

**RECEIVED**

**AUG 27 2007**

TOWN OF BETHEL  
TOWN CLERK

Tentative minutes of the **Bethel Board of Education Regular Meeting** held on **August 23, 2007**, in Board of Education Conference Room E.

Attendance: None

Administrative Attendance: G. Chesley, J. Jordan, T. Yonsky, L. Pica, B. Germinaro

M. Knickerbocker, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

1. **Call to Order**

***A. Roll Call for Quorum***

Board Members Present: S. Carlsen, J. DeRosa, S. Holmberg, W. Kingston, M. Knickerbocker, A. Pedone

Board Members Absent: F. De Nigris, S. Holmes, R. Renner

***B. Pledge Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America***

2. **Approval of Minutes**

***A. June 21, 2007***

**Motion by A. Pedone: Move to approve the minutes of June 21, 2007 as corrected.  
Seconded by B. Kingston  
Motion Carried Unanimously**

3. **Board Recognition/A Salute to Excellence**

***A. Gifts to School System***

**Berry School**

- Books donated by Barbara Kalthoff, Bethel, CT 06801

4. **Correspondence**

- Memo from the Board of Finance to the Board of Education regarding return of excess funds request.
- Letter from NEASC regarding the evaluation date for Bethel High School.

5. **Administrative/Board Member Update**

- Dr. Chesley reviewed the New Teacher Orientation with the Board. Local businesses were very cooperative and came out to meet the new teachers. Pat Smithwick, Chamber of Commerce President, gave the new teachers discount cards to area businesses. Linda Pica, Director of Special Education reviewed the special education laws, Dr. Chesley and Dr. Jordan spoke on planning and

classroom management, and Derek Muharem, Assistant Principal, gave a workshop on sexual harassment. Sherri Holmberg and Betty Avery gave a workshop on Blood Borne Pathogens.

- Dr. Chesley reviewed the Parent Pledge Form for Bethel High School families.
- Dr. Chesley informed the Board of Education they need to take action to pass a Resolution that is required by the federal government regarding nondiscrimination in our partnership with WCSU.

**Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to approve the Resolution showing the Board's commitment to nondiscrimination.**  
**Seconded by S. Holmberg**  
**Motion Carried Unanimously**

*RESOLVED: That the Bethel Board of Education hereby adopts as its policy to support the nondiscrimination agreements and warranties required under Connecticut General Statutes § 4a-60(a)(1) and § 4a-60a(a)(1), as amended in State of Connecticut Public Act 07-245 and sections 9(a)(1) and 10(a)(1) of Public Act 07-142.*

- Dr. Chesley reviewed the Class of 2007 Statistical Report.
- Dr. Chesley informed the Board the Continuing Education Booklet has been published. Education to Go (Ed2go) has been instituted in the program and allows us to offer online courses.
- Dr. Chesley reviewed the progress at the high school.
  - Sidewalk will be finished on Friday, August 24.
  - Preliminary asphalt will be done on the driveway.
  - Kitchen/Cafe will be cleaned on Saturday, August 25.
  - The kitchen will not be available August 28-September 3. Pizza and brown bag lunches will be available.
  - Bathrooms are finished downstairs.
  - No technology downstairs until October.
  - Freshmen were in the building today for Freshmen Orientation.
  - High school should be ready for Tuesday, August 27.
  - Bethel High School Open House will be held Wednesday, September 5, 2007.

6. **Audience Participation**

None

7. **Reports to the Board**

**A. Personnel****1. Resignations/LOA**

**Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to approve the following personnel resignations:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Resignation Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
Anna Allender	7/11/2007	Berry School	Special Ed. Teacher
Amy Atkinson	6/30/2007	Berry School	Speech-Language Path.
Trevor Becker	6/30/2007	High School	Physical Science Teacher
Christopher Carley	7/13/2007	High School	Chemistry Teacher
Catherine Ermann	6/30/2007	High School	Physical Science Teacher
Lorin Fogelson	8/15/2007	Rockwell School	.58 Kindergarten Teacher
Tanya Herring	7/12/2007	Johnson School	Grade 4 Teacher
Sharon Hrabcsak	8/23/2007	Johnson School	Grade 5 Teacher
Daniel Luciano	7/23/2007	Berry School	Grade 3 Teacher
Barbara Findley	6/30/2007	High School	Mentor Coordinator
Robert Findley	6/30/2007	High School	Math Teacher
Matthew Miller	7/17/2007	High School	English Teacher
Adrienne Mitchell	8/8/2007	Middle School	Reading/LA Grade 6
Julie Overland	8/10/2007	Middle School	Music Teacher
Krista Ruby	7/27/2007	Johnson School	Special Ed. Teacher
Elissa Scudder	6/30/2007	Middle School	Science Teacher

Seconded by B. Kingston

Motion Carried Unanimously

**2. Appointments**

**Motion by A. Pedone: Move to approve the following personnel appointments:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
Shane Peters	Middle School Music
Christy Bibb	Rockwell Grade 3 Teacher
Nancy Brown	High School SE
Rachael Chavez	Middle School English
Gregory Clark	High School Biology/Physical Science
Blakely Cohen	Middle School Grade 6 LA Teacher
Diane Dean	Johnson Special Ed Teacher
Kristen Dirzius	High School English Teacher
Kara Dolan	Berry Special Ed (COF) Teacher
Irene Drake	Rockwell Grade 3 Teacher
Venessa Eisenman	High School English Teacher
Jessica Gomes	High School Math Teacher
Allanah Greco	Berry K Teacher
Kaylyn Guardarrama	High School Spanish Teacher
Marc Kenney	High School English Teacher
Kathleen McGowan	High School Math Teacher
Heather Monte	Berry Special Education Teacher
Bridget O'Donnell	High Special Education Teacher

<b>Kathleen Orcutt</b>	<b>Berry Special Education Teacher</b>
<b>Betty Santiago</b>	<b>Rockwell Reading Teacher</b>
<b>Joseph Shaboo</b>	<b>High School Math Teacher</b>
<b>Zoe Sochor</b>	<b>Middle Grades 7+8 English Teacher</b>
<b>Wyatt Teubert</b>	<b>High Physical Science Teacher</b>
<b>Lisa Vance</b>	<b>Berry Circle of Friends</b>
<b>Danielle Westervelt-Crane</b>	<b>Johnson Special Ed</b>
<b>Eric Williams</b>	<b>High School Social Studies</b>
<b>Seconded by S. Carlsen</b>	
<b>Motion Carried Unanimously</b>	

**3. Teacher Evaluation Update**

Mr. Kingston reviewed the Teacher Evaluation Program saying it is based on the book "Professional Practice." This program is an improvement over the current teacher evaluation system and recommends the new program.

Mrs. Holmberg expressed that she was impressed with the amount of training given to new teachers at orientation.

***B. Curriculum***

**1. Presentation: Power Standards, Grade 6**

Mrs. DeRosa reviewed the Power Standards, Grade 6, saying keyboarding has been added in 6<sup>th</sup> grade and science will be on the CMT for the first time in March.

<b>Motion by J. DeRosa: Move to approve the Power Standards, Grade 6 as recommended by the Curriculum Subcommittee.</b>
<b>Seconded by S. Holmberg</b>
<b>Motion Carried Unanimously</b>

**2. Presentation: World History Textbooks, Grades 6 & 7**

<b>Motion by J. DeRosa: Move to approve the World History Textbooks, Grades 6 &amp; 7, as recommended by the Curriculum Subcommittee.</b>
<b>Seconded by A. Pedone</b>
<b>Motion Carried Unanimously</b>

**3. Presentation: Science Supplemental Texts, Grades 4 & 5**

The Science Supplemental Texts, Grades 4 & 5 was tabled.

**4. Presentation: BHS Business Law Textbook**

**Motion by J. DeRosa: Move to approve Business & Personal Law Textbook as recommended by the Curriculum Subcommittee.  
Seconded by S. Holmberg  
Motion Carried Unanimously**

***C. Finance***

**1. Salary Account**

**Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to table C- 1. - Salary Account.  
Seconded by A. Pedone  
Motion Carried Unanimously**

**2. Education Cost Sharing Grant**

Dr. Chesley and Teri Yonsky, Director of Fiscal Services, reviewed the Education Cost Sharing (ECS) Grant with the Board. The ECS are funds the State gives back to the Town. There has been a change in the formula and appropriations for 2007-2008 have gone up. The increase for Bethel is \$441,000.

Members of the Board suggested that ECS and special education expenditures be explained to the community via Bethel ED TV and newsletters.

**3. Education Budgets in Connecticut**

Dr. Chesley reviewed area education budgets with the Board.

**4. 2006-2007 Year-End Closing**

Mr. Carlsen stated the Finance Subcommittee recommends to the Board approval of the transfers as delineated in the August 23, 2007 memo from Teri Yonsky, Director of Fiscal Services. Mr. Carlsen stated net cumulative transfers for the 2006/2007 fiscal year resulted in a net un-audited under expenditure of \$32,004, which the Finance Subcommittee Committee recommends to the Board of Education be returned to the Town.

**Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to approve year-end transfers as outlined and recommended by the Finance Subcommittee Chair.  
Seconded by B. Kingston  
Motion Carried Unanimously**

**Motion by S. Carlsen: Move that the net un-audited surplus of \$32,004, be returned to the Town general fund as recommended by the Finance Subcommittee.  
Seconded by J. DeRosa  
Motion Carried Unanimously**

***D. School Facilities  
1. Facilities Update***

Mr. Germinaro, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds updated the Board on progress made at the high school and complimented the custodians on a great job this summer.

- Elevator is in and waiting for inspection on Monday, August 27. Kone will provide an elevator operator for the students if the inspection is not done on Monday.
- Kitchen/Cafe area were inspected and approved today by the Building Inspector and Fire Marshall.
- The Ancell system will be inspected tomorrow, Friday, August 24.
- Cafe seating area – tables and chairs were pulled temporarily from other areas. All students will have a seat.
- Cafe floor received approval to clean.
- Classrooms have furniture in them.
- Floor downstairs is tiled.
- Wildcats Program room has carpeting.
- Floors will be cleaned.
- Fire and pull stations have been tested and are waiting for inspection.
- Lighting is in place.
- Upstairs is ready.

Dr. Chesley informed the Board about illegal dumping in the dumpsters on school property. The Board discussed requesting an ordinance to prohibit dumping in the dumpsters on town-owned property.

**Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to approve letter to the First Selectman requesting an Ordinance to prohibit dumping on town-owned property.  
Seconded by B. Kingston  
Motion Carried Unanimously**

- E. Policies/Regulations –  
1. Second Reading/Adoption***
- Policy/Regulation 6145.3
  - By Laws, Series 9000

**Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to approve Policy/Regulation 6145.3 & By Laws, Series 9000**  
**Seconded by J. DeRosa**  
**Motion Carried Unanimously**

Mr. Knickerbocker announced that Arleen Pedone, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President for CABA, will be running for President and requested the Board endorse Mrs. Pedone to run for President of CABA.

**Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to endorse Arleen Pedone to run for the position of President for CABA.**  
**Seconded by S. Holmberg**  
**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**8. Adjourn**

**Motion by J. DeRosa: Move to adjourn at 8:55 p.m.**  
**Seconded by A. Pedone**  
**Motion Carried Unanimously**

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Paré  
Board Recorder