

# MINUTES OF THE HYBRID REGULAR WOODBRIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Tuesday, April 19, 2022

South Assembly Room Beecher Road School

Via WebEx <https://woodbridgeps.webex.com/woodbridgeps/j.php?MTID=mf0bb52b9b66646342d28321555e23b49>

Meeting Number: 2495 794 7871

Meeting Password: b2jBedmnH33

**CALL TO ORDER:** Ms. Piascyk, Chair, called the meeting to order (7:04 PM).

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ms. Lynn Piascyk, Chair (In-person); Ms. Sarah Beth Del Prete, Secretary (Remote); Ms. Brooke Hopkins (Remote); Mr. Jeff Hughes (In-person); Dr. Maria Madonick, Vice Chair (In-person); Dr. David Ross (Remote); Dr. Michael Strambler (In-person); and Ms. Erin Williamson (In-person).

**STAFF:** Dr. Jonathan Budd, Superintendent; Richard Huot, Interim Director of Business Services / Operations; Cheryl Kiesel, Special Services Director; Analisa Sherman, Principal; James Sapia, Assistant Principal; and Marsha DeGennaro, Clerk of the Board.

**GUESTS:** Claire Prud'homme and Benjamin Smith, SCASA Award recipients; Beth Heller, First Selectman; Tom Handler, BOF Liaison; Joi Prud'homme, PTO.

SCASA Student Award Recipients – Superintendent Budd recognized two of the Grade 6 recipients of the SCASA (South Central Area Superintendents' Association) Award: Claire Prud'homme and Benjamin Smith. This award is designed to honor students who excel in three categories: community service and/or service to others; academic prowess relative to their ability; and leadership to their school community.

CORRESPONDENCE – None

PUBLIC COMMENT – Dr. Handler extended a thank you to Board members for their attendance at the Preliminary Town Budget Hearing on Monday.

The Board extended a thank you to Tim Rourke, WEA President, for his attendance at the Preliminary Town Budget Hearing.

Board of Selectmen Update – None

PTO Report – Ms. Prud'homme noted the annual Book Swap with each student taking home three books; the in-person Spring Book Fair from April 25-29 with Family Night on Wednesday, April 27; Teacher / Staff Appreciation Week May 2-6 with an Ice Cream Social on Thursday, May 5 from 6:00-8:00 PM celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the PTO; tee shirts for staff commemorating Artsweek May 20-24 with the theme of "Trees" and featuring a school-wide outdoor leaf canopy; submission of yearbook shout-outs by April 29; the May 14 Bike Parade; Quassy Night in collaboration with Bethany Community School on May 20; and the May 12 PTO meeting with elections for the 2022/23 school year.

## CONSENT AGENDA

### MOTION #1 – CONSENT AGENDA

Move that we approve the consent agenda as presented.

Dr. Madonick

Second by Mr. Hughes

**UNANIMOUS**

## REPORTS

Board Member Recognition – Dr. Ross was recognized for his service to the Board since 2019 as he recently relocated and this was his last meeting. Dr. Ross thanked the Board and left the meeting (7:28 PM).

Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Budd apprised the Board that June 17 would be the last day of the school year with a Grade 6 Graduation Ceremony occurring in the morning. Recognition was given to the "Green Team / Sustainability Committee" on being featured in an article in *People*. As part of the Strategic Planning process, all community members were urged to complete the survey as results will be reviewed by the Strategic Planning Committee when they meet next week.

First Selectman, Beth Heller, read a proclamation in honor of Teacher Appreciation Week.

Safe Return Plan – Superintendent Budd and Ms. Sherman reviewed the updates. Since the last Board meeting there were 14 confirmed COVID-19 cases in BRS. Numbers of students eating in the Café have been increased, social distancing in classrooms have been relaxed, cohorting at dismissal has been minimized, desk shields have been removed from the offices, and field trips have commenced.

Summer Programs Update – Summer Programs for 2022 will include the Extended School Year (ESY) Program, Summer Learning Academy, the Multi-Lingual Learners, and Summer Enrichment Program (SEP). Each component will run during the month of July with various morning times.

- ❖ ESY will run from July 5–28 between 8:00–10:00 or 9:00–12:00, plus Friday, July 8, depending on student IEP needs. It is anticipated approximately 65 students invited through the PPT process will participate.
- ❖ Summer Learning Academy has approximately 100 students identified in Grades 1-6 for participation in this program. Selection for participation was based on key literacy and math standards. The program will run Monday–Thursday from July 5–28 between 10:00 AM–12:30 PM, plus Friday, July 8, for the same hours.
- ❖ The Multi-Lingual Learners Program offering has approximately 15 students in Grades Kindergarten, 1 and 2, whose native language is not English, invited to participate in this pilot program, which will run from July 5–14 between 8:00–10:00 AM. The program is structured based on the CT English Language Proficiency Standards and the developmental needs of the selected students.
- ❖ SEP will operate Monday-Thursday, plus Friday, July 8, from 9:00 AM–12:00 Noon and 1:00–4:00 PM with a supervised lunch from Noon–1:00 as well as different course offerings each week. The complete brochure and electronic registration are available through the district web site.

BRS Update – Ms. Sherman noted the return of field trips, the Grade 6 graduation on June 17, completion of the Nicole Silva Sensory Pathway at the entrance to the BRS Café, and Bob Shay virtual author visits.

Facilities Committee Report – Mr. Hughes reviewed the April 5 Facilities Committee meeting, which included the monthly Facilities update and the HVAC retro-commissioning report.

Finance Committee – Chair Piascyk expressed appreciation from Ms. McCreven for those who attended the preliminary budget hearing. The Annual Town Meeting will be held on Monday, May 16 at 7:30 PM. The Town Budget can be found on the Town website under the tab *Budget 2022/23*.

Policy Committee – Dr. Madonick presented the policies currently under 30–day review for adoption.

**MOTION #2 – ADOPT POLICY 3260**

Move that we adopt Policy 3260 – Disposal of Obsolete Books, Equipment, and Supplies.

Dr. Madonick  
Second by Ms. Williamson  
**UNANIMOUS**

**MOTION #3 – ADOPT POLICY 3250**

Move that we adopt Policy 3250 – Materials/Services Fees, Charges as revised.

Dr. Madonick  
Second by Ms. Williamson  
**UNANIMOUS**

**MOTION #4 – ADOPT POLICY 3510**

Move that we adopt Policy 3510 – Operation and Maintenance of Plant as revised.

Dr. Madonick  
Second by Ms. Williamson  
**UNANIMOUS**

**MOTION #5 – ADOPT POLICY 2111**

Move that we adopt Policy 2111 – Equal Employment Opportunity as revised.

Dr. Madonick  
Second by Ms. Williamson  
**UNANIMOUS**

**MOTION #6 – ADOPT POLICY 6171.2**

Move that we adopt Policy 6171.2 – Pre-School Special Education.

Dr. Madonick  
Second by Ms. Williamson  
**UNANIMOUS**

**MOTION #7 – ADOPT POLICY 5142.4**

Move that we adopt Policy 5142.4 – School Resource Officer(s) as revised.

Dr. Madonick  
Second by Ms. Williamson  
**UNANIMOUS**

*CABE Liaison Report* – None

*Upcoming Meeting Presentation*: Wellness – Board members were asked to provide their requests and/or questions to either Chair Piascyk or Superintendent Budd.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Chair Piascyk informed the Board of additional action items to be added to the agenda tonight under New Business.

**MOTION #8 – MODIFY AGENDA**

Move that we add acceptance of certified staff retirements and a certified staff resignation to tonight’s agenda.

Ms. Piascyk  
Second by Dr. Madonick  
**UNANIMOUS**

Superintendent Budd informed the Board of the resignation of Cheryl Kiesel, Director of Special Services, after 4 years of service. Superintendent Budd acknowledged the retirements of Doreen Merrill and Dr. Kris Rose. Ms. Merrill has taught at BRS for 21 years and served as Assistant Principal for 2 of those years. Dr. Rose has been a psychologist at BRS for 30 years.

**MOTION #9 – CERTIFIED STAFF RESIGNATION (KIESEL)**

Move that we accept the resignation of Cheryl Kiesel, effective June 30, 2022, with deep regret.

Ms. Piascyk  
Second by Dr. Madonick  
**UNANIMOUS**

**MOTION #10 – CERTIFIED STAFF RETIREMENT (MERRILL)**

Move that we accept the retirement of Doreen Merrill, effective July 1, 2022, with deep regret.

Ms. Piascyk  
Second by Dr. Madonick  
**UNANIMOUS**

**MOTION #11 – CERTIFIED STAFF RETIREMENT (ROSE)**

Move that we accept the retirement of Dr. Kris Rose, effective June 30, 2022, with deep regret.

Ms. Piascyk  
Second by Dr. Madonick  
**UNANIMOUS**

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – None

The Board entered Executive Session (8:32 PM).

**MOTION #12 – EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Move that we enter Executive Session to discuss negotiations with respect to collective bargaining, and to discuss the prospective transportation contract, and invite the Superintendent to join the Board.

Ms. Piascyk  
Second by Dr. Madonick  
**UNANIMOUS**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ms. Lynn Piascyk, Chair (In-person); Ms. Sarah Beth Del Prete, Secretary (Remote); Ms. Brooke Hopkins (Remote); Mr. Jeff Hughes (In-person); Dr. Maria Madonick, Vice Chair (In-person); Dr. Michael Strambler (In-person); and Ms. Erin Williamson (In-person).

**STAFF:** Dr. Jonathan Budd, Superintendent.

The Board discussed the negotiations with respect to collective bargaining, and the prospective transportation contract.

**MOTION #13 – RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION**

Move that we return to Public Session (10:21 PM).

Ms. Del Prete  
Second by Dr. Madonick  
**UNANIMOUS**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ms. Lynn Piascyk, Chair (In-person); Ms. Sarah Beth Del Prete, Secretary (Remote); Ms. Brooke Hopkins (Remote); Mr. Jeff Hughes (In-person); Dr. Maria Madonick, Vice Chair (In-person); Dr. Michael Strambler (In-person); and Ms. Erin Williamson (In-person).

**STAFF:** Dr. Jonathan Budd, Superintendent; Marsha DeGennaro, Clerk of the Board.

Chair Piascyk called the Public Session back to order (10:21 PM).

**MOTION #14 – ADDITION TO AGENDA – POLICY REVISION**

Move that we add to tonight's agenda revision of Policies 4118.238/4218.238 and 5141.81 Travel and Self-Quarantine during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Ms. Piascyk  
Second by Dr. Madonick  
**UNANIMOUS**

**MOTION #15 – POLICIES REVISION (4118.238/4218.238 and 5141.81)**

Move that we revise Policies 4118.238/4218.238 and 5141.81 consistent with the discussion in Executive Session, and authorize the Superintendent to communicate to staff and families the revision, and implementation of details.

Dr. Madonick  
Second by Ms. Williamson  
**UNANIMOUS**

**MOTION #16 – ADDITION TO AGENDA – ADMINISTRATIVE RESTRUCTURING**

Move that we add administrative restructuring to tonight's agenda.

Ms. Piascyk  
Second by Dr. Madonick  
**UNANIMOUS**

**MOTION #17 – ADMINISTRATIVE RESTRUCTURING**

Move that we direct the Superintendent to pursue administrative restructuring as discussed in Executive Session.

Mr. Hughes  
Second by Dr. Strambler  
**UNANIMOUS**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN: (10:25 PM)**

Dr. Madonick  
Second by Mr. Hughes  
**UNANIMOUS**

Recorded by Marsha DeGennaro, Clerk of the Board