

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
CANTERBURY, CONNECTICUT**

Date: Tuesday, September 11, 2018

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Dr. Helen Baldwin Middle School-Media Center

Approved 10/9/2018

A. Call of Quorum and Pledge of Allegiance

In attendance from the Board of Education (BOE): Vivian Thumser, Chairperson;
Walt Petruniw, Tom Dufort, Bridgett LaBrecque, Leticia Velasquez

Absent: John Gentry, Nancy Duvall

Others Present: Dr. Lois DaSilva-Knapton, Superintendent; Sarah Cary, Principal CES;
Ryan Earley, Principal BMS; Jeff Ferranti, Pupil Service Director

Vivian Thumser, Chairperson called the Board of Education meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

B. Special Purpose

None

C. Comments from Visitors

Are the administrators, teachers and all employees required to take a class on sexual harassment? The Chairperson said they will bring back the question.

D. Presentations & Actions

1. Retirement/Resignation Letters

Motion: To accept the resignation letters from Jason Lathrop, Director of Finance, Erin Quinn, 7&8th grade math teacher (last day is September 21st), and Norma Wickiser, Bus Driver (last day September 14th).

By: Walt Petruniw

Second: Tom Dufort

BOE member discussed why the district is losing many employees. Mr. Petruniw, BOE member suggested that exit survey be sent to the BOE members, a discussion talk with our attorney regarding if this would be allowed. Mr. Dufort said he is uncomfortable discussing specific personnel issues.

Ayes 4

Abstained 1

Motion passes

E. Committee Reports/Correspondence to the Board

1. Formation of New Committees

- a. Pupil Services Committee
- b. Finance Committee
- c. Curriculum Committee

Vivian Thumser, BOE Chairperson handed out material and discussed the formation of new committees. Ms. Thumser stated the committees will be opened to the public. The meetings will be held every other month with minutes taken.

Mrs. Thumser, Board Chairperson appointed the following Board members to the following committees:

John Gentry and Nany Duvall - Finance Committee

Leticia Velasquez and Tom Dufort - Curriculum and Pupil Service Committee

Remove Tom Dufort off the Teachers negotiations as he is a member of the CEA Union. Ms. Thumser stated she will be on the Teachers Negotiations.

2. Roof Committee

Mr. Petruniw discussed DDHBMS roof. The Roof Committee review all the emails and progress of the roof. Superintendent stated that she has been in contact with the Town Treasurer, First Selectman, and BOF. The roof should be completed in November, she feels it would not take more than 4 years to pay off the loan. The choice of the Bank will come from the Town Treasurer and the First Selectman. The Board can only make a recommendation regarding the loan for the roof. The Board stated they have reviewed and been informed regarding the bank loan information.

Motion: To allow the Superintendent to represent the Board in regards to the loan proposals to go along with the Roof Committees recommendation.

By: Walt Petruniw

Second: Bridgett LaBrecque

All in favor

Motion passes

3. Policy Committee

A Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for October 17, 2018

4. Facility Committee

In the process of scheduling a meeting in October
Working on scheduling a date

5. EASTCONN

Mr. Petruniw, discussed the departing of staff at EASTCONN, how schools in general have a lot of movement.

Fingerprinting required for all applicants. Next meeting is September 25th.

6. Superintendent's Comments

a. Enrollment

Enrollment is holding steady. We will see on October 1, 2018 where we stand.

b. Administrators Report

Mr. Earley, principal BMS discussed the following topics:

- Great start to the new school year
- Scheduling changes-based on needs of students
- Bull Dog Block-teachers plan and meet vertical-students have choices in areas they want
- Technology, Mr. Simkowski looking at joining the "Invention Convention", 3-D printing and robotics.
- Music-Mr. Beit, chorus and band -35 students are signed up for band
- Art, Mrs. Rizer will continue the "Empty Bowls component"
- PE-Mr. Cheesman will utilize the fitness room
- Foreign language- advance Spanish during Bulldog block, pilot program on-line foreign language, Korean, German, French and sign language
- Map test assembly (informational)

Ms. Cary, principal CES discussed the following topics:

- Good start to the beginning of the school year
- Open house
- PTO ice cream social
- Safety drills
- Focusing on routine
- Nyack program
- Mental Health Grant
- new report card-piloted this year
- Picture day is tomorrow

Mr. Ferranti, Director of Pupil Services discussed the following topics:

- Handed out a document "What will I do in my first 80 days"
- Transportation
- Growth mind set (you can learn something else)
- United Way two and one system
- Social media
- Positive experience in Canterbury

c. Additional Comments

The SBAC scores are out and we will continue to review the reports.

The Superintendent thank the Board for their stability and how the admin are role models.

F. Consent Agenda

1. Regular Meeting Minutes – August 14, 2018

The minutes were approved as printed. By: Walt Petruniw Second: Tom Dufort
The Superintendent recommend that the minutes be signed by the Board secretary.

The Board discussed “Comments from Visitors” and how the Board should handle the questions from the visitors.

G. Comments from Visitors

Beth O’Connor, BMS teacher asked how the question from a Board member will be handled regarding staff exiting.

Concern regarding the SBAC 5th Grade math scores.

The SBAC scores were discussed.

H. Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 8:45 pm By: Leticia Velasquez Second: Brigett LaBrecque