

Regular Board template

Wednesday, April 1, 2009 7:00 PM

Board of Education Auditorium, 129 Church Street, Bristol, CT 06010

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of Silence

2. Approval of Minutes - March 4, 2009 Regular Meeting

3. Committee Reports

4. Consent Agenda

4.1. Personnel

4.1.a. Teacher Retirement Effective June 30, 2009

4.1.b. Teacher Resignations - Effective June 30, 2009

4.1.c. Teacher Resignation from an Unpaid Leave of Absence

4.1.d. Renewal of Unpaid Leave of Absence

4.1.e. Coaching Resignation

4.1.f. Coaching Appointments - Effective March 23, 2009

4.1.g. A-2 Coaching Appointments for Spring 2008-2009

4.2. Resolution

4.2.a. Tunxis Community College Resolution

4.3. Grants

4.3.a. Inter-district Cooperative Grant - Adventures in Peace-Making and Diversity for the 2009-2010 School Year

5. Public Comment

6. Deliberated Items

6.1. Odyssey of the Mind Out of State Travel

6.2. High School Graduation Date and End of Year Closing Date

6.3. Parent Conference Schedules and Marking Period Close Dates for 2009-2010 and 2010-2011

7. Policy Revision

7.1. Transportation Policy Revision #3541 - Second Presentation

8. Superintendent Report

8.1. SAT Improvement Plan and Achievement Report

9. **Old Business**

10. **New Business**

11. **Building Committee Reports**

12. **Information**

Presenter: Barbara
Doyle

12.1. Otis Elevator Donation

13. **Vote to Convene into Executive Session**

Presenter: Barbara
Doyle

14. **Reconvene into Public Session**

Presenter: Barbara
Doyle

15. **Adjournment**

Presenter: Barbara
Doyle

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Bristol, Connecticut
Regular Meeting – March 4, 2009

The regular monthly meeting of the Bristol Board of Education was held on Wednesday, March 4, 2009, at 7:00 p.m., at the Board of Education Administration Building, 129 Church Street, Bristol, Connecticut.

PRESENT: Commissioners Jane E. Anastasio, Margaret Bonola, Amy D. Coan, Barbara Y. Doyle, Julie Luczkow, Thomas P. O'Brien, Sherry A. Turcotte, Karen L. Vibert, Christopher C. Wilson; Philip A. Streifer, Superintendent of Schools, Susan Kalt Moreau, Deputy Superintendent of Schools, Steven DeVaux, Assistant to the Superintendent for Business, Anthony Malavenda, Human Resources Director and Clifford Block, Council Liaison to the Board of Education.

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, MOMENT OF SILENCE

Chairman Doyle called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. and invited the audience to join her in reciting The Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was observed for Barbara Bodman a Social Worker from April 1980 to June 2000 and Vinnie Punzo, a physical education teacher and coach from March 1955 to June 1985.

RECOGNITION OF SCHOLASTIC ART AWARD RECIPIENTS:

Students, family members and teachers were present in the audience to be recognized by the board for their participation in the Scholastic Art Awards.

Lori Eschner, Art Department Chairman presented the Scholastic Art Award Recipients'. Bristol students at the city's five secondary schools earned 19 awards and 3 Special Honors at the 2009 Scholastic Art Competition held at the University of Hartford's Art School. The Connecticut Art Education Association, the professional organization for Connecticut art teachers as well as the Hartford Art School of the University of Hartford, sponsor this statewide competition each year.

This year's awards included 11 Honorable Mentions, 2 Silver Keys and 6 Gold Keys. Of the six Gold Key Winners, the artwork of Karyn Paul, Arielle Pease, Mike Silva, Lauren Bossi, Danielle Michaud and Mallory Madore will be entered into the National Scholastic Art Competition in New York City.

STAFF RECOGNITION:

Michael Audette, Principal at O'Connell school was in the audience to be recognized by the Board of Education for being awarded The Sanctae Crucis Award from Holy Cross. The Sanctae Crucis Award is the highest non-degree recognition bestowed by the College on an alumnus or alumna. Mr. Audette is the first educator to be presented the award. The audience stood to acknowledge Mr. Audette, and he spoke briefly.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Commissioner O'Brien, seconded by Commissioner Vibert, it was unanimously

VOTED: That the minutes of the February 4, 2009 Regular Meeting be approved as written.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee

Commissioner O'Brien reported that the Finance Committee met earlier this evening and voted on the 2009-2010 Budget. The budget is a "Go Forward" budget, meaning that it funds everything that we have right now. The budget represents a 3.69% increase.

2009-2010 Budget Approval

Dr. Streifer presented a PowerPoint presentation describing 2009-2010 the budget. The proposed budget funds everything that we currently have. Any reductions to the budget will be done by the Finance Board. The district has just been notified that we will lose our Priority School District designation which will result in a loss of nearly 2 million dollars over a three year time period. This will mean a loss in programs and positions currently funded by the Priority money.

Member of the audience were disappointed that the budget had just been presented rather than explained in detail. They were informed that a full budget presentation will take place on Wednesday, March 18th at 6:00 p.m. in the Board of Education Auditorium.

On motion of Commissioner O'Brien, seconded by Commissioner Vibert, it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Board of Education approve the 2009-2010 Board of Education budget in the amount of \$104,574,725.

The budget will be made available on line tomorrow for people interested in seeing the line by line details that will be presented to the Finance Board.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Vibert asked that Item 6.11 Retirement of Director of Human Resources be pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

Teacher Resignation

On motion of Commissioner Anastasio, seconded by Commissioner Turcotte, it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Board of Education accept the following Teacher Resignation – John Matthews – BEHS – Technology Education – Effective March 26, 2009

New Teacher Hire

On motion of Commissioner Anastasio, seconded by Commissioner Turcotte, it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Board of Education approve the following New Teacher Hire: Kimberly Williams – CHMS – Language Arts – Grade 6 – Effective February 2, 2009.

New Teacher Position .4 FTE - Grant Funded - Effective March 2, 2009

On motion of Commissioner Anastasio, seconded by Commissioner Turcotte, it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Board of Education approve the following .4 FTE New Teacher Position: LaTanya Farrell – CHMS – .4 Reading Instructional Support – Effective March 2, 2009.

A-2 Teacher Resignation

On motion of Commissioner Anastasio, seconded by Commissioner Turcotte, it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Board of Education accept the following A-2 Teacher Resignation: Lisa Carroll – BEHS – Freshman Class Co-Advisor – Effective February 20, 2009

A-3 Teacher Resignations

On motion of Commissioner Anastasio, seconded by Commissioner Turcotte, it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Board of Education accept the following A-3 Teacher Resignations: Michelle Burns – BEHS – Webmaster – Effective January 23, 2009

A-3 Teacher Resignations (con't)

Isabel Imfeld – MBMS – Science Curriculum Coordinator – Effective February 2, 2009

A-3 Teacher Appointments

On motion of Commissioner Anastasio, seconded by Commissioner Turcotte, it was unanimously

***VOTED: That the Board of Education approve the following A-3 Teach Appointments:
Terry Grant – MBMS – Science Curriculum Coordinator – Effective February 11, 2009
Janet Kenney Birsch – BEHS – Webmaster – Effective January 26, 2009***

Sixth Year Salary Credit - Effective February 1, 2009

On motion of Commissioner Anastasio, seconded by Commissioner Turcotte, it was unanimously

***VOTED: That the Board of Education approve the following Sixth Year Salary Credit:
Tara Crouch – BCHS – Math - Effective February 1, 2009***

Coaching Resignation

On motion of Commissioner Anastasio, seconded by Commissioner Turcotte, it was unanimously

***VOTED: That the Board of Education accept the following Coaching Resignation:
Amy Kelley – Head Cheerleading Coach – BCHS – Effective April 1, 2009***

Coaching Appointments

On motion of Commissioner Anastasio, seconded by Commissioner Turcotte, it was unanimously

***VOTED: That the Board of Education approve the following Coaching Appointments:
Timothy Barrette – Asst. Football Coach – BEHS – Effective February 20, 2009
John Hannon – Asst. Football Coach – BEHS – Effective February 20, 2009
Anthony Julius – Asst. Football Coach – BEHS – Effective February 20, 2009
Rich Klett – Asst. Football Coach – BEHS – Effective February 20, 2009
Michael Schleer – Baseball Coach – NEMS – Effective February 23, 2009
Kevin Toomey – Asst. Softball Coach – BEHS – Effective March 4, 2009***

Volunteer Coaching Appointment

On motion of Commissioner Anastasio, seconded by Commissioner Turcotte, it was unanimously

***VOTED: That the Board of Education approve the following Volunteer Coaching Appointment:
David Froias – Wrestling Program – BEHS – Effective February 6, 2009***

Retirement of Director of Human Resources

Susan Moreau spoke about Anthony Malavenda's career that began in 1974. Tony set high standards for the district, and will be missed upon his retirement in June 2009. The audience stood to acknowledge Tony, and he spoke briefly. There will be a cake reception immediately following the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Student Matthew Hummerick, 211 Westwood Terrace, addressed the Board in favor of no budget cuts to Music programs. He spoke of the positive effects the program has on students. If you cut the program, you could be stifling the next Mozart.

Yvonne D'Addese, 14 Alice Terrace, addressed the Board in favor of no budget cuts to Music programs. She spoke of the positive effects it has on students, and how it is one of six academic areas a child needs to succeed in college.

PUBLIC COMMENT (con't)

Student Jonathan Donovan, 247 Crown Street, addressed the Board in favor of no budget cuts to the Music program. He spoke of the positive experience he has had being involved in the program and the lessons that are taught in music that can not be taught in other classrooms.

Student William O'Keefe, 47 Robin Street, addressed the Board in favor of no budget cuts to the Music department. He spoke about his intention to pursue a career in music, and how music is an outlet for students.

PTA President at Stafford School, Lynn Bourgojn, 16 Page Avenue, addressed the Board in support of the 2009-2010 budget. She wanted to know what they can do as parents to advocate for the Board. She was told to write letters to legislators, City Council and the Governor. State level decisions are critical right now.

PTA Council Member, Michelle McKenney, 87 Collins Road, addressed the Board regarding the 2009-2010 budget. She was frustrated with the lack of availability of the budget prior to this evenings vote. She spoke regarding salary cuts for non-salaried employees. She provided each commissioner with a copy of a letter from the PTA Council regarding budget solutions.

Student Emily Lewis, 90 Allen Street, addressed the Board in favor of no budget cuts to the Music department. She spoke of her seven year experience in the program, and how it opened her eyes to musical diversity.

BCHS Booster Club President, Don Currie, 123 Judson Avenue, addressed the Board in favor of no budget cuts to the Music department.

Al Cianchetti, 198 Crown Street, addressed the Board regarding the budget. He spoke about the 1.9% increase on contracts, healthcare and budget cuts to the Music department.

Amy Majors, 370 Brook Street, said she respected the Board for the hard work they put into their positions, and she spoke in favor of no budget cuts to the Music department.

2004 BEHS Graduate, Jenn Majors, 370 Brook Street addressed the Board in favor of no budget cuts to the Music program. She spoke about her many experiences in the Music program and what she took away from the program. Cutting the program would be a cut in the quality of life and caliber of Bristol.

Richard Saporito, 212 Stafford Avenue, congratulated Tony on his retirement. Thanked the Board for their work on the budget. He reiterated that the budget starts here, but does not end here.

Chairman Doyle asked for a five minute recess to allow members of the audience who wished to leave the opportunity to do so.

The meeting resumed at 8:55 p.m.

Retirement of Director of Human Resources

On motion of Commissioner O'Brien, seconded by Commissioner Vibert, it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Board of Education accept the Retirement of the Director of Human Resources – Anthony Malavenda – Effective June 30, 2009.

DELIBERATED ITEMS**Staff Award Program:**

Susan Moreau presented the Staff Award Program for 2008-2009. Each year, the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools formally recognizes staff and community member contributions to the school district. This program recognizes staff that has performed their work in a truly outstanding manner and has gone well beyond what is expected of them in the normal fulfillment of their position. Additionally, nominations are sought to recognize a member the community whose contributions to and efforts on behalf of the school system have been truly outstanding. This year for the first time, they will be accepting a limited number of second time awardees.

Nominations need to be returned to the Office of the Deputy Superintendent by Friday, April 3, 2009. Award recipients will be honored at a dinner in May.

Second Quarter Financial Presentation

Steven DeVaux presented the Second Quarter Financial report. The report represents financials through December 31st. The outlook looks positive; we will avoid a deficit this year.

Dr. Streifer addressed the Board regarding our ability to close the budget deficit. We will not be able to close the deficit for a third year.

Mountain View Alteration Project Completion

At the August 11, 2008 meeting of the Ivy Drive/Mountain View Alterations Committees, the Mountain View committee members voted: "To accept the Mountain View Building Project as complete and direct Steven DeVaux to send a letter to the Bristol Board of Education, City Council, and Mayor Arthur Ward on behalf of the Mountain View building committee informing them of the acceptance of the Mountain View building project as complete and the committee's work is completed." Once all the change orders were completed and approved by the State of Connecticut, Jim Lawler the Architect accepted the Mountain View project as complete.

Board approval is now needed to deem the project complete.

On motion of Commissioner Vibert, seconded by Commissioner Turcotte, it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Board of Education approve the Mountain View Alteration Project as complete.

Completion of the John J. Jennings Roof Project

At the Special Operations Committee meeting held on February 2, 2009 it was unanimously voted "To accept the John J. Jennings School Roof Project as complete on the letter dated January 30, 2009 from Tom Hibbard, Architect. We further direct the Assistant to the Superintendent for Business to submit an ED049F and other filings to the State of Connecticut for the reimbursement for the completion of the John J. Jennings Roof Project for consideration at the March Meeting."

Board approval is now needed to deem the project complete.

On motion of Commissioner O'Brien, seconded by Commissioner Vibert, it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Board of Education approve the completion of the John J. Jennings Roof Project.

Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA)

All local public education agencies must re-inspect public school facilities at least every three years. The requirements of this regulation were completed in November 2008, and copies of the Management Plan are available in the Office of the Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds and at each school. The new three year update will be complete by November 2011, and that report will be forwarded to the State of Connecticut Department of Health Services.

Each year, local public education agencies must provide notification to parent, teacher, and employee organizations that copies of these plans are available.

This is an informational item only.

Policy Revision

3541(b) Transportation Policy Revision (First Reading)

Steve DeVaux presented the policy revision to Policy 3541- Transportation. The current policy needs to be revised to specify safe distances for buses when stopping at intersections where a bus stop has been placed. "Buses shall stop no closer than 30 feet from their front bumper to the corner curbing of the intersection and shall stop no earlier than 70 feet from the rear bumper to the corner curbing of the intersection."

No bus stops will be changed based on this policy revision.

This is the first reading; please address all questions to Steve DeVaux during the intervening month.

Superintendent Report

SAT Improvement and Achievement Report

On motion of Commissioner Vibert, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, it was unanimously

VOTED: That due to the late hour, the Board of Education will table the SAT Improvement and Achievement Report until the April Board Meeting.

Old Business

Per the request of Commissioners at the February Board of Education meeting, Steven DeVaux and Greg Boulanger were available to answer questions regarding the Healthy Foods Program that the district is currently participating in.

Steve DeVaux reported that Greg Boulanger has now gotten all of the schools in the district serving a healthy breakfast. Bristol is one of the few districts in the state that is serving a healthy breakfast and lunch at all of its schools.

Dr. Streifer reported that he recently received a letter from Hartford informing the district of the tuition cost for Bristol students attending magnet schools. We are not going to pay the bill until we are ordered to pay. If we do not pay the bill, it will be deducted from our ECS money. This is another example of an unfunded mandate. Dr. Streifer also received a letter asking Bristol to increase the participation in the magnet schools. We are not mandated to enroll students, but the Commissioner of Education can encourage/direct the district to do so. The legislature is not interested in acting on unfunded mandates, despite the testimonies.

New Business

There was no New Business to come before the Board

Building Committee Reports

Forestville Building Committee

Commissioner O'Brien reported that the committee interviewed and screened applicants for Construction Manager. The committee asked for proposals from the managers. The committee will select a manager from the proposals submitted. Once Ken Crowley signs paperwork we can move forward with purchasing the property for the new school.

West Bristol Building Committee

Commissioner Wilson reported that their progress is very similar. Five finalists have been selected for Construction Manager. At the next meeting the committee should know who the manager will be. Negotiations are ongoing regarding the land purchase.

INFORMATION

Dr. Streifer announced that March is Board of Education Member Appreciation Month. He thanked commissioners for all the work they do.

Governor Rell will be at Edgewood school reading to the students on Friday, March 10, 2009. Please feel free to join us at Edgewood on Friday.

Dr. Moreau announced that the Business Education Foundation was awarded a grant by Books for Kids Foundation in New York City. The grant was for 400 books for classroom libraries and school readiness programs at Clara T. O'Connell School. The mission of the Books for Kids Foundation is to promote literacy among all children especially disadvantaged children and youth. Representatives from the O'Connell staff were able to go to their warehouse and choose 400 great books with a value of almost \$3000. O'Connell School is eligible to renew this grant yearly.

VOTE TO CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Commissioner Vibert, seconded by Commissioner Turcotte, it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Board of Education convene into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Student Expulsions (9:40 p.m.).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

PRESENT: Commissioners Jane E. Anastasio, Margaret Bonola, Amy D. Coan, Barbara Y. Doyle, Julie Luczkow, Thomas P. O'Brien, Sherry A. Turcotte, Karen L. Vibert, Christopher C. Wilson; Philip A. Streifer, Superintendent of Schools, Susan Kalt Moreau, Deputy Superintendent of Schools, Steven DeVaux, Assistant to the Superintendent for Business, Anthony Malavenda, Human Resources Director and Clifford Block, Council Liaison to the Board of Education, Denise Carabetta and Kim Hapken.

Executive Session was called to order. ***(10:02 p.m.)***

A discussion of student expulsions was conducted.

RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC SESSION

On motion of Commissioner Vibert seconded by Commissioner O'Brien it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Board of Education reconvene into Public Session to vote on any items discussed in Executive Session. (10:25 p.m.)

ADJOURNMENT:

On motion of Commissioner Turcotte, seconded by Commissioner Wilson it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Board of Education meeting be adjourned. (10:25 p.m.)

Respectfully Submitted:

Susan P. Everett

Susan P. Everett
Board of Education Secretary

DRAFT