

**Brunswick School Board**

**MINUTES**

Wednesday, September 10, 2014

7:00 p.m.

Town Hall

85 Union Street

Board Members Present: William Thompson, Vice Chair; Brenda Clough; Janet Connors; Richard Ellis; James Grant; Chris McCarthy; Corinne Perreault; Joy Prescott

Board Members Absent: Michele Joyce, Chair

Staff Members Present: Paul Perzanoski, Superintendent; Gregory Bartlett, Assistant Superintendent; James Oikle, Business Manager; Bob Goddard, Teacher, Brunswick High School; Jeff Hipsher, Teacher, Brunswick High School; Sue Alexander, Administrative Secretary

Guests: Brunswick Police Officer; members of the press; and others.

**Call to Order**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Attendance/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.

**Adjustments to the Agenda**

- a. Mr. Perzanoski asked to add to his report, books donated from both Harriet Beecher Stowe School and Coffin School.
- b. Mr. Thompson would like to add to the chair's report a couple items on MSMA and a reminder of the Community School Forum.

**Consent Agenda Action**

\*71. Consideration of Approval of the Minutes:

Minutes of August 13, 2014

Motion to approve: Connors

Vote: 6-0 (Ellis, McCarthy abstained)

**Old Business**

72. Policy and Planning Committee:

**Consideration of Second Read Policies**

- a. Revised Policy FILE: AD Philosophy/Vision of the Brunswick Public Schools
- b. Revised Policy FILE: ADA School System Goals and Objectives
- c. Revised Policy FILE: ADAA School System Commitment to Standards for Ethical and Responsible Behavior

Motion: Grant      Second: Connors      Vote: Unanimous of all Board members present  
Approved to adopt Policy FILE: AD, ADA, and ADAA

**Communications/Correspondence**

None

## Public Participation

Larissa D'Arcy, 36 Baribeau Drive, spoke on BHS graduation and about the recent change of date and increased estimated cost. Asked Board not to allow a burden be put on the students for the proposed additional cost.

## Superintendent's Report

- a. Building and Equipment Use:
  - Better U – use of BHS cafeteria and Crooker Theater
  - Girl Scouts of America – use of schools for meetings
  - Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust – use of Hawthorne School conference room
  - SAGE Swingers Square and Round Dance Club – use of BJHS
- b. Resignations:
  - Elizabeth Marcotte, Resource Assistant, H. B. Stowe School  
Mr. Perzanoski thanked her for her contribution and service and wished her luck.
73. Consideration of Leave of Absence:
  - Stephanie Lucas, Kindergarten Teacher, Coffin School, due to medical condition, to return in January.

Motion: Connors      Second: Prescott      Vote: Unanimous of all Board members present  
Approved leave of absence for Stephanie Lucas.

- d. Recognition
  - Jeff Ramich was chosen to represent state of Maine on the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association Strategic Planning Financial Committee.  
Mr. Perzanoski gave Congratulations to Jeff.
- e. Donations
  - School supplies – Brunswick Emblem Club
  - School supplies – Brunswick Respite Care
  - Books to Harriet Beecher Stowe and Coffin Schools – Chingos family
  - School supplies/pencil kits – Brunswick Rotary  
Mr. Perzanoski thanked all for the donations.
- f. Budget Update – Jim Oikle
 

Mr. Oikle went over 2013-2014 final draft budget report and explained the surplus, revenues, debt service, and state subsidies.

A reminder was given that all Board members are on the financial committee and warrants are available to be signed between 2pm on Wednesday and noon on Thursday.
- g. Sister School Update – Greg Bartlett
 

On August 27 Mr. Bartlett and Bob Goddard went to Boston to pick up two new Chinese students from Jinhua, China. They will graduate from Brunswick High School this year. They are currently attending classes and are adjusting well.

From September 28 to October 3, twenty 5<sup>th</sup> grade students from Jinhua, China will be staying with host families in Brunswick and attending Harriet Beecher Stowe School for the week.

h. Skillful Leader Course – Greg Bartlett

Mr. Bartlett brought to the Board's attention that under the new Effective Educator Law that goes into effect next year, we are required to make sure that our department heads, supervisory teachers, and principals are trained in teacher observation and evaluation at our own expense. We were able to split the cost with administrators and teachers from SAD 15 which is Gray/New Gloucester. We have 13 principals, department heads, and teachers from Brunswick participating. This is a 42 hour, 3 credit, graduate level course and is being taught by Professor Marcia Booth from the Research for Better Teaching in Massachusetts. We are excited about the course and will run the course again next year.

i. Draft of Administrative Goals

Mr. Perzanoski went over the 2014-2015 District Goals that the Administrative team drafted in August at their annual summer retreat. The draft goals will go back to the Administrative Council in the next few weeks to be finalized.

j. Superintendent's Advisory Committee

Mr. Perzanoski reported that the first meeting of the Superintendent's Advisory Committee and Program Choice was held. The committee is looking at possibilities for different programs in the district. Ten people have signed on. Two sub-committees have started working: one is developing a survey to go out to the community to ask about what they think about different options, and the second sub-committee is completing research on successful and not so successful programs in the United States. The next meeting will be held on September 29.

k. Extension application for Maine Standards

Mr. Perzanoski reported that we have the opportunity to apply for a two-year extension to provide proficiency diplomas. The administrators will be going over the first draft and will send it to the Board members before the next meeting.

l. Beginning of School

Mr. Perzanoski reported that the start of school was uneventful. Mr. Bartlett reported that the current student enrollment is: 380 at Coffin School; 699 at Harriet Beecher Stowe School; 469 at the Jr. High School; and 798 at the High School.

Mr. Perzanoski said he has had a lot of interest in how many students were going to Charter Schools this year. We currently have 47 students enrolled in 3 different charter schools: three students at virtual charter schools, 9 students at Baxter Academy for Technology and Science in Portland, and 35 students at Harpswell Coastal Academy. It was noted that this unpredictability in enrollment creates difficulty in establishing a budget.

m. Graduation Update

BHS Principal Shanna Crofton met with representatives of Bowdoin College last week. It was determined that the large screen at the back of the stage is not necessary; this would save approximately \$8900. The Bowdoin representative believes the cost of the chair rental would not double but would remain approximately the same as last year. Mrs. Crofton will talk to Moonlighting regarding their costs. If they will keep their costs to approximately the same as last year, the total graduation cost could be close to the cap that was recently set. Graduation will be held at Bowdoin's Watson Arena and it was never the Board's intention to put all fundraising directly on the students.

## Board Chair's Report

### a. Committee appointment

Janet Connors will be moved to the Student Services Committee.

### b. Town Manager search

Mr. Perzanoski and Ms. Joyce had lunch and the opportunity to talk with both candidates. Both bring a lot of great qualities. The Town Council also had an open house and interview session with both candidates that was televised. The candidates are open to any questions being sent to them if need be.

### c. MSMA

Mr. Grant took a seat on the Commission to Strengthen the Adequacy and Equity of Certain Cost Components of the School Funding Formula. Representative Daughtry is also on this committee. Mr. Grant explained the background of the committee and history of EPS (Essential Programs and Services). The committee will basically try to make it fair for schools and taxpayers, and to come up with future funding formulas for schools. For more information, the committee has a website ([www.maine.gov/doe/EPS-Commission-LD1850](http://www.maine.gov/doe/EPS-Commission-LD1850)). The next meeting will be held on September 22.

The Fall MSMA Conference will be held October 23-24.

## Committee Reports

### a. Personnel & Negotiations Committee – Chris McCarthy

The committee is continuing to work on the description and organizational structure tied to department heads and team leaders, and is also continuing to work on job descriptions. The committee is also working on goals associated with the upcoming negotiations with teachers.

## New Business

The Southern Maine Community School's Forum will be held September 22 in Wells from 8:30 am to 3:45 p.m.

### 74. Consideration of the Superintendent's Nomination of Teachers for 2014-2015 School Year:

Vote to elect the following teachers for the 2014-15 school year:

Sarah Bingham, Health/Consumer Life, Jr. High  
 Elizabeth Bradley, Math, High School  
 Angela Evans, Connections, Coffin  
 Kristen Hunter, Grade 5, H.B. Stowe School  
 Kamis Ley, Connections, Jr. High  
 Lisa Martin, .5 Title 1 Reading and Mathematics Teacher, Coffin School, one-year position  
 Carmon Parker, Social Foundations Teacher, H.B. Stowe School

Motion: Connors      Second: Grant      Vote: unanimous of the Board members present  
 Nomination of above teachers was approved.

**Calendar/Announcements**

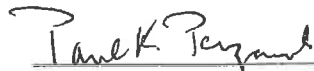
None

**Future Agenda Items**

Workshop for Facilities on September 24 – review of the status of facilities, and a risk analysis.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:00 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul K. Perzanoski, Secretary  
Brunswick School Board

