

BRANFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

DATE: October 23, 2019

LOCATION: Branford Public Schools 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
Y	Shannen Sharkey	Board of Education
Y	Riyanshu (Riya) Bam	Student Representative
N	Mia Josephy-Zack	Student Representative
N	Minsok Lee	Student Representative
Y	Hamlet M. Hernandez, Superintendent	Central Office
Y	Rachel Sexton, Assistant Superintendent	Central Office

Others present: Michael Martone, BHS Choir Teacher

BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM DESCRIPTION

CALL TO ORDER

- 01 Meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM by BOE Chair, Michael A. Krause.

MINUTES APPROVAL

- 02 A. MOTION (Prins/Regan) to approve minutes from the September 18, 2019 Full Regular BOE Meeting and the September 25, 2019 Special BOE Meeting.
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Krause shared a thank you letter from Cathy & John McGuirk with the Board.

03 AGENDA CHANGES

Mr. Krause stated that a discussion regarding the 2019/2020 school year calendar for WIS will be an added to the Discussion/Action Items section of this evenings meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lee Ann LaRock, Paraprofessional at Mary T. Murphy Schools, read a letter to the Board regarding her experience and pay working for Branford Public Schools.

Gregg Jerolman, Branford Resident, commented on the Superintendent's State of the District report, his attendance at Board meetings over the past three years and shared his perception about the BOE.

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BOE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

BOE Student Representative, Riya Bam, stated that the year is off to a good start, back to school events such as the Pep Rally, the Creepy Cabaret being held at Owenego, Guess the Hornet, Romeo and Juliet rehearsal, and the marching band fundraiser at Chipotle. Riya mentioned that the BHS play this year will be Sweeney Todd, college rep visits to BHS and college planning night. She also discussed several upcoming events; September 26 - Honors and perfect attendance recognition, October 16 – PSAT's and October 17 – Parent Conferences.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT/WIS NEXT GENERATION UPDATE

In his update on the WIS project Superintendent Hernandez discussed; the temporary certificate of occupancy, the students move to the academic wing in January, correspondence to parents regarding what to expect in phase 2 and the professionalism of all involved with the project.

Superintendent Hernandez also reported that he recently attended a meeting for the State Council for Education Opportunities for Military Children. He stated that for the last ten years he has served on the Board supporting military Families. The purpose of this Board is do things to stable the impact to students such as Interstate Databases. Superintendent Hernandez also stated that the elementary parent conferences are being held tonight. He concluded his report by discussing the District's interest in using Language Line Interpreters which symbolizes the changes that we are seeing in our population.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

04 A. BHS Choir Field Trip to New York City

Michael Martone discussed the choir's field trip request to New York City.

MOTION (Prins/O'Connor) to approve the BHS Field Trip Request to New York City.
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

05 B. First Reading of Policies Reading of Policies

MOTION (Michaels/Borrus) to approve the first reading of policies:

- a. 3260 - Sales & Disposal of Books, Equipment & Supplies
- b. 6142.101 - Student Nutrition and Physical Activity (School Wellness Policy)
- c. 6145 - Extracurricular Activities
- d. 6145.2 – Interscholastic/Intramural Athletics

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

06 C. 2019-2020 WIS School Year Calendar

Superintendent Hernandez discussed an alternative to the 2019-2020 school year calendar for WIS that includes early release days for students.

MOTION (Krause/Sharkey) to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to modify the 2019-2020 WIS school year as needed.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

Continued...

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PUBLIC COMMENT ON ACTION ITEMS

There were no public comments made during this section of tonight's meeting.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Communication Committee (Joanne Borrus, Chair). Next scheduled meeting: Wednesday, November 13, 2019, 6:00 P.M., Branford High School Lower Media Center.

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

C. Teaching & Learning Committee (John Prins, Chair). Next scheduled meeting: Wednesday, November 13, 2019, at 7:00 P.M., Branford High School Lower Media Center.

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

BOARD REPORTS:

ACES – Ellen Michaels reported that at the ACES meeting last week they discussed Wintergreen School's move to the Gateway campus in North Haven, the Leeder Hill ground breaking and an increase in enrollment.

BECC – Dawn Perrotti did not have anything to report this evening.

CABE – John Prins discussed the upcoming CABE/CAPSS Convention in November. Mr. Prins also stated that CABE is in the midst of an organizational assessment and it is looking at its branding.

ADJOURN

MOTION (Borrus/Sharkey) to adjourn meeting.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

Chairman Krause adjourned the meeting at 7:53 PM

**The next Full Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 20, 2019,
at 7:00 PM at Branford High School, Lower Media Center,
185 East Main Street, Branford, CT**

**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