

Tentative minutes of the **Bethel Board of Education Regular Meeting** held on **Thursday, January 24, 2008**, in Board of Education Conference Room E.

Attendance: Jen Larsen

Administrative Attendance: G. Chesley, T. Yonsky, P. Cosentino, D. DeBlois, K. Gombos, G. Lawlor, D. Muharem, L. Pica, K. Rockwell, C. Troetti, K. Smith

B. Kingston, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

1. **Call to Order**

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

Board Members Present: S. Carlsen (7:32 p.m.), L. Craybas, J. DeRosa, M. Duff, K. Harrison, B. Kingston, M. Knickerbocker, B. Foulk, R. Renner

Board Members Absent: None

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

2. **Approval of Minutes**

A. ***January 10, 2008***

Motion by M. Knickerbocker: Move to approve the minutes of January 10, 2008 as amended.

Seconded by J. DeRosa

Motion Carried Unanimously

3. **Correspondence**

- Letter from B. Kingston, Board of Education Chairman, to G. Roche, BHS Building Committee, thanking the building committee for updating the Board of Education on the progress of the BHS renovation.
- Press release from Governor Rell's office announcing School Security Grant awards. Berry and Rockwell schools were awarded grant funds.

4. **Administrative/Board Member Update**

Dr. Chesley informed the Board that he and the BHS administration have reached an agreement with Naugatuck Valley Community College. The junior class will visit the college to see what courses will be available to them in their senior year. N.V.C.C. offers courses not available in Bethel. Aviation, automotive, and technology courses are some which will be available. Students will be able to get high school and college credit for courses taken. N.V.C.C. graduates receiving a 3.0 GPA are given automatic acceptance to UCONN. N.V.C.C. also offers support services for students with learning disabilities. N.V.C.C. will be opening a new 12,000 sq. ft. center in Danbury.

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TOWN CLERK**

Dr. Chesley distributed an article from N.A.S.S.P. he and Dr. Jordan wrote titled "Five Steps to Building Great Young Teachers."

5. **Audience Participation**

None

6. **Reports to the Board**

A. ***Curriculum***

1. ***CAPT Review***

Dr. Chesley discussed with the Board the CAPT test and score history. Mr. Troetti, Assistant Principal explained how the test changes over time. Dr. Jordan will go into detail after Board members have a chance to review the material provided to them.

B. ***Personnel***

1. ***Leave of Absence***

**Motion by M. Knickerbocker: Move to approve the following Leaves of Absences:
Stacey Bianco, Grade 4 Teacher, effective 1/18/08 – 3/31/08
Katarzyna Bittner, Special Education Teacher, effective 2/29/08 - 6/31/08
Seconded by S. Carlsen
Motion Carried Unanimously**

C. ***Policy***

1. ***Regulation 4010.2– Restraint and Seclusion of Persons at Risk
(Does not require Board approval.)***

2. ***Second Reading/Adoption:***

- ***Policy 6172.3, Home Schooling Under Parental Direction***
- ***Policy 5122, Student Assignments to Classes***
- ***Regulation 5122.3, Assignment of Former Home-Schooled Students to Classes***

**Motion by M. Knickerbocker: Move to approve Policy 6172.3, Home Schooling Under Parental Direction.
Seconded by S. Carlsen
Motion Carried Unanimously**

**Motion by M. Knickerbocker: Move to approve Policy 5122, Student Assignments to Classes.
Seconded by S. Carlsen
Motion Carried Unanimously**

D. Discussion

1. Vision Statements

The Board discussed four themes of the vision. Board members agreed it is important to include parents and the community in the vision. The Board discussed working with the PTOs, and creating focus groups to help create a vision to include parents.

Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to meet again on the vision statements before the middle of February.

Seconded by J. DeRosa

Motion Carried Unanimously

Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to amend the motion to meet before February 29, 2008.

Seconded by M. Knickerbocker

Motion Carried Unanimously

Mr. Duff, School Facilities Subcommittee Chairman, reviewed the subcommittee meeting with the Board. Mr. Duff was pleased with the meeting and is scheduling facility tours with the committee. Mr. Duff also reviewed the CAFE Legislative Breakfast he attended with several Board members.

7. Action Items

1. *Selection of a Saturday meeting date*

The purpose of scheduling this meeting is to get a different audience to attend than the audience who attends an evening meeting. Mr. Craybas stated that agenda will need to be more focused to show how their tax dollars are working.

Motion by B. Kingston: Move to approve Saturday, April 5, 2008 at 9:00 AM as a Saturday meeting date.

Seconded by M. Duff

AYE: S. Carlsen, L. Craybas, J. DeRosa, M. Duff, K. Harrison, B. Kingston, B. Foulk, R. Renner

NAY: None

Abstain: M. Knickerbocker

Motion Carried

Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to replace the April 10, 2008 Board of Education meeting with the Saturday, April 5, 2008 meeting.

Seconded by J. DeRosa

Motion Carried Unanimously

Ms. Yonsky, Director of Fiscal Services informed the Board Monday, February 25, 2008, the Board of Education budget will be presented to the Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen.

8. Adjourn

Motion by R. Renner: Move to adjourn at 9:03 p. m.
Seconded by M. Knickerbocker
Motion Carried Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Paré
Board Recorder