

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR WOODBRIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Monday, February 22, 2016

BRS Library Media Center

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Hamilton, Chair called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

7:12 PM.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Margaret Hamilton, Chair; Dr. Steve Fleischman, Vice Chair; Ms. Chris Jaffe, Secretary; Ms. Lisa Connor, Ms. Karen Kravetz (7:16 PM), Mr. Garrett Luciani, Ms. Keri Matthews and Ms. Emily Melnick.

STAFF: Dr. Guy Stella, Superintendent; Analisa Sherman, Assistant Principal; Clare Kennedy, Special Services Director; and Marsha DeGennaro, Clerk of the Board.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Tim Kelley, PTO; Teresa Nakouzi, WEA; Pua Ford and Shari Storeygard, community.

CORRESPONDENCE – None

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION #1 – CONSENT AGENDA

Move that we approve the consent agenda as presented.

Dr. Fleischman

Second by Ms. Connor

Ms. Connor requested extraction of the January 19, 2016 Regular meeting minutes.

UNANIMOUS

Requested changes to the January 19, 2016 included striking the second motion and rephrasing the comments by Ms. Connor made on Page 2 under Finance Committee in reference to the changes made in the 2016/17 budget proposal at the December 14, 2015 Finance Committee meeting. The comments will be revised to read as follows:

It was noted that incorrect figures were reflected for the *Budget 2015/16* Superintendent and Business Manager salaries. The figure in the *Budget 2015/16* column should have equaled the figure in the *Actual 2014/15* column and should not have reflected the increase voted by the Board in June of 2015 for the 2015/2016 school year. The increase to actual salary for 2015/16 should be reflected only in the *Request 2016/17* column. These figures will be changed on the master document prior to submission to the Boards of Selectmen and Finance.

MOTION #2 – MEETING MINUTES

Move that we approve the January 19, 2016 meeting minutes as amended.

Dr. Fleischman

Second by Ms. Matthews

UNANIMOUS

REPORTS

Superintendent Search Update – The Board has engaged the firm of Hazard, Young, Attea and Associates to conduct the search for a new superintendent. Upcoming stakeholders meetings will be held on February 26 and 29 for all Woodbridge boards/commissions, BOS/BOF, all staff, BRS parents and the community at large. Everyone is also invited to participate in a leadership profile survey located on the district web site. The Board is hopeful the process will be completed by the end of May.

PTO Update – Mr. Kelley apprised the Board the last grade night social for Grades 4/5/6 will be held Friday, February 26 and the PTO is sponsoring the Superintendent Forum on Bullying on Thursday, February 25. This has been a successful year with approximately \$26,000 raised. The PTO purchased a new weather station for BRS as part of the support for STEM. Upcoming events include the spring book fair, picture day and box tops. It was questioned how projects are

selected for funding. Generally, projects are recommended by administration. A concerted effort is made to select projects that will benefit the most students possible.

Ms. Kravetz arrived (7:16 PM)

Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Stella highlighted his impending Tri-State visit to Trumbull, extended a sincere thank you to the PTO for the weather station as well as their support for the upcoming Parent Forum on Bullying and noted the work of the Cafeteria Task Force continues to be a “work in progress”. An overview of the results from the School Climate Survey was presented.

Communication Report – Superintendent Stella presented an overview on the various forms of communication utilized to keep parents, community, town officials/boards and the general public informed the many happenings at BRS. A board member requested detailed information on communication options between administrators and staff as well as parents and classroom teachers. As has been done in the past, Panorama will be utilized to conduct the parent survey later in the spring. The survey will be completed on-line, with links to various modules, to ensure there is only one response per individual.

BRS Update – Ms. Sherman noted the celebration of 100 days of school, posters from BKind Week and the focus on CARES Skills (*cooperation, acceptance, responsibility, empathy and self-control*), kindness circles, several upcoming field trips and the 6th grade bullying presentation by ADL.

Upcoming Meeting Presentations –

School Climate Action Plan – Ms. Kennedy indicated the report will include an update on development of the three-year plan and the various activities implemented in support of the plan. As mandated by the CSDE, the next survey will be conducted in the spring of 2017.

State Accountability Plan – Dr. Stella will provide a synopsis on the system the CSDE developed to measure growth over time. This process is quite complex and it is important that the Board be aware of the implications and understand the accountability rankings of schools across the state.

Facilities Committee – Ms. Kravetz indicated the committee met on February 18. There are no new building and grounds projects proposed and a brief update on the building project and the continued tweaking of hvac controls was provided. The next meeting will be held March 17 at 7:30 AM.

BRS Building Update – Superintendent Stella apprised the Board that while some preliminary work has been completed, it is anticipated the solar panels will be installed in the South and Rotunda areas in March. ESG has been very cooperative in minimizing disruption to the educational process. A final completion date for the building project has yet to be identified.

Finance Committee – No Report

CABE Liaison – Ms. Connor extended an invitation for Board members to attend the CABE Day on the Hill on March 2.

NEW BUSINESS

Electricity Procurement – Earlier this year, the BOWA consortium issued an RFP for the Procurement of electricity. Participating members of the BOWA consortium include the Town of Orange, Orange Elementary Schools, Amity Region 5, Town of Woodbridge, and Woodbridge School district. The intended outcome is to lock-in electricity rates for a multi-year term so that we are able to control costs and protect against price increases. Policy permits the Superintendent or his designee to contract on behalf of the Board for a period not to exceed 12 months.

MOTION #3 – MULTI-YEAR CONTRACT ELECTRICITY

Move that we authorize the Superintendent and/or designee to enter into a multi-year contract for procurement of electricity in conjunction with the BOWA Consortium.

Dr. Fleischman

Second by Ms. Matthews

UNANIMOUS

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

MOTION TO ADJOURN: (7:40 PM)
Dr. Fleischman
Second by Ms. Matthews
UNANIMOUS

Recorded by Marsha DeGennaro, Clerk of the Board