

BOARD OF EDUCATION
CANTERBURY, CONNECTICUT

Date: March 20, 2018

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Dr. Helen Baldwin Middle School-Media Center

Draft

A. Call of Quorum and Pledge of Allegiance

In Attendance from the Board of Education (BOE): Vivian Thumser; Chairperson, John Gentry, Vice-Chairperson; Nancy Duvall, Secretary; Tom Dufort; Bridgett LaBrecque

Absent: Leticia Velasquez Late: Walt Petruniw @7:37 p.m.

Others Present: Lois DaSilva-Knapton, Superintendent; Ryan Earley, BMS Principal; Sarah Cary, Principal; and Janice Thurlow, Finance Director

Vivian Thumser, Chairperson called the Board of Education meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. Special Purpose/Recognition

1 .BOE Appreciation Month

The Superintendent thanked the Board members for their hard work and many dedicated hours.

C. Comments from Visitors

Question regarding makeup days, the Superintendent suggested that we add make-up days to the Agenda under Item E-9 Superintendent Comments -d. Additional Comments.

D. Presentations and Actions

1. 2017-2018 Budget Discussion

The Superintendent discussed the 2017-2018 budget and explained that we will need additional money to get through the end of the 2017-2018 budget to keep it at 0%.or a little above balance. We have the possible \$250,000 from MBR. Mrs. Thurlow discussed high school students changing schools which impacts the tuition. We are waiting for information from the BOF regarding the \$250,000 noncompliance MBR issue.

2. 2018-2019 Budget Discussion

The Superintendent reviewed the 2018-2019 budget with a 1.6 % increase.

Mrs. Thurlow, Finance Director, stated that the Department of Education said our MBR needs to be \$250,000 higher.

Other discussions included:

- Medical insurance (open enrollment)
- Special Education tuition
- Increase in transportation salary
- Salary increase
- Increase in regular education tuition
- Special Education diagnostic evaluations
- Increase in liability insurance
- School safety insurance

Total of \$250,836

Motion: To accept the appropriations of \$250,836 as stated.

By: Tom Dufort

Second: John Gentry

All in favor

Motion passes

Motion: To accept the 2018-2019 school budget in the amount of \$11,363,738 with a 1.6% increase

By: Tom Dufort

Second: Bridgett LaBrecque

All in favor

Motion passes

3. BOE Student Representatives Discussion

Mr. Dufort discussed the process of having BOE student representatives, having them discuss their concerns and what is going on in their high school, middle school and elementary school. The students would attend BOE meeting and bring forth information. Mr. Earley stated he would do some research regarding BOE student representatives.

4. Policies Second Read

- a. Policy 5141.3 Health Assessments & Immunizations
- b. Policy 4111 Recruitment and Selection
- c. Policy 4112.2 Certification
- d. Policy 6146.2 Statewide Proficiency/Mastery Examinations
- e. Policy 2141 Recruitment & Appointment of Superintendent
- f. Policy 3541.3 Transportation -Routes and Service
- g. Policy 5125 Student Records; Confidentiality
- h. Policy 4131 Staff Development
- i. Policy 6111 School Calendar
- j. Policy 5141.4 Reporting Child Abuse, Neglect & Sexual Assault
- k. Policy 9230 New Board Member Orientation

- l. Policy 5113 Attendance/Excuses/Dismissal
- m. Policy 5113.2 Introduction and Definitions
- n. Policy 6172.1 Gifted Children Program

Motion: To accept the above policies a-n as a second read with revision to Policy 4131, 4112.2, and 4111.

By: Walt Petruniw

Second: Tom Dufort

All in favor

Motion passes

E. Committee Reports/Correspondence to the Board

1. Roof Committee

Mr. Petruniw stated he spoke regarding the Baldwin roof, at the “un meeting” (this was a BOF meeting without a quorum that happened last week).

We are still waiting for a motion to be made by the BOF to send the question onto a Town meeting or referendum. Our deadline is April 18, 2018, the temporary State Grant application expires.

2. Policy Committee

Next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for March 27, 2018

3. Facility Committee

No meeting scheduled.

4. EASTCONN

Mr. Petruniw discussed the monthly meeting at EASTCONN and stated he would email the Board members the information.

5. Paraeducator Negotiations Information

The paraeducators contract requested to allow the contract to stand still make no changes until next school year.

Motion: To extend the paraeducator contract as is through the June 2019 School year. To reestablish a releasable date for negotiations prior to December 2019 or sooner.

By: Tom Dufort

Second: Walt Petruniw

All in favor

Motion passes

6. MBR Response Letter

The Superintendent read the MBR response letter into the BOE minutes.

7. FOI Response Letter to Mr. Sulich

The Superintendent read the FOI response letter to Mr. Sulich into the BOE minutes.

8. Letter Requesting Agenda Item BOF

The Superintendent read the letter requesting Agenda item BOF into the BOE minutes.

9. Superintendent's Comments

a. Enrollment

Enrollment is up by 5 students

b. Administrator's Report

Ms. Cary, CES Principal, discussed different activities at the elementary school including:

- Parent teacher conferences
- PTO
- Curriculum
- Science Kid's Club
- Technology

Mr. Earley, discussed activities at the middle school including the following::

- Winter Olympics
- Pajama Day
- BMS School Wide Expectations
- Empty Bowls Project
- Curriculum
- Technology

The Superintendent review the Pupil Service report.

c. CT School Finance Project Information

A meeting regarding the CT School Finance Project Information will be held on March 27, 6:00 pm-BMS Media Center.

d. Additional Comments

Superintendent explains how we will make up our snow days. To date we have used 11 snow day, have made up 3 days. We will add 8 days to the last day of school which will bring us to be June 22, 2018. State of Connecticut Board of Education will not allow school on weekends or extending the school days, and cannot go to school on any holidays in December and January.

The Superintendent handed out letters of resignation on the following employees:

Henry Turenne, Custodian resigned as of April 1, 2018, Paraeducators Nancy Beauchemin and Janet Trombley, resigning as of June 30, 2018, and Linda Bychowsky, Pupil Service secretary resigning as of March 30th.

Motion: To accept with regret the resignations of the above staff members.

By: John Gentry

Second: Tom Dufort

All in favor

Motion passes

F. Consent Agendas

1. Special Meeting Minutes - February 13, 2018
2. Regular Meeting Minutes-February 13, 2018
3. Special Meeting-Budget-February 27, 2018

The above meeting minutes were approved as printed By: Walt Petruniw; second: Tom Dufort.

Dr. Knapton inquired how the BOE CIP committee members are informed about Upcoming

CIP meetings due to numerous CIP meetings being held without BOE representation.

Ms. Thurmsler will email the CIP chairperson regarding upcoming CIP meeting dates.

G. Comments from Visitors

- Parent thanked the Board regarding returning email, and being committed.
- Would like to know about the \$250,000 in MBR money that is due and the penalty for going under the MBR.
- BOE Student representatives
- Citizen inquired about an avenue to voice their opinions. The Superintendent stated she previously held Superintendent's Cabinet and would be willing to bring it back
- Citizens are asking why should we fund the schools more if they are not performing well.
- Comment regarding town leaders being negligent and she would be willing to ask for the BOF chairperson resignation.
- Bob Droesch stated how important it is to preserve Dr. Helen Baldwin School
- Superintendent Knapton stated it will cost the town about \$350,000 to repair the roof.

H. Executive Session

1. Personal Issue-Incentive Plans-Invite Superintendent

Motion: To enter into Executive Session at 9:00 p.m. For the purpose of discussing Incentive Plans and invite the Superintendent.

By: John Gentry

Second: Walt Petruniw

All in favor

Motion passes

The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:30 p.m.

I. Adjournment

Motion To adjourn at 9:31 p.m.
By: John Gentry
Second: Tom Dufort
All in Favor
Motion passes

Respectfully submitted (on behalf of the Board via audio-recording) by:
Dottie Horn
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent