

BARKHAMSTED BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING – OCTOBER 2, 2017

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: T. Brodnitzki, J. Prelli-Hester, D. Beaudoin, R. Brainard, K. Nelson

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: S. Nanni, B. McQueen

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: J. Linton, Superintendent
K. Plocki, Principal
E. Sacharko, Curriculum Coordinator

OTHERS PRESENT: K. West, Parent
B. Raccuia, Teacher/Parent
D. Farr, Parent/BOE candidate
K. Mann, Parent/BOE candidate
C. Shaw, Parent/BOE candidate
J. Kreske, Teacher/Community member

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 P.M. by Vice-Chair, T. Brodnitzki.

K. Plocki provided an update on a successful start to the new school year. The Kindness Club raised \$446.25 for those affected by the recent hurricanes and is focused on raising awareness this month on ways to support anti-bullying. The PTO has been active and busy with picture days, a movie night, and an Anti-Bullying Assembly. She also reviewed grade level curriculum and upcoming professional development days for staff. The fifth grade White Memorial trip is this week (10/2-10/5), regional Science PD on Oct. 6th, Fire Prevention Program on 10/13 and the Senior Citizen Luncheon/Community Open House on 10/20. Another concern brought up was the increase in drivers not stopping at bus stops when the bus is picking up/dropping off students. She has contacted the local state trooper and the town hall and all are working on ways to combat this.

The District Goals for 2017-18 were reviewed with the Board by K. Plocki and E. Sacharko.

K. Nelson was sworn in by First Selectman, D. Stein, prior to the BOE meeting.

MOTION by R. Brainard, **seconded** J. Prelli-Hester, “to approve K. Nelson’s appointment to complete the term of K. Rascati”. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

MOTION by D. Beaudoin, **seconded** by R. Brainard, “to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Aug. 28, 2017, with the following correction: to make note that K. Rascati did send a letter of resignation”. **MOTION CARRIES:4-0-1. ABSTAINING:** J. Prelli-Hester.

MOTION by J. Prelli-Hester, **seconded** by R. Brainard, “to approve and adopt the following policy revisions”:

- #4111 – Personnel Certified – Recruitment and Selection
- #4112.5 – Personnel Certified/Non-Certified – Security Check/Fingerprinting
- #5118.1 – Students - Homeless Students
- #6142.101 – Instruction – Student Nutrition and Physical Activity (Student Wellness)

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

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J. Linton presented a Collaboration paper from CAFE, CASBO, CAPSS, and CAS entitled, “What Will Our Children Lose?” to show the benefits of having local Superintendents, keeping the MBR (minimum budget requirement), reimbursements for special education funding, and teacher retirement liability. The article was presented for informational purposes only.

The request from the custodial staff was tabled for now.

J. Linton told the Board that electricity costs continue to be very low due to the solar panel project.

The Bills Paid and Budget Expended Reports for September 2017 were reviewed with the Board. J. Linton spoke about the upcoming Senior Luncheon and Community Open House on Oct. 20th. D. Beaudoin suggested that a thank you note should be sent to P. Cardascia for thinking creatively to figure out a way to be able to get to school after an accident in which she broke her wrist and was restricted from driving. She also mentioned trying to find creative ways to save money since we still do not have a state budget in place. J. Linton will also look into again the possibility of the school being able to accept donations. He and K. Plocki are reviewing all spending requests by staff members to determine the urgency or necessity at this time.

During the Public Portion there was discussion around the safety concerns with drivers not adhering to the traffic laws which require all vehicles to **stop** for a “standing” school bus with its lights and stop sign on while picking up or dropping off students.

MOTION by D. Beaudoin, **seconded** by J. Prelli-Hester, “to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing a formal complaint filed by a parent concerning a bus stop” at 8:05 P.M. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

MOTION by R. Brainard, seconded by D. Beaudoin, “to exit executive session”. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**
The Board exited executive session at 8:16 P.M.

The Board was notified in executive session of a formal complaint by a parent concerning a bus stop. Further discussion was tabled due to pending litigation over this matter. The parents have stated that they are contacting an attorney.

MOTION by D. Beaudoin, **seconded** by R. Brainard, “to adjourn this regular meeting of the Board of Education” at 8:16 P.M. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education adjourned at 8:17 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Prelli-Hester,
Secretary

THESE ARE NOT APPROVED MINUTES. SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL AT THE NEXT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING.

NEXT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS:

November 6, 2017 – Workshop Meeting – 6:30 P.M. – SBAC Presentation
November 6, 2017 – Regular Meeting – 7:00 P.M.