

Approved 4-8-2014

A. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER

In Attendance: Walt Petruniw, Stephen Brown, John Ellston, Pam Kerouack-Warner, Vivian Thumser, Christopher Lippke

Others Present: Dr. Lois Knapton, Superintendent, Janice Thurlow, Finance Director

Walt Petruniw called the Canterbury Board of Education meeting to order at 7:09pm.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. BMS –CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

The Superintendent introduced Kaye Jakan (reading intervention teacher at BMS) who presented a video on Read Across America in celebration of Dr. Seuss 100th Birthday.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of Minutes: Business Meeting, February 25, 2014

Second page change the word “weather” to “whether”

The Business Meeting minutes were approved as amended.

E. COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

None

F. ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS

None

G. COMMUNICATIONS TO BOE

Walt Petruniw read a letter from GuidePost Solutions LLC. talking about the CABA conference. The letter also stated GuidePost is now a business affiliate member of the Connecticut Association for the Board of Education.

H. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOL’S REPORT

1. 2014-2015 Budget

The Superintendent discussed the 2014-2015 budget and was happy to announce that the budget is now at a 3.78% increase (\$427,148) due to tuition final payments and insurance adjustments made. Dr. Knapton stated that there will be a joint meeting on March 25, 2014 with the BOE. The Superintendent

asked Bob Droesch if he knew what the mill rate would be with the increase; Mr. Droesch said about 1.1 mill increase.

Janice Thurlow discussed the 2014-2015 budget which included:

- Adjustment in high school tuition –regular education and special education.
- A 3.6% increase in medical insurance-which are fees and taxes from the Affordable Care Act which we have to pay.
- The Board and Janice Thurlow discussed the Affordable Care Act and Mrs. Thurlow suggested that it would be a good idea for the insurance co. to meet with the staff to explain the new Affordable Care Act taxes. Mrs. Thurlow stated that with the changes mentioned we are now requesting a \$427,148.00 increase over last year’s budget making our request \$11,714,522.
- Excess Cost- This will be discussed further in the future as this is revenue we receive but is not accounted for in the BOE budget. The Town does reimburse the school for this money when requested to do so.
- Heating Oil was discussed. There is no anticipated savings in fuel as the cold of this winter levels out the cost of fuel last year due to furnace issues.

Mr. Lippke asked if we have considered exploring another provider for electricity. Alternative fuel sources are being explored for the future including solar panels.

Motion: To accept the recommended changes and present to the BOF a 3.78% increase in the 2014-2015 budget.

By: John Ellston

Second: Vivian Thumser

Vote: S. Brown / C. Lippke / J. Ellston / P. Kerouack-Warner / V. Thumser / W. Petruniw

Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes

Motion passes.

2. Discussion regarding July 8, 2014 BOE Meeting; request to reschedule to July 22, 2014.

The Superintendent requested the July 8th BOE meeting be rescheduled to July 22, 2014 due to the July 4th holiday and vacations, with proper notification given.

Motion: To accept the Superintendents recommendation to reschedule the July 8, 2014, BOE Meeting to July 22, 2014.

By: Pam Kerouack-Warner

Seconded: Stephen Brown

Vote: S. Brown / C. Lippke / J. Ellston / P. Kerouack-Warner / V. Thumser / W. Petruniw

Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes

Motion passes.

3. Common Core Informational Video

The Superintendent presented a short video on the Common Core. The Superintendent stated that she has received a few requests from parents who want to opt their children out of the testing.

4. Update on Principal Search Committee

The Superintendent handed out a time-line and discussed the Principal Search for CES.

5. Additional Comments

The Superintendent stated that all staff will wear ID badges as of May, 2014.

I. BOE COMMITTEE REPORT

John Ellston discussed the Facility Committee Meeting which included:

- Solar panels for CES at no cost to the town of Canterbury and no damage to the roof. This recommendation will be presented to the Board of Selectman. Buying the electricity from the company will lower the current rate.
- Safety issues were also discussed including ID badges for all staff, safety precautions to the entrance ways at both schools. The Board will hold an Executive Session to discuss Safety in detail at a later date.

J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

K. NEW BUSINESS

1. Interviews of BOE Candidates

The candidates were individually called into open session to be interviewed. They were asked the same three questions.

The candidates in attendance were: Lynsey Malone and Tom Dufort.

Motion: To go into Executive Session (8:20pm) for the purpose of discussion of a personnel matter for the BOE.

By: Christopher Lippke

Seconded: John Ellston

Vote:	<u>S. Brown</u>	<u>/ C. Lippke</u>	<u>/ J. Ellston</u>	<u>/ P. Kerouack-Warner</u>	<u>/ V. Thumser</u>	<u>/ W. Petruniw</u>
	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion passes.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:40pm

Motion: To act on a selection of a BOE member to be selected by oral vote.

By: John Ellston

Seconded: Stephen Brown

Vote: For candidate Lynsey Malone

V. Thumser	Yes
C. Lippke	No
S. Brown	No
J. Ellston	No
P. Kerouack-Warner	Yes
W. Petruniw	No

2 Yes- 4 No

Vote:	For candidate Tom Dufort
V. Thumser	No
C. Lippke	Yes
S. Brown	Yes
J. Ellston	Yes
P. Kerouack-Warner	No
W. Petruniw	Yes

Vote: 4 Yes – 2 No

Mr. Tom Dufort was voted in to fill the vacancy on the BOE.

Walt Petruniw thanked both candidates for attending and submitting their letter of interest.

2. Introduction of Strategic Planning Process-Approval Requested

The Superintendent and the Board had a round table discussion regarding the Strategic Planning Process. Christopher Lippke and Vivian Thumser volunteered to be part of the committee.

Motion: To move forward with the Strategic Planning Process with the Superintendent to bring forward additional information at the next BOE meeting on March 25, 2014.

By: John Ellston

Seconded: Vivian Thumser

Vote: S. Brown / C. Lippke / J. Ellston / P. Kerouack-Warner / V. Thumser / W. Petruniw
 Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes

Motion passes.

L. COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

Bob Droesch asked the Board when they would elect a Secretary to the Board, the Board stated that Pam Kerouack-Warner had been nominated and accepted the position at the last BOE meeting. Mr. Droesch also asked the Board why it does not have alternates; Walt Petruniw informed that the State Statues do not require BOE's to have alternates. The Superintendent will research this further. Mr. Droesch also complimented the school presentation delivered at the beginning of the meeting.

M. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 9:01pm by Stephen Brown

Respectfully submitted,
 Pam Kerouack-Warner, Secretary to the Board