

Regular Board template

Wednesday, March 3, 2010 7:00 PM

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

1. **CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, MOMENT OF SILENCE**

2. **STUDENT RECOGNITION**

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES - February 3, 2010 Regular Meeting**

4. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

5. **CONSENT AGENDA**

5.1. PERSONNEL

5.1.a. Administrator Hire - Bristol Eastern High School Principal

5.1.b. Teacher Resignations

5.1.c. Teacher Resignations from an Unpaid Leave of Absence - Effective June 30, 2010

5.1.d. Teacher Retirements Eligible for the Second Retirement Incentive - Effective June 30, 2010

5.1.e. Teacher Retirements Eligible for the Second Retirement Incentive - Effective June 30, 2011

5.1.f. Teacher Requests for an Unpaid Leave of Absence

5.1.g. Part Time Teacher Hired for Full Time Position

5.1.h. Ed.D. Salary Credit

5.1.i. Sixth Year Salary Credit - Effective February 1, 2010

5.1.j. Coaching Resignation

5.1.k. Coaching Appointments

5.1.l. Volunteer Coaching Appointments

5.2. GRANTS

5.2.a. American Savings Foundation Grant for FRC Programs

5.2.b. Project Aware Grant for the FRC Parents As Teachers Personal Visit Program

5.2.c. Project Aware Grant

6. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

7. **DELIBERATED ITEMS**

7.1. 2010-2011 Budget Approval

7.2. Elementary Parent Conference Days

7.3. POLICY REVISIONS

7.3.a. Policy & Regulation 3515 - Community Use
of school Facilities - Second Reading

7.3.b. Policy & Regulation 3453 - School
Activity Funds - Second Reading

7.4. CURRICULUM REVISION

7.4.a. Secondary Art Curriculum Grades 9-12 -
Second Reading

8. **OLD BUSINESS**

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

10. **BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

11. **INFORMATION**

Presenter: Barbara
Doyle

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

Presenter: Barbara
Doyle

13. **RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC SESSION**

Presenter: Barbara
Doyle

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

Presenter: Barbara
Doyle

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Bristol, Connecticut
Regular Meeting – February 3, 2010

The regular monthly meeting of the Bristol Board of Education was held on Wednesday, February 3, 2010, at 7:00 p.m., in the Auditorium of the Board of Education Administration Building, 129 Church Street, Bristol, Connecticut.

PRESENT: Commissioners Jane Anastasio, Margaret Bonola, Amy Coan, Barbara Doyle, Julie Luczkow, Thomas O'Brien, Sherry Turcotte, Karen Vibert, Christopher Wilson; Philip A. Streifer, Superintendent of Schools, Susan Kalt Moreau, Deputy Superintendent, Dennis Bieu, Human Resources Director, and Clifford Block, Council Liaison to the Board.

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 Catherine Salmoiraghi a Cafeteria Worker from 1981 to 1991 and Karen Barr a Business Education Teacher at Bristol Eastern from 1964 to 1968.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

VOTED: That the minutes of the January 6, 2010 Regular Meeting be approved as written.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Student Achievement Committee

Commissioner Luczkow reported that the committee met on January 15, 2010. The Art curriculum for grades 9-12 and the T.V. Production curriculum was presented for a first reading. These items are on the agenda tonight for a second reading. The next Student Achievement meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 12, 2010 at 1:30 p.m.

Operations Committee

Commissioner Coan reported that the committee met this evening. They would like to make two motions to add items to the agenda under Deliberated Items.

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

VOTED: That the Board of Education approve the following two motions be added to the agenda under Deliberated Items:

First Motion: To place Policy and Regulations Revision 3515 – Community Use of Facilities on the agenda for a first reading as Deliberated Item 6.44

Second Motion: To place Policy and Regulation Revision 3453 – Student Activity Funds on the agenda for a first reading as Deliberated Item 6.45.

Commissioner Coan reported that the next meeting will be held on March 3, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

Joint Operation and Student Achievement Committee

Chairman Doyle reported that a Joint Operations and Student Achievement committee meeting was held on Wednesday, January 20, 2010 at the Board of Education to review the administrative planning regarding the possible closure of Bingham School. We have offered a retirement incentive plan for teachers that will

Joint Operation and Student Achievement Committee – con't

provide significant savings for the next two years. However, the savings will be insufficient to fund our current education program as we go forward. The actual savings for closing Bingham is \$1.2 million dollars. This comes from a reduction of staff and the cost of utilities. During the course of discussion, Commissioner Anastasio raised concerns about the class sizes in grade 3. She suggested we take two votes, one regarding the closure of Bingham and the other to further consider how redistricting will occur. Mr. Bieu responded that it may be as simple as sliding a street east or west to impact the grade 3 class size. There is a possibility that we will have student movement before the opening of the new school year and that has to be taken into consideration. Four parents spoke during the public comment section; asking that a decision be deferred until after a PTA meeting scheduled for the following evening, January 21st, raising concerns about class size and the amount of time the children will spend on the bus. There was no action taken, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Finance Committee

Commissioner O'Brien reported that the Finance Committee met this afternoon, looking at preliminary numbers for next year, 2010-2011 and 2011-2012. It is our hope that we will be able to submit a budget to the Board of Finance for our hearing on March 29, 2010 that will include an increase of less than 2%. This increase does not include the savings from the possible closure of Bingham school. The following year however, indicates significant increases, due to stimulus monies being terminated. We cannot anticipate any additional support from the state; even though it is not imminent, it is something that we have to plan for.

CONSENT AGENDA**Teacher Retirement - Eligible for the Retirement Incentive Effective June 30, 2010**

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

***VOTED: That the Board of Education approve the following Teacher Retirement, effective June 30, 2010:
Kathleen Baily – CTO – PreK;***

Teacher Resignation – Effective June 30, 2010

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

***VOTED: That the Board of Education accept the following Teacher Resignation, effective June 30, 2010:
Priscilla Arcamone – BEHS – Math***

A-3 Teacher Resignation – Effective January 19, 2010

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

***VOTED: That the Board of Education accept the following A-3 Teacher Resignation:
Thomas Lavoie – BEHS – Instructional Resource Coordinator***

A-3 Teacher Appointment – Effective January 20, 2010

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

***VOTED: That the Board of Education approve the following A-3 Teacher Appointment, eff. Jan. 20, 2010
Merrill Ebner – WW – Technology Leader
Gary Fleming – BEHS – Instructional Resource Coordinator***

Part Time Teacher Hired for Full Time Position

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

VOTED: That the Board of Education approve the following Part Time Teacher Hired for Full Time Position:

Latanya Farrell a .5 Computer Teacher at CHMS has been hired as a full time Language Arts Teacher, Grade 6 at CHMS – Effective January 28, 2010

Request for an Unpaid Leave of Absence from January 14, 2010 through June 30, 2010

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

VOTED: That the Board of Education approve the following Request for an Unpaid Leave of Absence from January 14, 2010 through June 30, 2010:

Cary Rubbo – MBMS – Literacy Teacher

Coaching Resignations

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

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

Michael Beaudoin – Asst. Baseball Coach – BEHS – Effective January 4, 2010

Harold Kilby – Baseball Coach – CHMS – Effective January 12, 2010

Lisa Penna – Asst. Volleyball Coach – BCHS – Effective December 23, 2009

Michael Schleer – Baseball Coach – NEMS – Effective January 5, 2010

Grants

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

VOTED: That the Board of Education approve the following Grants:

Bilingual Grant

Business Education Foundation Grant

Home Depot Grant

Open Choice Grant July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010

Title II, Part D ARRA Grant

Continuation of the United Way of West Central CT Grant

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ann Marie Pahl - 20 Wintergreen Road addressed the Board regarding the Bingham School closure, and her hopes that Bingham School will remain open until the new schools are built. If closed, the parents worry about redistricting, separation of peers, longer bus rides, larger class sizes, social, emotional and transitional issues. She questioned other ways that the district could save money, and asked that we wait for the recommendations from the newly established Mandate Committee before we make our decision.

Cathy O'Neil – 94 Maureen Drive addressed the Board regarding the Bingham School closure. Although she felt she knew what the outcome of tonight's vote will be, but she still wanted to make a statement. She has had one child graduate from Bingham, and she is sad that her younger son will not have the same opportunity. It is her opinion that education not only includes academics, music and arts, but also the sense of belonging and community, by closing Bingham the district is taking that away from the students. She feels that there has been backlash for the parents who have raised their concerns, but they have continued to come to meetings in an effort to support their children. She hopes that the transition will have a minimal impact on the children.

PUBLIC COMMENT – con't

Rebecca Warkoski – 606 Hill Street addressed the Board regarding the Bingham School closure, and the reality of what her children will face, and how she feels that the closure is inconsistent with what the district is trying to do by building the K-8 schools. According the latest model, her children will attend Ivy Drive. They will have adjusted to their new community, and then in a couple of years, they will be asked to transition again to the new K-8 or middle school with their old friends, some of which they will remember, and some the will not. We are spending millions of dollars to build the new schools to help lessen the transition for future children, yet there seems to be a disregard for the current students.

Sharon Bachand – 79 Terryville Avenue addressed the Board regarding the Bingham School closure. Her family has enjoyed Bingham school; it saddens her to hear that it may close. She felt that the closure came as a shock, they were unable to prepare. She feels that it is disrespectful and not a way to treat the school community. She is unhappy with the redistricting plan; she knows that her children will be better in a smaller school setting. If the closure is to happen, she needs to know so she can do other things. She has applied to the magnet schools, and is waiting to hear back. She is concerned about how her children will adjust with the closure.

DELIBERATED ITEMS**Clarence A. Bingham School Closure**

Dr. Streifer reiterated that this is not an easy decision to make, but based on the changes to the districts fiscal condition over the past six to nine months, it had become a necessity. He had to start looking at structural savings to our budgets. The Board of Education had a two part long term strategic plan in regards to finance. Beyond being as efficient as possible, the Board engaged in negotiations with all employees over the past two years, and thankfully most groups helped out, they initiated a retirement incentive plan, which was successful, but was not enough to close the finance gap. This closure needed to be brought forward because it is a structural savings. After looking at all of the issues, and hearing all of the comments, the administration would still like to recommend that the Board of Education approve the closure of Bingham School effective July 1, 2010 and to delegate the final development of a redistricting plan to a joint committee comprised of members from the Operations and Student Achievement Committees.

On motion by Commissioner O'Brien seconded by Commissioner Luczkow it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Board of Education approve the closure of Bingham School effective July 1, 2010 and to delegate the final development of a redistricting plan to a joint committee comprised of members from the Operations and Student Achievement Committee.

Discussion followed regarding the funding for the new schools, the difference between our operational costs and the school building funds, class sizes and what options parents will have in regards to their new district schools.

Enrollment Update

Dennis Bieu presented the Quarterly Enrollment Update. In looking at the numbers, there has been an increase of thirty (30) students at the elementary level, but the numbers at the high schools have remained the same since the October 1 Report.

Commissioner O'Brien suggested that this report be posted to the website for parents to view. Commissioner Bonola called attention to the first grade student numbers at Stafford, they appeared to be incorrect. Mr. Bieu stated that sometimes when they make revisions not all of the numbers change correctly.

Hat Day for Haiti

Rochelle Schwartz and student Jason Lipscomb from Mrs. Sarantides' class at Hubbell School addressed the board regarding a Hat Day for Haiti at Hubbell. It was his dad's idea, but he liked it and asked Mrs. Sarantides if the class could participate. He wrote a letter to the Board, with a little help from his class asking their permission.

Hat Day for Haiti – con't

Commissioners passed the letter around, and Chairman Doyle held it up for the audience to see. Hubbell is requesting a waiver of the hat policy to collect and donate money to Haiti.

On motion by Commissioner O'Brien seconded by Commissioner Luczkow it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Board of Education approve the Hat Day for Haiti at Hubbell School.

POLICY REVISIONS

Policy 5114 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process - Second Reading

On motion by Commissioner O'Brien seconded by Commissioner Anastasio it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Board of Education approve revisions to Policy 5114 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process.

Policy 6140 - Curriculum Design/Development/Review – Second Reading

On motion by Commissioner Turcotte seconded by Commissioner Luczkow it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Board of Education approve revisions to Policy 6140 - Curriculum Design/Development/Review.

Policy 6142.101 - Student Nutrition and Physical Activity - Second Reading

On motion by Commissioner Luczkow seconded by Commissioner Turcotte it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Board of Education approve revisions to Policy 6142.101 – Student Nutrition and Physical Activity.

Policy and Regulations Revision 3515 – Community Use of Facilities – First Reading

Dr. Moreau presented the Policy and Regulations Revision 3515 – Community Use of Facilities. This policy was last revised in 1996. Changes include elimination of outside groups renting school space for dances, fee waiver for City celebrations including Veteran's Day and Dr. Martin Luther King Day, inclusion of rental forms with the regulation and the division of the former policy into a policy and regulations.

This is the first reading of the policy. Please direct any questions to Dr. Moreau in the intervening month.

Policy and Regulation Revision 3453 –Student Activity Funds - First Reading

Dr. Moreau presented Policy and Regulation Revision 3453 –Student Activity Funds. She thanked Gretel Cote and her staff for their efforts in revising the policy guidelines. The revisions comply with audit recommendations. Gretel Cote will provide each school principal with a procedures manual which contains this policy and regulations.

This is the first reading of the policy. Please direct any questions to Dr. Moreau or Mrs. Cote in the intervening month.

CURRICULUM REVISIONS

High School TV Production

On motion by Commissioner Vibert seconded by Commissioner Coan it was unanimously

High School TV Production – con't

VOTED: That the Board of Education approve the High School TV Production curriculum.

Sidewalk Waiver

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

VOTED: That the Board of Education approve the sidewalk waiver at 24 Dell Manor Drive – Part C: Block #5 Redevelopment Subdivision.

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

Forestville Committee

Commissioner O'Brien reported that the Construction manager contract has finally been signed. There will be a community meeting will take place on February 22, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at Greene Hills School for parents and the community to see models and schematics of what the new school will look like, and ask any questions they may have.

West Bristol Committee

Commissioner Wilson reported that there will be a community briefing on March 1, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at Chippens Hill Middle School. The committee also reviewed the construction manager bid for the schematic design, and they are encouraged that they came in underbid. The committee also reviewed a commissioning of all the HVAC work and they will let a contract out for that work as well as the LEED certification.

Information

Commissioner Wilson reported that he attended the CREC monthly meeting. He received an application for The Center for Creative Youth. It is a 5 week program held at Wesleyan for students involved in Arts and Performance. He will pass it on to the Communication and Community Relations committee, to put it in their newsletter.

Commissioner Wilson also updated the Board on the Race to the Top Grant. There was a speaker from the State Department of Education and she outlined the entire process of the 600 page document that they have put forward for the Race to the Top Grant. She is very optimistic that the State of Connecticut will be looked upon favorably, but we need to know that it is a competitive grant and we may not meet all of the criteria.

Commissioner Wilson also told the Board of a three hour session held by the parents of the student recently killed in the bus accident going from Hartford to Farmington. The parents received permission to speak with the students about the joys of having and knowing Vikas. He hopes that we will never have to face such a situation, but if so we could draw from this experience. Although Commissioner Wilson did not attend, he was told that it was a remarkable event, everyone walked away thinking that these parents did more in the three hour session than any counselor could do.

Commissioner Wilson also left information at each Commissioners place for them to read at their leisure. It is information regarding CREC and their statistics. Commissioners may find it interesting to see the number of students who utilize the CREC services and facilities. The information also allows us to compare our numbers with the other thirty-five (35) towns that make up the CREC Council.

VOTE TO CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

VOTED: That the Board of Education convene into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing, Student Expulsions, BESA Negotiation Update and BAPS Arbitration. (7:57p.m.).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

PRESENT: Commissioners Jane Anastasio, Margaret Bonola, Amy Coan, Barbara Doyle, Julie Luczkow, Thomas O'Brien, Sherry Turcotte, Karen Vibert, Christopher Wilson; Philip A. Streifer, Superintendent of Schools, Susan Kalt Moreau, Deputy Superintendent, Kim Hapken, Interim Assistant Superintendent, Dennis Bieu, Human Resources Director, and Clifford Block, Council Liaison to the Board.

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

Student expulsions update were given.

A BESA Negotiation update was given.

A BAPS Arbitration update was given.

RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC SESSION

On motion of Commissioner Coan seconded by Commissioner Anastasio it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Board of Education reconvene into Public Session to vote on any items discussed in Executive Session. (9:05 p.m.)

ADJOURNMENT

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

VOTED: That the Board of Education meeting be adjourned. (9:05 p.m.)

Respectfully Submitted:

Susan P. Everett

Susan P. Everett
Board of Education Secretary