

**Brunswick School Board
MINUTES**

Wednesday, January 13, 2016
7:00 p.m.

*** Executive Session following ***

Council Chambers
Town Hall
85 Union Street

School Board Members Present: William Thompson, Chair; Joy Prescott, Vice Chair (arrived at 7:07pm); Brenda Clough; Janet Connors; Richard Ellis; Teresa Gillis; James Grant; Corinne Perreault; Sarah Singer

School Board Members Absent: Molly Gramins, student liaison

Staff Members Present: Paul Perzanoski, Superintendent; Pender Makin, Assistant Superintendent; Barbara Gunn, Student Services Director; Jim Oikle, Business Manager; Steve Ciembroniewicz, Coffin Principal; Jean Skorapa, HBS Principal; Walter Wallace, BJHS Principal; Lisa Cushman, BJHS Assistant Principal; Shanna Crofton, BHS Principal; Susan Alexander, Administrative Assistant

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

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

Mr. Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m., led the Pledge of Allegiance and asked for a roll call.

**Pledge of Allegiance
Attendance/Roll Call**

Adjustment to the Agenda

Under "New Business" add an agenda item to discuss Education Policy
Add Budget and Finance Committee report
Add Strategic Planning Committee report

Consent Agenda Action

Items on the Consent Agenda passed unanimously without objection.

*4. Consideration of Approval of the Minutes of December 9, 2015
Consideration of Approval of the Minutes of January 4, 2016

Old Business

None

Communications/Correspondence

Ms. Gillis reported she received several emails in support of placing the Jewish holidays on our school calendar.

Public Participation

Elizabeth Sokoloff, mother of first grader and former educator who taught at a public high school in central Maine, wanted to take the opportunity to applaud the board for taking proficiency based learning, more specifically option 6, which favors the very gradual and thoughtful implementation of that model. Spoke of her experience with students falling short of meeting the new graduation requirements and “falling through the cracks” when a slow and deliberate transition did not take place.

Superintendent’s Report

a. Building and Equipment Use:

- Brunswick Parks and Recreation – use of schools
- Merrymeeting Adult Education – use of BHS
- Girl Scouts of America – use of schools
- Brunswick Democratic Town Committee – use of Hawthorne School
- Aspire Program – use of HBS
- Brunswick Area Family YMCA - use of high school
- Sage Swingers Square and Round Dance Club – use of BJHS
- Brunswick Bay Board Meeting – use of BHS
- Big Brothers Big Sisters – use of HBS

b. Donations

- Monetary donation to the BJHS Music Department from Mr. & Mrs. John Parker
- Monetary donation for BJHS field hockey equipment from Mr. & Mrs. Michael Iuzzolino
- Monetary donation for BJHS field hockey equipment from Mr. & Mrs. James Folsom

The Superintendent thanked all three couples for these contributions.

c. Resignations for the purpose of retirement:

- Joan Mitchell, BHS School Nurse, effective end of school year

Ms. Mitchell has been a great addition to the staff and will sincerely be missed.

d. Budget Report – Mr. Oikle

All Board members are invited to a meeting on the 21st at 7pm to hear the auditors present their report. It was a “clean audit”. Auditors are required by state law to report to at least one member of the school committee. Current year is going well. He met with the Budget and Finance Committee yesterday and they are starting the budget process for next year.

e. NEASC Evaluation Report – S. Crofton

Mrs. Crofton summarized the NEASC visit and their feedback. She went over the school’s strengths and weaknesses and what work is ongoing. The general feedback from the visiting committee and the NEASC was very positive and BHS was awarded NEASC accreditation.

f. Option 6 Update – S. Crofton, W. Wallace, P. Makin

High school and junior high principals reported to the board on the hard work that their teachers have been doing in their schools and together. Grades will meld with standards for reports cards and transcripts. Melding the old and the new is important when you don’t know what will happen in the future. They are on track with the Option 6 goal and plan and by the end of this month they will have a full mid-year report. Questions from the Board members were answered.

g. Professional Development in Differentiation – P. Makin

Three teachers have developed and are offering a workshop to their peers to help develop differentiation strategies. The workshop will be held on the 29th of this month from 3:30 to 5:30pm.

h. Support Public Education

The Superintendent has been concerned that students only go to school 176 days and many summer programs have been cut over the past few years. He is starting a fund raiser selling “Support Public Education” sweatshirts and tee shirts to raise money for summer programs.

i. Administrator Evaluations Reminder – available February 3

Reminder that the administrator evaluations will be available for Board members to view on February 3rd until the February Board meeting when they will be voted on.

j. Draft 2016-2017 School Calendar – feedback due by February 1

The superintendent has met with RSU5 and SAD 75 to plan the calendar for next year. Feedback can be given until February 1st. The change for next year will be no school on Election Day and possibly a change in the elementary conference times in March. There has been a request to place some of the Jewish holidays on the calendar, not as a day off, but as a note to staff members to consider as events are scheduled. A great deal of discussion was held.

Board Chair’s Report

a. Student Liaison Report – Molly Gramins

None as Molly is not here tonight.

b. 2016 Board Committee Assignments

Were given to the Board members.

c. Public Forum on Facilities on Saturday, January 23rd

Planning Workshop was held last week and plans are going forward. Flyers are being displayed around town. The forum will be held in council chambers from 9am to noon on January 23rd. A snow date has been scheduled at the library if needed on January 30th.

d. Goal Setting Dinner Workshop on January 27th

This will be a review as goals will now be set in the summer. They would like to have this at Region 10 and have a tour of the facility.

Committee Reports

a. Curriculum & Program Development Committee – Corinne Perreault

At their meeting on January 16 they had an update on the technology benchmark K-12. They also worked with the curriculum coordinators regarding the curriculum approval process. Next meeting is next Wednesday.

b. Student Services Committee – Brenda Clough

They last met on December 17 and discussed updating the preschool proposal from 2011. They discussed an update on how many K-12 students have 504 plans; 504 coordinators participated in a professional development opportunity; they heard a prediction of 28 incoming K students from

child development system; heard that staff is working on a Response To Intervention plan for behavior; they heard of professional development going on; and heard a budget update.

c. Budget and Finance Committee – Rich Ellis

A meeting was held yesterday in which they discussed the reduced revenue for the 2016-2017 budget. We have an abbreviated calendar for this year's budget presentation so there was a lengthy discussion on the format. Budget workshops will be held March 2nd and 16th at 6:30pm.

d. Strategic Planning Committee – Joy Prescott

Strategic Planning process is still ongoing. Until end of January there is still an opportunity for community members to respond to the three primary questions that were the focus of the 2015 meetings. Strategic planning Workgroup will be meeting at the end of February.

New Business

5. Consideration of the Superintendent's Nomination of a Teacher for 2015-2016 School Year

Vote to elect the following teacher for the 2015-16 school year:

Kevin Fisher, Special Education, HBS

Motion: Connors Second: Singer Vote: Unanimous of the Board members present

Voted to Approve.

Educational Policy – Jim Grant

Education Policy is defined in state law and granted to school boards throughout the state. Education policy items are non-negotiable items. Mr. Grant asked the Board to support and reaffirm its position that we believe that Educational Policy should not be negotiable; to go on record to reaffirm what is currently Education Policy and is not-negotiable, we do not want to become negotiable items. A great deal of discussion was held.

6. Motion to Table.

Motion: Ellis Second: Gillis Vote: 6-3 (Clough, Grant, Thompson, opposed)

Voted to table Education Policy until a later meeting.

Calendar/Announcements

None

Future Agenda Items

2nd read of Paid Advertising Policy
Presentation of districts' Affirmative Action Committee
HBS staff to present program math changes in February

Executive Session

7. Consideration of Executive Session and Possible Action

Vote to enter executive session regarding negotiations and a personnel issue pursuant to 1 MRSA 405(6) (D) and 1 MRSA 405(6) (A).

Motion: Grant Second: Clough Vote: Unanimous by Board members present

Approved to enter executive session per 1 MRSA 405(6) (E) for attorney consultation.

The Board entered executive session at 8:55 p.m.

The Board reconvened in public session at 9:09 p.m.

8. Motion to approve a three-year contract from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2019 with Local 2010-Unit 01, Council 93, American Federation of Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO

Motion: Connors Second: Ellis Vote: Unanimous by Board members present

Adjournment

By unanimous consent the meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.


Paul K. Perzanoski, Secretary