

Brunswick School Board
MINUTES
Wednesday, September 11, 2019
7:00 p.m.
Council Chambers
Town Hall
85 Union Street

School Board Members Present: Benjamin Tucker, Vice Chair; Celina Harrison; Mandy Merrill; Joy Prescott (7:10); Sarah Singer; Elizabeth Sokoloff; William Thompson; Maddie Wayne and Tyler Patterson, Student Liaison

School Board Members Absent: James Grant, Chair; Teresa Gillis

Staff Members Present: Paul Perzanoski, Superintendent; Shawn Lambert, Assistant Superintendent; Barbara Gunn, Student Services Director; Kelly Wentworth, Business Manager; Steve Ciembroniewicz, Coffin School Principal; Michael Harris, HBS Assistant Principal; Gabe Schuft, BJHS Assistant Principal; Scott Smith, Director of Building, Grounds, and Food Service; Brian Pressley, BHS Teacher, Sue Alexander

Guests: Allen Lampert; community members; and members of the press.

Call to Order/ Roll Call/ Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Tucker 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

Add Scott Fournier, teacher at REAL School, to resignations in the Superintendent's report.

Consent Agenda Action

Items on the Consent Agenda passed unanimously without objection.

*66. Consideration of Approval of the Minutes of August 14, 2019

Old Business

None

Communications/Correspondence

Board members received a letter from some parents with Title IX concerns in athletics at the high school. An article about Brunswick's new pilot pre-k program was in the Forecaster.

Public Participation

None

Superintendent's Report

a. Building and Equipment:

Arts Are Elementary – use of Hawthorne

Aspire Program - use of HBS

Brunswick Bay Mobile Home Co-op – use of high school

Brunswick Democratic Town Committee – use of Hawthorne

Brunswick Police Department – use of BHS

BHS Players – use of BHS

Brunswick Parks and Recreation – use of schools

Girl Scouts of America – use of schools
 Girls on the Run – use of HBS
 Independence Association – use of BHS
 Merrymeeting Adult Education - use of BHS

b. Resignation

- Siri Cope, Ed Tech, BJHS
- Rebecca DeMars, Resource Teacher, BJHS
- Kalie Dunn, Grade 1 Teacher, Coffin
- Lisa Martin, Literacy Specialist, Coffin
- Bear Shea, Social Worker, REAL School
- Scott Fournier, Special Ed Teacher, REAL School

We wish them well.

c. Transfer:

- Chris Ezzell, from BJHS night custodian to groundskeeper

d. New Support Staff:

- Ryan Bullock, Ed Tech, REAL School
- Kay Deal, Ed Tech, REAL School
- John Favreau, Bus Driver
- Andrew McKenzie, Ed Tech, HBS
- Lisa Peterson, Ed Tech, BJHS
- Daniel Sylvester, Head Night Custodian, BHS
- Melodie Tims, Pre-K Ed Tech, Coffin School
- Leah Tuite, Ed Tech, BJHS
- Nate Walrath, Ed Tech, REAL School
- Tammy Fields, Bookkeeper, Region 10

Welcome to all.

e. Director of Merrymeeting Adult Education, Allen Lampert

Mr. Lampert introduced himself and spoke of Merrymeeting Adult Ed. He spoke of sessions that they are giving to the new asylees. He is looking at a distance learning platform to help meet the needs of some adult ed students.

f. Budget Report – K. Wentworth

The Board has the July and August 2019 expense report. The salaries will be encumbered by next month. The office is busy preparing for the 18-19 audit in mid-October.

g. Boosters' Update

A meeting was held last night for parents involved in fund raising for athletics, the arts, as well as the schools. We are looking into formulating 501(c)(3). Some non-financial issues concerning Title IX were also discussed. Attorneys will be looking at our sports teams to make sure we are in compliance with Title IX. They will give a report to the Board with possible recommendations, at which time the Board may choose to review or revise policies. Feedback from the meeting has been positive.

h. Opening of Schools

Went pretty well. Met a few challenges meeting the needs of our new asylee students, but we are working through it and additional ESOL staff will be hired to help. Ms. Singer wanted everyone to know that you can go to translate.google.com and speak into it and it will translate for you.

Board Chair's Report

- a. Delegate selection, MSMA Fall Conference, Oct. 24 & 25
(MSBA Delegate Assembly @ 2:30pm on Thursday, October 24th)

William Thompson volunteered to be a delegate, with no objections from the Board.

- b. Student Liaison Report – M. Wayne & T. Patterson
Student liaisons gave an overview of activities and events happening in our schools. Students in all schools seem to be settling in well.

Committee Reports

- a. Asylum Seekers Task Force – C. Harrison

Four new families moved in today which brings us up to 14 families. We have been working hard to help them get acclimated to Brunswick, navigating bus service, getting to Hannaford, etc. We are organizing a “family to family friendship” to make sure each family has someone they can ask advice, etc. Maine is very rural to them, they are surprised to see houses next to trees. School days here are longer. It is exhausting for students adjusting to longer days and trying to translate a language that is foreign to them. For some, English will be the fifth language that they have learned. Asylees cannot work for money, but many would like to volunteer.

- b. Rapid Response Committee – S. Singer

Two change orders were approved, one for \$58,742.17 for an additional telecommunications room, and the other for \$33,388.88 to plaster over the specialized sheetrock around pipes in order to paint them. The Board needs to approve these change orders in addition to the Building Committee.

67. Motion to approve two change orders in the amounts of \$58,742.17 and \$33,388.88.

Motion: Singer Second: Sokoloff Vote: Unanimous of the Board members present
Change orders approved.

- c. Policy & Planning Committee – B. Thompson

The committee met at the end of August and looked at some recommended policies that we currently do not have. We will be voting later to bring a current policy into a regulation, which is per the recommendation of MSMA. The policy committee discussed the possibility of creating an ad-hoc sub-committee for athletics. The next meeting was not scheduled yet.

- d. Elementary School Building Committee – E. Sokoloff

The Committee met on August 8th and reviewed the most recent construction activities. We are at 52% completion. After approving change orders we are at approximately 8% of our contingency budget, so doing very well. The protocol for furniture budget is usually about 6% of the building construction, which is about \$1.25 million, so it was approved to move \$600,000 from the contingency budget to the furniture budget to bring the furniture budget to the suggested \$1.25 million. The committee discussed the new discovery classroom and a motion was made to send it out to Ledgewood for pricing as soon as possible. The Playground Committee gave a report and would like to hire a landscape architect, which was approved by the Building Committee. They will be adding a generator to the new building. This was Lyndon Keck's last meeting with us and we thanked him for all his work. The next meeting is September 12th at Hawthorne.

- 1. Playground Sub-Committee – S. Lambert

The committee met on September 4th with Sashi Misner, the landscape architect. They discussed the priorities of the playground spaces, and also what types of play environments she would design using purposeful landscaping, boulders, plant choice, compared to traditional play structures.

2. Interior Design Sub-Committee – E. Sokoloff

The committee met on September 9th and discussed the furniture budget. A gentleman from K-1 Furniture came to the meeting and brought samples. They discussed furniture functionality, durability, and what pieces would be appropriate for each grade level. The committee will be doing a site visit to two schools on September 26 to view furniture purchased from VS Furniture. The next meeting is scheduled for November 18th.

New Business

a. Resignation Letter for the Purpose of Retirement /
Superintendent Search

Resignation letter from Mr. Perzanoski was given to the Board members. After 12 years he will be retiring as of the end of the school year. A superintendent search will have to be done. Three agencies have been contacted to meet with the Board on September 25th at Hawthorne to give presentations. The Board would then vote on which one they would like to hire to conduct a search, with the hope that the Board would interview candidates in the spring.

Mr. Tucker expressed his appreciation for all that Mr. Perzanoski has done to “stabilized and improve the community”.

68. Consideration of Reclassification of Grievance Procedure for Persons with Disabilities from IHBAL to AC-R.

IHBAL is about non-discrimination procedure so MSMA is recommending districts reclassify the policy as a procedure under the non-discrimination policy, AC. No material changes will be done.

Motion: Thompson Second: Prescott Vote: Unanimous of the Board members present
Reclassification approved.

69. Consideration of the Superintendent’s Nomination of Teachers for 2019-2020 School Year

Vote to elect the following teachers for the 2019-20 school year:

Peter Blake, Social Studies Teacher, BHS (retire/rehire)
Sam Fletcher, Special Education Teacher, REAL School
Leslie Lemieux, Literacy Specialist, Coffin School
Clairlynn Rountree, Health Teacher, BJHS
Lisa Sanderson, Resource Teacher, HBS
Ashlee Song, Science Teacher, BJHS

Motion: Thompson Second: Singer Vote: Unanimous of the Board members present
Nominations approved.

Calendar/Announcements

Coffin School Open House will be held on September 25 at 6-7pm
Police and Fire Department will be doing a multi-cultural barbeque for new-Mainers at the Rec Center

Future Agenda Items

Update on Title IX

Adjournment

By unanimous consent the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.



Paul K. Perzanoski, Secretary, Brunswick School Board