

Regular Board template

Wednesday, October 7, 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- September 19, 2009 Regular Meeting Minutes**

3. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

4. **CONSENT AGENDA**

4.1. Personnel

4.1.a. Administrator Hire

4.1.b. New Teacher Hire

4.1.c. A-2 Teacher Appointment

4.1.d. A-3 Teacher Appointment

4.1.e. Sixth Year Salary Credit

4.1.f. Coaching Appointments

4.1.g. Volunteer Coaching Appointments

4.2. GRANTS

4.2.a. Adult Education Grant

4.2.b. Consolidated State Grant

4.2.c. Perkins Grant

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

6. **DELIBERATED ITEMS**

6.1. Bristol Adult Education Program

6.2. Purchase of Driver's Education Vehicles

6.3. Fund Transfer to Food Services

7. **OLD BUSINESS**

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

9. **BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

10. **INFORMATION**

Presenter: Barbara Doyle

10.1. Bristol Eastern High School Donation

11. **VOTE TO CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Presenter: Barbara
Doyle

12. **RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC SESSION**

Presenter: Barbara
Doyle

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

Presenter: Barbara
Doyle

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Bristol, Connecticut
Regular Meeting – September 9, 2009

The regular monthly meeting of the Bristol Board of Education was held on Wednesday, September 9, 2009, at 7:00 p.m., at the Board of Education Administration Building, 129 Church Street, Bristol, Connecticut.

PRESENT: Commissioners, Jane E. Anastasio (arrived 7:48 p.m.), Margaret L. Bonola, Amy D. Coan, Barbara Y. Doyle, Julie M. Luczkow, Sherry A. Turcotte (arrived at 7:53 p.m.), Karen L. Vibert, Christopher C. Wilson; Philip A. Streifer, Superintendent of Schools, Susan Kalt Moreau, Deputy Superintendent of Schools, Dennis Bieu, Human Resources Director and Clifford Block, Council Liaison to the Board

Excused: Commissioner Thomas P. O'Brien

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, MOMENT OF SILENCE

Chairman Doyle called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. and invited the audience to join her in reciting The Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was observed for Jeanne Bouyea a teacher with the Board of Education from September 1962 to June 2002.

STUDENT AND STAFF ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Kim Hapken, Special Services Supervisor had Vernessa Elder, School Psychologist at Bristol Central High School join her as she announced that Ms. Elder had been chosen as the 2008-2009 School Psychologist of the Year by the Connecticut Association of School Psychologists.

Ms. Elder has been with the Bristol Public Schools since 2001. She is currently the faculty advisor for the Best Buddies Program, and donates countless hours of her time to the program. She is currently an Adjunct Professor at Tunxis Community College. Ms. Elder has been an outstanding resource to the parents, students and staff at Bristol Central. On behalf of the Board of Education, Mrs. Hapken congratulated Ms. Elder on her outstanding achievement.

Mrs. Hapken announced that the Bristol Central High School Unified Sports team has won First Place in the Michaels Jeweler's Cup Award. The Unified Sports Team has participated in the Michaels Jeweler's Unified Sports Cup tournament since 2005.

The program was established in 2005 and since that time our teams have participated in more than 35 tournaments. The programs enrollment has doubled with the addition of Bristol Eastern, Chippens Hill and soon to be added Ivy Drive. Paul Hylan, Program Coordinator has made it possible to host the CIAC Unified Sports tournament for the past three years. Mr. Hylan and Marty Semmel, Principal at Bristol Central High School were present to accept the team trophy for the district. Dr. Streifer congratulated Mr. Hylan on behalf of the Board of Education.

Paul Hylan announced that Bristol Central will host its fourth Unified Sports tournament on Thursday, October 15th at 3:00 p.m. at Bristol Central High School.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

VOTED: That the minutes of the August 19, 2009 Regular Meeting be approved as written.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

No committee reports were given.

CONSENT AGENDA

Administrative Hire

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

***VOTED: That the Board of Education approve the following Administrative Hire:
Susan Carol Iwanicki-Smith – Literacy Supervisor K –12 – Effective Date to be Determined***

Teacher Resignation

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

***VOTED: That the Board of Education accept the following Teacher Resignation:
Jennifer Zenuh – CHMS – Language Arts, Grade 6/7–Effective August 19, 2009***

New Teachers Hires

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

***VOTED: That the Board of Education approve the following New Teacher Hires:
Kathleen Clute – MTV – PreK – Effective 8/28/09
Merrill Ebner – WW – Math – Effective 8/24/09
Alexandra Nappi – EDGE – .5 Kindergarten – Effective August 24, 2009
Hannah Richard – JJJ – .5 Kindergarten – Effective August 24, 2009
Klaudia Sienko – BCHS – .5 World Language – Effective August 26, 2009
Barbara Tedesco – EPH – Grade 1 – Effective August 31, 2009
Anne Twomey – SSS – Grade 3 – Effective August 25, 2009
Orlando Valle – BEHS – Science – Effective August 24, 2009***

A-2 Teacher Resignation

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

***VOTED: That the Board of Education accept the following A-2 Teacher Resignation:
Thomas Skovran – BEHS – Instrumental, Percussion Director – Effective August 17, 2009***

A-2 Teacher Appointments – Effective August 24, 2009

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

VOTED: That the Board of Education approve the following A-2 Teacher Appointments – Effective August 24, 2009:

***Theresa Nodine – BCHS – Band Auxiliary Unit Advisor – Flags & Majorettes
Sarah Ramsey – BCHS – Band Auxiliary Unit Advisor – Dance***

A-3 Teacher Resignations - Effective August 24, 2009

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

VOTED: That the Board of Education accept the following A-3 Teacher Resignations:

Clint DeSena – MTV – Gifted Coach

Steven Tillinghast – MBMS – Social Studies Curriculum Coordinator

Sixth Year Salary Credit – Effective September 1, 2009

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

VOTED: That the Board of Education approve the following Sixth Year Salary Credit – Effective September 1, 2009:

Veronica Beaudoin – STAF – Literacy Teacher

Amanda Robustelli-Price – BCHS – World Language Teacher

Coaching Resignation

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

VOTED: That the Board of Education accept the following Coaching Resignation:

Robert Germain – Asst. Wrestling Coach – BEHS – Effective August 28, 2009

Authorized Signatures

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

VOTED: That the Board of Education authorize Dr. Susan Moreau to sign transactions with New England Bank.

Tunxis Community College Resolution

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

VOTED: That the Board of Education authorize Dr. Philip Streifer to sign contracts with Tunxis Community College.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public that wished to address the Board.

DELIBERATED ITEMS

Hiring Overview

Dennis Bieu, Human Resource Director reported on Hiring Over for 2009-2010 school year. A total of 26 new teachers have been hired. There are two additional teacher hires pending, both are Language Arts positions; one at Bristol Central and one at Chippens Hill. 42% of the new hires reside in Bristol.

Bristol Central Travel to Quebec

Amanda Robustelli-Price was present in the audience to present the Bristol Central Trip to Quebec.

Since 2004, Bristol students have enjoyed an active exchange with the La-Queue-lez-Yvelines in France. This trip has cost around \$1600. In order to provide all students with the opportunity to experience immersion

Bristol Central Travel to Quebec (con't)

in French, Mrs. Robustelli-Price is requesting permission to take 32-49 students to Quebec to experience Carnaval from Saturday, February 13, 2009 to Tuesday, February 16th. A similar trip was taken two years ago and it was an enormous success. The Quebec Carnaval is the largest winter carnival in the world. At this event, students will experience activities in French based on the Quebecois folkloric lifestyle and visit sites integral to the Quebecois experience. Students will see the Plains of Abraham, pivotal in the Seven Year's war, see the famous Défilé (parade) de Carnaval on Saturday night, and more. The tour group, Jumpstreet, specializes in providing educational tours that enhance foreign language classes. This trip will cost roughly half of what the French exchange has cost. They will travel by bus, thus avoiding airport security levels.

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

VOTED: That the Board of Education approve the Bristol Central Travel to Quebec in February 2010.

Approval of the Teacher Retirement Plan

For some time the Administration has been researching the viability and efficacy of offering a retirement incentive plan for the faculty (Bristol Federation of Teacher members). Given the financial exigencies we foresee over the coming two to three years, we now believe it is in everyone's best interest to offer such a plan if it can be run in a financially viable manner. This plan also requires the approval of the BFT regarding a multi-year payout of eligible severance payments.

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

VOTED: That the Board of Education approve the Teacher Retirement Incentive Plan.

Reconciliation of the BOE Financials for the 2008-2009 School Year

William Smyth presented the 2008-2009 Year End Report. There is an excess of \$600,000, and Mr. Smyth itemized why such a surplus was present.

The teacher salary account generates savings based on turnovers. The severance account will be offset by the salary account. The home bound teachers account had a significant amount remaining. This account is projected based on past experience, this year, there were not as many home bound students. The substitute account also had a slight surplus. Mr. Smyth made note, that the final Food Services account numbers have not been completed, but we are anticipating a deficit in excess of \$200,000. The Board will need to make a motion this evening requesting the Finance Board transfer money to offset the Food Services Account deficit.

Another factor that contributed to the surplus was the freezing of the budget early in the year. Tighter controls, and fewer purchase orders certainly played a part in final numbers. The amount that will be returned to the city will be \$647,413, which includes \$203,060 offset for the food services deficit.

On motion of Commissioner Luczkow, seconded by Commissioner Bonola, it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Board of Education authorize Dr. Streifer to request the Finance Board transfer \$203,060 from the regular operating budget to the food services budget to offset the deficit.

Textbook Adoption**Health Textbook – Second Reading**

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

VOTED: That the Board of Education approve the new Health Textbooks.

Engineering & Technology: Textbook for Video Production Techniques – 1st/2nd Reading

The new course was approved last Fall. Teachers worked with Nutmeg Television in preparation for teaching the course. The course was piloted at Bristol Eastern in 08-09 school year. Teachers identified a critical need for a content resource to support instruction. There are currently 107 students enrolled in the class. Mr. Gagliardi worked with teachers to identify a text, and they are recommending: Video: Digital Communication & Production, Published by Goodheart-Wilcox. The text aligns with State standards for Video Production Systems. The use of the textbook will develop and reinforce acquisition of technical vocabulary.

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

VOTED: That the Board of Education waive the second reading of the Engineering & Technology: Textbook for Video Production Techniques.

On motion of Commissioner Luczkow, seconded by Commissioner Bonola, it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Board of Education approve the textbook for Video Production Techniques.

Old Business

There was no Old Business to come before the Board.

New Business

There was no New Business to come before the Board.

BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports from the West Bristol or Forestville Building Committees.

Dr. Moreau was happy to report that staff has been meeting with the architect to discuss how program space will work, within the new buildings, ie: office space, number of classrooms, etc.

Tim Callahan was hired as project manager for the two buildings. He started work yesterday, and he will be working closely with Dr. Moreau.

Dr. Moreau also reported that the architect contracts will be signed on Monday, September 14th at City Hall.

INFORMATION

Teaching American History Grant

Dennis Carabetta informed the Board that Bristol, along with twelve other school districts, CCSU and the CT Historical Society Museum, recently jointly received a three year grant of \$965,000 from the U.S. Department of Education. The purpose of this grant will be to enable teachers to reinvigorate the study of American history in grades four through eight. CCSU will administer the grant.

The Teaching American History grant program is designed to improve student achievement by enhancing teachers' knowledge of traditional American history through intensive on-going professional development in both content and research-based teaching strategies.

Teachers will learn to:

- Integrate history with literacy

Teaching American History Grant (con't)

- Encourage inquiry-based learning using online modules and “hands-on” artifact kits to connect CT history to broader themes

Four middle school teachers, capable of teaching our U.S. history course in eighth grade (certified to teach 8th grade, but not necessarily currently teaching the course), will be selected to participate.

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, Expulsions and the BESA Concession Negotiations. (7:58 p.m.).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

PRESENT: Commissioners, Jane E. Anastasio, Margaret L. Bonola, Amy D. Coan, Barbara Y. Doyle, Julie M. Luczkow, Sherry A. Turcotte, Karen L. Vibert, Christopher C. Wilson; Philip A. Streifer, Susan Kalt Moreau, Dennis Bieu, Denise Carabetta, Kim Hapken and Cliff Block

Excused: Commissioners Thomas P. O'Brien

Executive session was called to order at 8:05 p.m.

BESA Negotiations – The board was provided a negotiations update. There has been no progress. Discussions are complete; we will negotiate later this academic year.

Dr. Moreau gave update on two student expulsions.

RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC SESSION

On motion of Commissioner Bonola, seconded by Commissioner Coan it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Board of Education reconvene into Public Session to vote on any items discussed in Executive Session. (9:00 p.m.)

ADJOURNMENT:

On motion of Commissioner Bonola, seconded by Commissioner Coan it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Board of Education meeting be adjourned. (9:00 p.m.)

Respectfully Submitted:

Susan P. Everett

Susan P. Everett
Board of Education Secretary

**BRISTOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
October 2, 2009 Minutes**

Present: Present: Julie Luczkow, Barbara Doyle, Karen Vibert, Chris Wilson, Margaret Bonala, Sue Moreau, Denise Carabetta, Ellen Benham, Kris Irvine, Phil Streifer

Excused: Jane Anastasio

The meeting called to order at 1:30 pm by Julie Luczkow, Chair

1. Approval of the July 29, 2009 Student Achievement Committee minutes.

On a motion by Commissioner Wilson and seconded by Commissioner Vibert, it was unanimously

VOTED: to approve the minutes of the 7-29-09 meeting.

2. Overview of the AVID Program pilot at BEHS

Kris Irvine presented an overview of the AVID Program pilot at BEHS. One AVID elective teacher and one team of freshman teachers are involved in the program. There is a guidance counselor assigned to the students/team. Students, who are candidates for this program, are B/C students, first generation college students, minority students, who may not have the tools for preparation for college. There is an application and acceptance process for students. Students are placed into higher level courses with a support system from the AVID Elective teacher and the teaching team. The AVID elective is focused on organizational skills, motivation skills, and use of Cornell notes; there is also a tutorial component to the AVID elective course. There are 18 students in the AVID program. The teachers meet monthly. The instructional strategies focus on reading, writing, inquiry, and communication. Next year, CHMS is planning to have one section of AVID. This program is grant funded.

3. Overview of the Bristol Public Schools Parent Toolkit

Kris Irvine presented the *Bristol Public School Parent Toolkit*. As a result of discussion with parents, the toolkit was developed by parents and teachers. The plan is to issue this three times a year. Commissioner Luczkow asked if this could be translated into Spanish; administration will pursue this. It was suggested that grandparents be included as they can be the child's caregiver and that this be given to parents as students are enrolled in the Bristol Schools. The toolkit will be available at parent conferences. It was suggested that these be placed in the libraries and other community sites. This will also be placed on the agenda for the next Communication and Community Relations Board of Education committee.

4. Proposed addition of three AP Courses

Denise Carabetta presented information on the proposed addition of the following AP courses: AP Language and Composition, AP Psychology, and AP Environmental Science. The courses are in the curriculum development phase; the curriculum for each course will be presented to the BOE in the spring. Then, a textbook review and recommendation will be made to the BOE. These courses will be listed in the Program of Studies for the 2010-2011 school year, which the BOE will approve this winter.

5. Business and Finance Education Course

Denise Carabetta presented information on the proposed addition of the Business and Finance Education course. This course will be part of the Tunxis College Career Pathways program and students will be able to obtain college credit for this course. The course is in the curriculum development phase; the curriculum will be presented to the BOE in the spring. Then, a textbook review and recommendation will be made to the BOE. These course will be listed in the Program of Studies for the 2010-2011 school year, which the BOE will approve this winter.

6. Proposed policy 6144.1 - Reacting to Political Action/Issues

Dr. Streifer reviewed the background regarding the need for this policy and summarized the policy. There was discussion about the policy.

On a motion by Commissioner Wilson and seconded by Commissioner Vibert, it was unanimously

VOTED: to recommend to the full Board of Education approval of the proposed policy and to send this policy to the full Board of Education for a first reading at the October 9, 2009 meeting.

7. Gymnastics

Dr. Streifer presented information about gymnastics. Bristol offers full sports in all areas except gymnastics in the areas that the CIAC allows a Team of One. Three students would like to participate as of this time from BCHS. BEHS needs to be considered; there are one or two students interested meaning BEHS could also have a gymnastics Team of One. The most this would cost this year is \$5152. If there are three or fewer students at each school, there would be a Team of One; if there are more than three students per school, we would not go forward with this. There was discussion about this item.

On a motion by Commissioner Vibert and seconded by Commissioner Doyle, is was

VOTED by a vote of 2 aye, 1 nay, and 1 abstention to accept the recommendation of the administration to allow the formation of a gymnastics Team of One at both high schools for the 2009-2010 school year.

Adjournment:

On a motion by Commissioner Vibert and seconded by Commissioner Wilson, it was unanimously

VOTED to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Submitted by:

Denise D. Carabetta

Denise D. Carabetta

The next meeting is scheduled for November 6, 2009 at 1:30 p.m.