

Brunswick School Board
MINUTES
Wednesday, December 11, 2019
Executive Session at 6:00 pm
with the Regular Meeting immediately following
Council Chambers
Town Hall
85 Union Street

School Board Members Present: James Grant, Chair; Benjamin Tucker, Vice Chair; Teresa Gillis (arrived 6:05 pm); Celina Harrison; Mandy Merrill; Joy Prescott; Sarah Singer (arrived 6:03 pm); Elizabeth Sokoloff; William Thompson; Tyler Patterson, BHS Student Liaisons

School Board Members Absent: Maddie Wayne (left 6:35 pm), BHS Student Liaisons

Staff Members Present: Paul Perzanoski, Superintendent; Shawn Lambert, Assistant Superintendent; Kelly Wentworth, Business Manager; Shanna Crofton, Curriculum Coordinator; Chris McCarthy, REAL School Principal; Brian Pressley, BHS Teacher; Sue Alexander, Administrative Secretary

Guests: Beth Bisson, School Board member-elect; community members; and members of the press.

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

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

Executive Session

90. Consideration of Executive Session with Possible Action

Vote to enter executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA 405(6) (A) for the purpose of personnel matters.

Motion to enter executive session.

Motion: Thompson Second: Tucker Vote: Unanimous of the Board members present
Approved to enter executive session.

The Board entered executive session at 6:01 p.m.

The Board reconvened in public session at 7:00 p.m.

91. Possible Action from Executive Session

None

Adjustment to the Agenda

Remove Personnel & Negotiations Committee report as meeting not held

Remove Wellness Committee report as meeting not held

Consent Agenda Action

Items on the Consent Agenda passed unanimously without objection.

*92. Consideration of Approval of the Minutes of November 13, 2019

Old Business93. Consideration of School Board Compensation

Board discussed the number of meetings per year, work the Board is involved in, and changes since charter written and the current stipend was set approximately 40 years ago.

Motion to request the Town Council double current stipend of \$1,500 for Board members and add an additional \$500 for the chair.

Motion: Tucker Second: Singer

Motion amended to also include an additional \$250 for the vice-chair.

Motion: Tucker Second: Singer

Motion to remove additional compensation for chair and vice chair from the motion on the table.

Motion: Grant Second: Thompson Vote: 7-1-1 (Tucker opposed; Prescott abstained)

Voted to remove additional compensation for chair and vice chair.

Mrs. Harrison amended the motion to align School Board compensation with the Town Council's going forward, so Town Council would set rate for all elected officials equally; School Board would follow the same rate set for the Town Council.

Vote: 5-3-1 (Thompson, Singer, Tucker opposed; Prescott abstained)

Voted to amend original motion to align School Board compensation with the Town Council's going forward, so Town Council would set rate for all elected officials equally; School Board would follow the same rate set for the Town Council.

Mr. Grant made a motion to go to the Town Council to request they set the rate for all elected officials equally in the Town of Brunswick.

Vote: 5-3-1 (Thompson, Singer, Tucker opposed; Prescott abstained)

Voted to have Mr. Grant go to the Town Council as the School Board representative and request they set the rate for all Town of Brunswick elected officials equally.

It was also decided that the general consensus of the Board is for an increase but there was a debate as to the amount of the increase.

Communications/Correspondence

Two community members who work with private preschools reached out to Ms. Singer with concerns for their enrollment for next year with the opening of a public preschool. Meetings are ongoing.

Public Participation

None

Superintendent's Report

a. Building and Equipment:

- Brunswick Parks and Recreation – use of schools
- Aspire Program - use of HBS
- Merrymeeting Adult Education – use of BHS
- Girl Scouts of America – use of schools
- Midcoast Literacy - use of HBS
- Portland Symphony Orchestra – use of Crooker Theater
- Bath Area Family YMCA – use of BHS Cafeteria
- Brunswick Democratic Town Committee – use of Hawthorne
- Brunswick Bay Mobile Home Co-op – use of BHS Cafeteria

b. Resignation

- Nate Walrath, Ed Tech III, REAL School
- Elisabete Santos, ESOL Resource Assistant, BJHS

c. MEA Data Report – S. Crofton

Ms. Crofton went over the MEA (Maine Educational Assessment) data results recently posted on the Maine DOE website from testing done last spring in grades 3-8 and 11. We were recently notified by the DOE that the student scores are accurate, however, the graphics that go along with it are not necessarily accurate. Results will be sent to parents along with a letter of explanation. There were also issues with the scoring of the writing components in grades 3-8 so those are not included in the scores. Overall, Brunswick is performing at and above the state's expectation.

d. Business Manager Report – K. Wentworth

The Board members have the expenditure report through November 30, 2019. Essential only spending freeze is currently in effect. The administrative team is currently preparing the budget requests for the 20-21 budget.

e. Office Closure for the Holidays

The central office holiday closure will be on December 25 and 26, and January 1, 2020.

f. Comprehensive Plan – S. Lambert

On Tuesday Mr. Lambert attended the Town of Brunswick Comprehensive Plan committee meeting. The Comprehensive Plan is a three-step process, first looking at where they are with the current plan from 2008. Education is one piece of the entire Comprehensive Plan so the committee is looking to the School District for objectives from the 2008 report and work that has been done. The second step of the process is a vision process which will include a community survey and creating the Comprehensive Plan. The third step will be to create an addendum of information. The completion goal is November 2020.

Board Chair's Report

a. Student Liaison Report –T. Patterson

A report was given on the happenings in our schools. The students of Coffin School will be voting on a mascot for the Kate Furbish Elementary School. Their choices are a chickadee, dragonfly, or honeybee.

b. Superintendent Search

The committee met last night. They have developed a working timeline. January 3rd is the deadline to receive applications.

c. 2020 School Board Meeting Schedule

The proposed School Board meeting schedule for next year was given to the Board members.

Mr. Thompson moved to adopt the meeting schedule.
By unanimous consent the schedule was adopted.

d. Swearing-In Ceremony, Monday, January 6, 2020 @ 6:30 p.m. at Town Hall.

e. Presentation

Mr. Grant presented a plaque to Mr. Tucker for his service to the School Board.

Committee Reports

- a. MSMA Fall Conference and Delegate Assembly Report – W. Thompson
Mr. Thompson gave a report of the five resolutions that all passed and another was added at the MSMA Fall Conference and Delegate Assembly.
- b. Policy & Planning Committee – W. Thompson
The committee met tonight and the focus was on boosters. The consensus of the committee was to have the audit group come to a Board meeting to explain what is happening with the booster groups, and to have a full Board discussion regarding the audit recommendation.
- c. Facilities & Maintenance Committee – M. Merrill
The committee met November 18th. They received an update on projects in the district, and also discussed the future of Coffin School. The next meeting date has not been set yet.
- d. Public Art Sub-Committee – E. Sokoloff
The committee received proposals from four community artists interested in doing projects in the new school. They will be meeting with three of them in January. They have also chosen ten Kate Furbish images that will be permanently placed in the school.

New Business

Calendar/Announcements

Emergency Action Network did a gift drive for 84 of Brunswick's neediest students. Thank you to central office and transportation for their help.

December 19th – Parent Forum by Drummond Woodsum at the high school

December 19th – Building Committee meeting at Hawthorne at 6:00 p.m.

December 18th – grade 5 “Snow Biz” play @ 1:30 p.m.

December 17th – 7th and 8th grade chorus concert

January 14th – 7th and 8th grade band concert

Future Agenda Items

Auditors, regarding boosters

Adjournment

By unanimous consent the meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.



Paul K. Perzanoski, Secretary
Brunswick School Board