

Brunswick School Board
MINUTES
Wednesday, August 12, 2015
Executive Session 6:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Town Hall
85 Union Street

School Board Members Present: William Thompson, Chair; Joy Prescott, Vice Chair; Brenda Clough; Janet Connors; James Grant; Corinne Perreault; Sarah Singer

School Board Members Absent: Rich Ellis; Chris McCarthy; Molly Gramins, student liaison

Staff Members Present: Paul Perzanoski, Superintendent; Pender Makin, Assistant Superintendent; Jim Oikle, Business Manager; Paul Caron, Director of Facilities and Transportation; Walter Wallace, Principal, BJHS; Jean Skorapa, Principal, HBS; Robert Goddard, BHS Teacher;

Guests: John Eldridge, Town Manager; Brunswick Police Officer, Terry Goan; members of the Town Council, community and press.

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

Mr. Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m., led the Pledge of Allegiance and asked for a roll call.

**Pledge of Allegiance
Attendance/Roll Call**

Executive Session

65. Consideration of Executive Session

Vote to enter executive session for the purpose of attorney consultation pursuant to 1 MRSA 405(6) (E)

Motion: Connor Second: Grant Vote: Unanimous of the Board members present

The Board entered executive session at 6:02 p.m.

The Board re-entered public session at 7:08 p.m.

Adjustment to the Agenda

The superintendent asked to add:

To resignations - Haley Matthias, Behavior Intervention teacher, HBS

To Item #69 - Elizabeth Swazey, Special Education teacher, BJHS; and

Minh Canfield, part-time math and literacy teacher at Coffin, one-year re-hire

Consent Agenda Action

Item on the Consent Agenda passed unanimously without objection.

*66. Consideration of Approval of the Minutes:

Minutes of July 8, 2015

Minutes of Special Meeting July 29, 2015

Old Business

67. Consideration of Approval of Strategic Plan Contract resulting from the RFP

Joy Prescott reported that the Strategic Plan Workgroup has been meeting and put out an RFP in late April. They received four responses and interviewed two consultants: Good Group Decisions and Small Fish. The workgroup felt Good Group Decisions best met the criteria put forth in the RFP.

Motion: Prescott Second: Perreault Vote: Unanimous of the Board members present

Voted that we authorize Paul to enter into negotiations to sign a contract with Good Group Decisions to be our consultants in accordance with the proposal of May 29th that they submitted to us.

68. Discussion and Possible Action on Facilities Master Plan

Mr. Perzanoski reported that on Aug 3rd the Town Council voted not to let the Board bring their proposal to public hearing. The Board met with their attorney to see what options they might have. Tonight he needs some direction as to how the Board would like to move forward with this proposal based upon the Town Council's vote. The Board discussion included:

- a. Would like the Town council to view our materials that we presented to them and perhaps give us an amount that they believe would be adequate for immediate repairs.
- b. We need more information from the Council as to their expectations to both new school construction as well as immediate repairs, and the Board asks that they help us in funding.
- c. Perhaps we should schedule a workshop with them to go over the repairs and possibly walk through the buildings.
- d. Council should give us amount the Council willing to spend without going to referendum.
- e. If we have to go back to the drawing board with the Council we need to set a time limit.
- f. Whatever proposal is agreed upon should be allowed to go to public hearing.
- g. Mr. Oikle and the Town Finance Director prepared figures as to what some of the bond amounts might cost if we should go to a new school in the future. These figures were given to the Board members.
- h. Allow superintendent to outline what the short term plan would be and the ramifications of not going to referendum at this point.
- i. Mr. Perzanoski will put together a letter to Mr. Eldridge.
- j. We have asked the architects to start an application for revolving renovation funds through the state which can get up to \$1 million per school for health and safety issues.

Mr. Grant asked that the motion be tabled indefinitely.

Unanimous of Board members present.

Motion tabled.

Communications/Correspondence

For clarification to the public: 1) regarding the public rumor that the Town Council had offered the Board \$5 million for immediate repairs. There is currently no money on the table nor any formal commitment at this time. 2) School board has always been very clear that there are major renovations that need to be done before we remove the portables.

Two phone calls were received regarding the facilities plan. Both stated new schools would be nice but need for repairs now are necessary.

Public Participation

Richard Pisca feels spending should stay within 3% increase and we need better school maintenance before we look at building a new school.

Dana Bateman voiced her opinion on communication, facilities plan, and small learning communities.

Superintendent's Report

Welcome our new Assistant Superintendent, Pender Makin.

- a. Building and Equipment Use:
 - Summer Music Camp, BHS
 - Brunswick Parks and Recreation Summer Camp, HBS
 - Brunswick Parks and Recreation Track & Field Program, BHS
 - Brunswick Parks and Recreation Mini Camp, Coffin
 - Midcoast Hunger Prevention Program, HBS

- b. Recognition:

HBS received a donation from Coleen McKenna of two instruments for fifth grade band and a hat and coat for the Civil war reenactment. We thank Coleen for her generosity.

- c. Resignations:
 - Barbara Berry-Palm, Art Teacher, BJHS, 11 yrs. of service
 - Angela Evans, Special Ed. Connections Teacher, Coffin, 1 yr. service
 - Andrea Piela, Ed Tech, BJHS, 2 yrs. of service
 - Kim Roth, School Psychologist, BJHS, 1½ yrs. of service
 - Jaimie Choiniere, Physical Therapist, 1 yr. of service
 - Haley Matthias, Behavior Interventionist, HBS, 2 years of service

We wish them well in their future endeavors.

Resignation for the purpose of Retirement:

- Jeff Hathaway, Tech Support Specialist II, BJHS, 11 yrs. of service

We wish Jeff the best.

- d. Budget Update – Jim Oikle

For the 2014-15 fiscal year we will end with a positive balance. He welcomed Pender Makin; it has been a pleasure to work with her. He also thanked Julia Henze, town Finance Director, who prepared the template of bond amortization that was given to the Board members.

- e. Director of Student Services Update

Barbara Gunn will be coming in on August 21. She has 35 years of experience and we are looking forward to her contributions.

Board Chair's Report

The Board is in receipt of a letter of resignation from Chris McCarthy which is effective August 21. We are pleased to hire his wife back as an art teacher at BJHS. She was a reduction of force in 2011. Should there be only one candidate following the closing period of signatures, which is September 4th, we would appoint that candidate to replace Mr. McCarthy. If there are multiple candidates we would wait until after the vote.

If no objection, the Chair would like to schedule a Board retreat at Hawthorne to involve family and a barbeque – possibly later this month or beginning of next month.

Committee Reports

Would like to discuss Item# 71 now as it came from the Facilities Committee. The committee discussed changing the Capital Improvement Plan to place the BHS boiler for this year and move the high school track resurfacing to the 2016-2017 year. Along with that we would have a report done this year on the issues beneath the track to determine what is causing it to break apart. Committee unanimous about bringing this to the Board.

71. Consideration of Capital Improvement Plan Requested Change: BHS Boiler and BHS Track

Motion: Singer Second: Perreault Vote: Unanimous by the Board members present

Voted to change the Capital Improvement Plan to place the High School Boiler ahead of the track with a study to be done for the track this year so we will have a price for next year.

New Business

69. Consideration of the Superintendent's Nomination of Teachers for 2015-2016 School Year

Motion to elect the following teachers for the 2015-16 school year:

Kimberly Brewer, Special Ed Connections Program, HBS
 Jennifer Mason, Special Ed Connections Program, Coffin
 Sarah Hillery, Speech-Language Pathologist/Spec. Ed. Department Head, BJHS
 Kari McCarthy, Art, BJHS
 Danielle LeBlanc, Grade 8 Language Arts BJHS
 Elizabeth Swazey, Special Education, BJHS
 Heather Audette, Resource, HBS (retire/rehire)
 Kelly Dorr, Grade 6 Math, BJHS (transfer)
 Paul Barron, Resource, BHS (transfer from BJHS)
 Charlotte Mastropasqua, Resource, Coffin (transfer from HBS)
 Jeanne Stinson, Grade 1-2, Multi-age, Coffin (transfer)
 Minh Canfield, .5 literacy teacher, will return for another one year contract

Motion: Singer Second: Clough Vote: Unanimous by the Board members present

70. Consideration and possible Action of Academic Improvement Plan at Harriet Beecher Stowe School

Part of the Response to Intervention plan, which was instituted several years ago, recommends that any student a year below grade level or less should not get support from any other support people but should still be taught in the regular classroom. The number of students falling into this category has increased at HBS. To make sure that all students, regardless of grade level, get support service, especially in Math, we would like to increase four resource assistant hours by one hour per day. The focus next year is on math as more students fall into that category, but also looking at literacy as well. We will revisit this each trimester to see if it is working.

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

Voted to increase four Resource Assistants hours by one hour per day.

Calendar/Announcements


None

Future Agenda Items

Make sure packet is placed on the website.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:14 p.m.


Paul K. Perzanoski, Secretary
Brunswick School Board