

Brunswick School Board

MINUTES

Wednesday, March 9, 2016

7:00 p.m.

Council Chambers
Town Hall
85 Union Street

School Board Members Present: William Thompson, Chair; Joy Prescott, Vice Chair; Brenda Clough; Richard Ellis; Teresa Gillis; Jim Grant (left ~8pm); Corinne Perreault; Sarah Singer

School Board Members Absent: Janet Connors; Molly Gramins, student liaison

Staff Members Present: Paul Perzanoski, Superintendent; Pender Makin, Assistant Superintendent; Jim Oikle, Business Manager; Cheri White, Curriculum Coordinator; Shanna Crofton, BHS Principal; Walter Wallace, BJHS Principal; Lisa Cushman, BJHS Assistant Principal; Jean Skorapa, HBS Principal; Josh Levy, HBS Assistant Principal; Steve Ciembroniewicz, Coffin Principal; Susan Alexander, Administrative Assistant

Guests: Lyndon Keck, PDT Architects; Julie Henze, Town Finance Director; Fran Smith, Town Clerk; Mary Beth Latti, Chris Deveau, BHS Speech and Debate Coaches; Aaron Bailey, Brunswick Police Officer; members of the community and press.

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

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

Adjustment to the Agenda

Move item g. of the Superintendent's Report up to item a.
No Curriculum Committee update.
Facilities Committee report will be given by Ms. Singer
Media Outreach report will be given by Mr. Thompson

Consent Agenda Action

Ms. Prescott requested item 17 and 19 be removed from the Consent Agenda.
Remaining item on the Consent Agenda passed unanimously without objection.

*18. Consideration of Approval of the Following Second Read Policy:

a. Policy FILE: JLCDA Medical Marijuana in Schools

17. Consideration of Approval of the Minutes of February 10, 2016

Ms. Prescott stated that we had a first read of Policy FILE: KHB Paid Advertisement and would like it noted in minutes. Without objection, passed unanimous of the Board.

19. Consideration of Approval of the Following Second Read Policy:

b. Policy FILE: KHB Paid Advertisement

Ms. Prescott noted that the version of this policy in the packet is not the final version. Suggests we remove this read from agenda and bring Second Read to the next meeting with the correction version.

Old Business

20. Consideration of the 2016-2017 School Calendar

Motion: Grant Seconded: Ellis Vote: Unanimous of Board members present

Approved to accept the 2016-2017 School Calendar.

School Climate Survey – P. Makin

Mrs. Makin reported on concerns raised by faculty who thought the survey was developmentally inappropriate for 3rd and 4th grade levels. Company addressed our concern and have created a manual and a guide for facilitators. After much discussion Board agreed to continue with this survey this year and include 3rd and 4th graders in the survey.

21. Motion to start this survey after April vacation.

Motion: Ellis Seconded: Singer Vote: Unanimous of Board members present

Voted to begin School Climate Survey after April vacation.

Communications/Correspondence

None

Public Participation

“Poem in Your Pocket” Program – Kathy Koerber

A presentation of poems was given by students from each of our schools. Poem in Your Pocket Day is Thursday, April 28 and these students encouraged everyone to participate.

Buckley Hugo, special needs advocate and parent, addressed the Board regarding speech and language services at the high school and the outsourcing to online providers.

Superintendent’s Report

a. Building and Equipment:

- Brunswick Parks and Recreation – use of schools
- Girl Scouts of America – use of schools
- Bath Area Family YMCA – use of BHS
- Riverview Foundation – use of schools
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters – use of HBS
- MAC Plus One Basketball – use of BHS gymnasium
- Atlantic Regional Federal Credit Union – use of Crooker Theater
- Brunswick Democratic Town Committee – use of schools
- Brunswick Police Department – use of BJHS
- Odyssey of the Mind – use of BHS
- SAGE Swingers Square and Round Dance Club – use of BJHS
- Greater Portland Sustainability Council – use of HBS

- b. Data Driven Decision Making – Administrative Team
Mrs. White and our four principals held a presentation on data driven decision making. They addressed how data is obtained, how data can be used to help make decisions, and how data drives decisions for the students in each of our schools. Much discussion followed the presentation.
- c. Brunswick Speech & Debate Team – M. Latti
Chris Deveau, BHS Speech Team coach, shared the teams' progress. Six students qualified for National Tournaments to be held in Sacramento and Salt Lake City. BHS students gave an example of their speeches. They are currently raising money to go to Nationals.
- d. Budget – J. Oikle
Mr. Oikle expressed his thanks to Pam Underwood for all her help with the preparation of the new budget. The auditors will be here in May so we beginning to get things ready for them. To make better use of computer technology, both the town and the school department are working to automate check reconciliation.
- e. Volunteer Handbook and Orientation Plan – P. Makin; Amanda Kierman
Mrs. Makin introduced our AmeriCorps Vista, Amanda Kierman, who has been working with us this year. One component of her service this year is to help develop a volunteer program to help recruit, train, and manage school volunteers. She explained the research she has done, and reviewed the draft handbook and management system she has developed which will be presented to the Policy Committee for further work.
- f. MEA Update – P. Makin
For several years students have been tested statewide in grades 3 through 8, and grade 11 in literacy and math, and also in grades 5, 8, and 11 in science. The data is used to compare students, district-to-district, and state-to-state. The Maine Department of Education has contracted this year with Measured Progress to provide our testing. It is scheduled to take place for grades 3 through 8 in math and literacy on March 21 through April 11. The SAT is scheduled for April 12 with a make-up date of April 27. The science assessments for grades 5, 8, and 11 are scheduled for April 25 through May 6. The US Department of Education has shared with Maine that due to the state's poor turn-out for the Smarter Balanced Assessment last year, the state is required to have a 95% participation rate this year. If the state does not meet this requirement, the federal government could withhold funding from the state. The state could, in turn, withhold Title I and Title II funding to districts that do not meet the 95% participation rate.
- g. DOE Site Visit / Option 6 Update – P. Makin
Department of Education will be coming tomorrow to check in on progress toward the proficiency based diploma law. We will remain true to our integrity and will only implement those practices that are great for teaching, learning and our community.

Board Chair's Report

Committee Reports

- a. Facilities Committee – S. Singer
The Facilities Committee met on February 24th and discussed the Revolving Renovation Fund which will be presented at the March 21 public hearing. Public forum was also discussed, as well

as the repair bond and what it will and will not cover. The next meeting is the 15th at 5:30 p.m. at the Town Hall. There will be a public forum at the Town Hall on Saturday, March 19 at 9:30 a.m.

b. Student Services Committee – B. Clough

The committee met on February 29th. They had an update on looping at HBS and heard advantages of the program. They also had an update on a pre-k program; no funding right now but want to keep this program on the radar. The committee began discussion on technology and technology integration in our programs; we are on the third year of a 3-year technology plan. The committee heard an update on special education and a report on the Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey. The next meeting is scheduled for April 6.

c. Personnel & Negotiations Committee – W. Thompson

Waiting for a response from the ed techs and waiting to set a date for the teachers and to review tech job descriptions.

d. Policy & Planning Committee – J. Prescott

The committee met on February 25 and talked about File: KHB Paid Advertising and identified some changes. The also reviewed a policy audit that the administration had done to identify the age of policies and those that are required or recommended by the state. At the next meeting they will hear any updates that may be coming forward as a result of Option 6.

A brief summary on what has been done on the Strategic Planning side was given. Good Group Decisions, our facilitator, will report on the recent survey at the work group meeting this Friday. A second work group session will be held on March 25th and then will bring it to the Board at the May or June meeting.

The Wellness Committee will be meeting on March 14 to work on potential revisions to policy which will be brought to the Policy Committee.

e. Political Outreach Committee – W. Thompson

The committee met and hope to meet again soon to discuss a more formalized response regarding the length of testing in a formal letter to the state and to our representative delegation. They also hope to schedule a meeting with the delegation at some point. They are also working on some resolutions regarding policy.

f. Drop-Out Prevention Committee – P. Makin

The committee met on February 29 to set goals for the committee and from those goals they came out with 3 task forces to address those. 1. To increase connections for kids with school; 2. “Count Me In” initiative; 3. Examine our success as we have an unusually low drop-out rate. The next meeting is May 2nd at 3:45p.m. in Hawthorne Conference Room.

New Business

None

Calendar/Announcements


- BHS play, Bye Bye Birdie, opens March 17.
- Movie, Paper Tigers, to be shown March 20 at 3pm
- HBS 5-k will be held the first weekend in May

Future Agenda Items

- Pre-k discussion following the new school decision
- Single calendar on the website
- Discussion on changing school start times

Adjournment

By unanimous consent the meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.


Paul K. Perzanoski, Secretary