

Brunswick School Board

MINUTES

Wednesday, September 11, 2013

7:00 p.m.

Municipal Meeting Room

Brunswick Station

16 Station Avenue

Board Members Present: James Grant, Chair; Michele Joyce, Vice Chair; Brenda Clough;
Janet Connors; Richard Ellis; Corinne Perreault; Joy Prescott;
William Thompson; Isabella Jorgensen, Student Liaison

Board Members Absent: Christopher McCarthy

Staff Members Present: Paul Perzanoski, Superintendent; Gregory Bartlett, Assistant Superintendent;
James Oikle, Business Manager; Cheryl White, Curriculum Coordinator;
Christine Patton, Administrative Secretary

Guests: J.T. Leonard, The Times Record; Brunswick Police Officer; others

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Grant called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., led the Pledge of Allegiance and asked the Superintendent for a roll call.

Adjustment to the Agenda

Remove Eugene Go from Item 93.

Addition of China Sister School Program in the Superintendent's Report

Consent Agenda Action

Ms. Clough asked that Item 92 be removed from the Consent Agenda.

The following items were passed by unanimous consent of the Board members present:

*88. Minutes of August 14, 2013

*89. Second Read Policies

- a. Proposed Policy FILE: DBJ Bidding/Purchasing Requirements
- b. Revised Policy FILE: IKF Graduation Requirements

*90. District Crisis Management Plans

*91. PLCSS Certification Steering Committee Appointment (Sharon Harvie)

Old Business

None

Communications/Correspondence

Mr. Ellis heard positive feedback from the staff about the Math in Focus training.

Public Participation

None

Superintendent's Report

- a. Presentation on Common Core – Mr. Perzanoski, Mrs. White, Mr. Bartlett

Mr. Perzanoski gave an overview of Common Core educational standards scheduled to go into effect 2014-15. Mr. Bartlett and Mrs. White explained that the state-driven Common Core curriculum is designed to increase students' depth of knowledge using content areas and interpretive learning to meet new benchmarks for educational progress.

Ms. Joyce entered the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

- b. Building and Equipment Use:

- Merrymeeting Adult Education – use of BHS classrooms during the year for adult classes
- Girl Scouts USA – use of schools for weekly meetings
- Brunswick Parks and Recreation – use of schools for recreation programs and hunter safety
- Town of Brunswick RTOS – use of Stowe gym for on-going meetings
- Town of Brunswick Staff Review – use of Hawthorne Conference Room for weekly staff meetings
- BHS Alumni – use of Hawthorne Alumni Room for monthly meetings
- Merrymeeting Resilience – use of Hawthorne Conference Room for bi-monthly meetings
- Bill's Bunch Square Dancers – use of Coffin gym for dance instruction and dances
- Suffering With Purpose Ministries Church – use of Coffin cafeteria for services
- BMDA Executive Board – use of high school gym for contract vote

- c. Resignations:

- Carol Doyle, Food Service Worker II, Brunswick Junior High School
- Megan Kemna, Grade 2 Teacher
- Gene Pulk, Night Custodian
- Peter Jensen, Bus Driver
- Stephen Moore, Educational Technician III, Stowe School
- Craig Worth, Director of Transportation and Grounds

- d. Recognition—Tatiana Lera, Foreign Language Teacher, BJHS

Ms. Lera has been selected to continue as one of 19 regional teacher leaders for World Languages in Maine Schools which is a standards-based instruction and assessment initiative.

- e. Budget Update - Mr. Oikle

Mr. Oikle reported that the surplus from the FY 13 budget year ending June 30, 2013, is \$1.75 million after \$2,800,000 was applied to the FY 14 budget. He presented a brief synopsis of the change in surplus starting with June 30, 2012. FY 14 is off to a good start. The changes and improvements made to the accounting system appear to be producing the desired results. The first payroll was accomplished with no difficulty and the new requirement to pay the employer portion of Maine State Retirement for teachers has been successfully implemented. For FY 15, which begins July 1, 2014, the budget guidance is being drafted and board input is solicited. The superintendent encouraged the finance committee to begin their deliberations in the near future. The state's analysis of the Harriet Beecher Stowe construction project and has been completed by the business office. Comments have been sent to DOE.

- f. Update on Brunswick High School Principal Search

Mr. Perzanoski reported that the selection committee chose six out of 15 applicants to interview. Five out of six accepted and interviews are scheduled to begin this week.

g. Administrators' Goals

Mr. Perzanoski read the 2013-14 administrators' goals to the Board. They include streamlining business practices, increasing knowledge of mental health issues, implementing the Common Core, completing the teacher/administrator evaluation document, evaluating school climate, completing the facilities master plan, and supporting the NEASC process and Math in Focus.

h. Opening of Schools and Enrollment Report – Mr. Bartlett

Mr. Bartlett reported on the opening of schools, new teacher induction, and staff development activities. He said that the enrollment is 2,398 students, and that there are 38 ESL students who speak 18 different languages. He read reports from principals on the opening of their individual schools.

i. Galen Cole Foundation Grant – Mr. Bartlett

Mr. Bartlett announced that the school department has been awarded a grant of \$5,000 from the Galen Cole Foundation to support the Reading Recovery Program.

j. Discussion on Public Feedback through Community Conversation and Facilities Master Plan

Mr. Perzanoski asked the Board for guidance on what order of importance to place several issues before the public. The Board rated facilities as first, followed by Community Conversation, charter schools and China Sister School.

k. Maine Share Program

Information was provided to the Board about the Maine Share program that collects donations for 40 statewide organizations.

Mr. Perzanoski announced that former Director of Transportation and Grounds, David Brunette, is helping out as until a new person is hired.

l. China Sister School Program

Mr. Perzanoski reported that he has been contacted by Suzanne Fox, coordinator for the China sister school program, who said that a reciprocal visit to China is expected from our district in November 2013. A homeland security application must be completed for a cost of \$1,200, and the cost to send a staff person to China is approximately \$4,000-\$5,000. Mr. Bartlett was chosen to be the staff person. The Board was asked to expend the funds available in existing accounts.

Ms. Joyce moved, with a second by Mr. Thompson, to authorize the funds to pay for the homeland security application and to send Mr. Bartlett to China in November as part of the China Sister School program. There was discussion that centered around having Ms. Fox come to explain the program to the Board, concern with the unexpected costs, and tabling the question until more information was provided to the Board.

Mr. Ellis moved, with a second by Mrs. Connors, to table sending Mr. Bartlett to China, but provide funding to complete the homeland security application. The vote was 7-1 (Grant opposed) and the motion passed.

Board Chair's Report

- a. Agenda for September 25 Workshop
The China sister school program would be placed on the September 25 agenda.
- b. Delegate to MSBA Delegate Assembly on Oct. 10, 2013
Mr. Grant asked for interested Board members to contact him about being appointed as a delegate to the MSBA Assembly.

Committee Reports

- a. Student Services Committee – Ms. Clough
Ms. Clough reported that the committee heard reports on the special education program including the summer program, changes in the restraint law, and the student dental program.
- b. BHS Theater Stage Repair Ad Hoc Sub Committee – Ms. Joyce, Mrs. Connors, Mrs. Perreault
Ms. Joyce said there is no report, but she has heard that the staff is happy with the new storage area.
- c. Charter School Ad Hoc Sub Committee – Mr. Grant, Mr. McCarthy, Mr. Thompson
Mr. Grant reported on two meetings with Mr. Stadler, a local businessman, about his plans for an international charter school that includes college credit. At this time, plans are being made to study and formulate what the school would look like, generate a program, study student interest, decide if there should be a donation/gift of funds to explore the feasibility, and investigate the need to hire a person to assist the Superintendent to handle the extra workload.
- d. Board Self-Evaluation Committee – Mr. McCarthy
No report.

New Business

92.* Approve a Commitment Statement to Promote Staff Health and Safety

Mr. Oikle explained that the statement is a request of the health insurance provider.

Motion: Ellis Second: Joyce Vote: Unanimous of the Board Members Present

Approved to support the following statement of commitment to employee health and well-being: The Brunswick School Department is committed to the well-being of all employees. It is recognized that healthy life styles and safety in the work place are significant factors in employee well-being. The school department shall demonstrate its commitment by encouraging employees to adopt healthy living styles by making available voluntary programs offered by the health insurance provider and others. The school department will also actively partner with the workers' compensation insurance carrier and incorporate the loss control program recommendations into the school department facilities maintenance plan and the employee training plans. While it is recognized that time and monetary resources are limited, employee safety will receive consideration in the school department budget and employee training opportunity.

93. Consideration of the Superintendent's Nomination of Teachers for 2013-2014 School Year

Motion: Connors Second: Joyce Vote: Unanimous of the Board Members Present

Voted to elect the following teachers for the 2013-14 school year:

Amy L. Crosby, Art Teacher, Coffin and Stowe Schools
Meghan A. Murray, Grade 2

Calendar/Announcements

Mr. Ellis announced that the Facilities and Maintenance Committee is meeting on September 23 at 4:30 p.m. in the Hawthorne Conference Room.

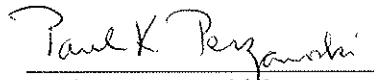
Ms. Joyce announced the open house for the junior high is on September 12 from 6:30-8 p.m.

Future Agenda Items

None

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:38 p.m.



Paul K. Perzanoski Secretary
Brunswick School Board