposes.

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04

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

A. Second Readings

MOTION (Perrotti/Prins) to adopt the following policies:

- a. 6142 – Basic Instruction Program
- b. 6142.1 – Family Life & Sex Education

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, February 13, 2019, 6:00 P.M., Branford High School Lower Media Center.

B. Personnel & Finance Committee (John O'Connor Chair). Next scheduled meeting: Wednesday, February 13, 2019, 6:30 P.M., Branford High School Lower Media Center.

C. Teaching & Learning Committee (John Prins, Chair). Next scheduled meeting: Wednesday, March 6, 2019, at 7:00 P.M., Branford High School Dining Commons. This meeting will showcase the District's Annual Art Show.

D. Policy Committee (Ellen Michaels, Chair). Next scheduled meeting: Wednesday, February 20, 2019, 6:00 P.M., Branford High School Lower Media.

BOARD REPORTS:

ACES – Ellen Michaels stated that CAFE Attorney, Patrice McCarthy, spoke at the ACES meeting that took place last Thursday.

BECC – Dawn Perrotti stated that she did not have anything to report.

CABE – John Prins spoke about the CAFE Area 7 breakfast that was held this morning. He reported that there were many members from the Valley present. There was a conversation around school safety and he urged people to contact their legislators.

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

February 20, March 20, April 17, and May 15, 2019

JBS – Maria Ehrhardt & Shannen Sharkey

Scheduled Meetings: All meetings take place in JBS Library

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

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

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05

ADJOURN

MOTION (Perrotti/Prins) to adjourn. Chairman Krause adjourned the meeting at 8:01 PM

**The next Full Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 20, 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