

**BRANFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
MEETING CONTINUATION FROM FEBRUARY 16, 2022**

DATE: February 23, 2022

LOCATION: Walsh Intermediate School Auditorium
185 Damascus Road, Branford, CT 06405

SUBJECT: Board of Education Meeting

ATTENDANCE

HERE	ATTENDEE	AFFILIATION
Y	Peter Berdon, Chair	Board of Education
Y	Ellen Michaels, Vice-Chair	Board of Education
Y	Meredith Gaffney, Secretary	Board of Education
Y	Meaghan DeLucia	Board of Education
Y	Dawn Perrotti	Board of Education
Y	John R. Prins	Board of Education
Y	Dr. Tim Raynor	Board of Education
Y	Laura Troidle	Board of Education
Y	Marie Watson	Board of Education
Y	Sushant Kunwar	Student Representative
Y	Grahm Reynolds	Student Representative
Y	Abbygail Shaw	Student Representative
N	Veronica Smith	Student Representative
Y	Hamlet M. Hernandez, Superintendent	Central Office
Y	Rachel Sexton, Assistant Superintendent	Central Office
Y	Don Neel, Chief Operating Officer	Central Office

Others present:

BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM DESCRIPTION

CALL TO ORDER

- 01** Meeting was called to order at 7:13 PM by BOE Chair, Peter Berdon.

AGENDA CHANGES

- 02** MOTION (DeLucia/Gaffney) to allow a change to agenda items.
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY
- 03** MOTION (Prins/Perrotti) add a Discussion/Action F to consider and if appropriate to temporarily approve a policy on health and safety protocols.
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY
- 04** MOTION (Gaffney/Troidle) to move the BOE Student Representative report before Discussion/Action Items.
APPROVED (Prins opposed)

Superintendent Hernandez evoked a point of personal privilege to recognize out-going BOE member Dawn Perrotti for her service to the BOE. Peter Berdon recognized Ms. Perrotti by reading a resolution thanking her for her years of service and dedication. Superintendent Hernandez also presented Ms. Perrotti with a gift.

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BOE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

In their report this evening the BOE Student Representatives discussed;

- Model Congress leaving for Boston tomorrow (Harvard Model Congress). This is the first in-person meeting since 2020 tomorrow. There will be a tour of Harvard facilitated by a BHS alumni.
- The paper recycling program created by Abigail Shaw to educate peers as to what they could do differently.
- The BHS senior internship program (last four weeks of the school year, 114 seniors participating).

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

05 A. To consider and if appropriate, adopt a policy regarding face coverings

MOTION (Perrotti/DeLucia) to go with Mask recommended not required as of February 28, 2022
MOTION WITHDRAWN

06 B. To consider and if appropriate, approve BASS Contract (2021-2025)

MOTION (Prins/Troidle) to approve the BASS Contract
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

07 C. To consider and if appropriate, approve FY23 Capital and Operating Budget

MOTION (Prins/Gaffney) to approve the FY23 budget as presented subject to the amendments as recited.
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

08 D. To consider and if appropriate, approve BHS Model Congress Donation

MOTION (Troidle/Gaffney) to accept the \$1,000 donation made to BHS Model Congress by Robert and Stacey Bland of Branford, CT.
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

09 E. To consider and if appropriate, make assignment of Personnel & Finance (P&F) Committee Chair and other Committee Assignments.

MOTION (Raynor/Gaffney) to approve the appointment of Megan DeLucia as the P&F Committee Chair.
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

10 F. To consider and if appropriate, temporarily approve a policy on Health and Safety Protocols.

MOTION (DeLucia/Prins) to temporarily approve a policy on Health and Safety Protocols as amended at this evening's meeting.
APPROVED (Raynor and Troidle opposed)

Continued...

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PUBLIC COMMENTS ON DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

Gregg Jerolman, Branford resident, thanked everyone for their efforts in this significant process. Mr. Jerolman also spoke about this evening's discussion and its timeframe, a previous conversation between two board members, important pieces of business and special meetings.

Harlen Ficktenholtz, District parent, discussed the sailing team, including; funding, location, boats to use, a potential coach and student interest.

Meredith Killian, Branford resident, spoke about the sailing team, her experience as a team member and read a statement in support of the team.

Charlotte Green, District student, spoke in support of the sailing team, her interest in being on the team, her personal experience and her request to make it happen.

Courtney McCarthy, District parent, spoke about her lack of trust in the DPH advisor, data share (classroom spread vs. community spread), and supporting those who are not happy with the decision to remove masks.

Jennifer Orlando, District parent, thanked the Board for their efforts. Ms. Orlando also discussed an announcement regarding the policy, her disappointment with the approach this evening and thanked Mr. Prins for his comments tonight regarding community struggle.

Jason Swan, Branford resident, spoke about the possible candidate for the sailing coach, past accomplishments and sailing team members.

APPROVE MINUTES

- 11** The minutes from the January 26, 2022 meeting will be approved at next month's Full Regular BOE meeting.

ADJOURN

- 12** MOTION (Perrotti/DeLucia) to adjourn.
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

Mr. Berdon adjourned the meeting at 9:19 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Meredith Gaffney
Secretary

Prepared by,
Kerry Eyrich