

**BRANFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Communication Committee Minutes**

DATE: January 8, 2020

LOCATION: Branford High School Lower Media Center  
Branford, CT

SUBJECT: Communication Committee

Page 1 of 2

---

**ATTENDANCE**

HERE	ATTENDEE	AFFILIATION
N	Joanne Borrus, Committee Chair	Board of Education
Y	Michael A. Krause, CIC	Board of Education
N	Maria Ehrhardt	Board of Education
Y	Meredith Gaffney	Board of Education
Y	Ellen Michaels	Board of Education
Y	Dawn Perrotti	Board of Education
Y	John Prins	Board of Education
N	Elizabeth Regan	Board of Education
Y	Shannen Sharkey	Board of Education
Y	Hamlet M. Hernandez, Superintendent	Central Office
Y	Rachel Sexton, Assistant Superintendent	Central Office

Others present:

---

**BUSINESS ITEMS**

**ITEM DESCRIPTION**

**CALL**

**01** Meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM by BOE Chair, Shannen Sharkey.

**APPROVE MINUTES**

**02** MOTION (Prins/Krause) to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2019 Communication Committee Meeting.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

**DISCUSSION ITEM**

**03 A. Walsh Intermediate School (WIS) Project Update**

Superintendent Hernandez provided an update on the WIS construction project. Mr. Hernandez began by stating that he wanted to publically state the work of Mrs. Reynolds, her team, staff, students, parents and guardians everyone pulled together to make this happen seamlessly. He stated that the building is not perfect and we still have some bumps we will work through. Mr. Hernandez also stated that he would be remiss if he did not mention the work of the technology department and the significant technology that has gone into this project. He discussed moving to the new wing, some work left to be done, the letter that Mrs. Reynolds sent out to parents/guardians reiterating certain things, such as parent drop off and the temporary location of the reception area.

Superintendent Hernandez showed pictures of:

- The outside of the building
- The location of the reception area
- The Grand Staircase
- The location of the Media Center from the outside and also the inside including a heated reading bench, the three story look down and circulation desk made from Stony Creek Granite
- Two classrooms including modular furniture, windows, storage and the teacher's desk

Continued...

**BRANFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Communication Committee Minutes**

DATE: January 8, 2020

LOCATION: Branford High School Lower Media Center  
Branford, CT

SUBJECT: Communication Committee

Page 2 of 2

---

**DISCUSSION ITEM (Continued)**

- The Servery area including the variations of what students can select
- A collaborative working space at the end of a hallway
- A science classroom (approximately 750 square feet)
- The back of the building (stairwell 3) including the loading dock

Superintendent Hernandez concluded his report by stating that scaffolding is being erected in the front of the building that will be the covered walkway from the front door (stairwell 2) where students will exit the building to access the large gym. There will also be a large trailer to hold PE equipment, a “porta potty” that is ADA compliant and a smaller trailer which will be office space for the PE staff.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments made at this evening’s meeting.

**04**

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION (Prins/Michaels) to adjourn.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

Ms. Sharkey adjourned the meeting at 6:29 PM.

The next Communication Committee Meeting will be held on  
Wednesday, February 12, 2020,  
at 6:30 PM Meeting at Branford High School, Lower Media Center.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Meredith Gaffney*  
Pro Tem Secretary

Prepared by,  
*Kerry Eyrich*