

BROOKFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Meeting of Tuesday, November 10, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brain Oxman, Chair/Secretary

Marie Pecore, Committee Member/Tantasqua Representative

Gary Brunell - Committee Member

ALSO PRESENT:

Jeff Zanghi, Assistant Superintendent; Kathleen Hosterman, Principal; teachers and members of the community.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

Motion 14-48

Mrs. Pecore moved, seconded by Mr. Oxman, to approve the minutes of October 14, 2014 Regular Session.

Discussion:

VOTE: Unanimous

Motion 14-49

Mrs. Pecore moved, seconded by Mr. Oxman, to approve the minutes of October 14, 2014 Executive Session.

Discussion:

VOTE: Unanimous

FINANCIAL REPORT

No significant variances

PTO REPORT

- Finished Successful Fundraiser recently - Gift Wrap
- Brookfield Apparel Order- Sweatshirts, etc.
- PTO provided luncheon/dinner to the staff
- Calendar fundraiser - The calendars will be selling for \$10, each day contains a chance to win a donation from local businesses; will start on Black Friday
- Brookfield Cultural Program applied for Grant - "Mike the Bubble Man"
- Holiday Gift Cards - Selling will start next week

PUBLIC ACCESS I

None

COMMUNICATIONS

Memo form D. Boyd re; FY16 School Budget Liaisons – FYI provided in packet

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mrs. Hosterman reviewed the Principal's Report; which was included in the packet. The full report is available for review.

Highlights:

- Parent Teacher Conferences took place on Wednesday, October 22nd
- Special thanks extended to the PTO for providing portable soccer nets that students could use during recess
- Veteran's Day - Mrs. Hosterman noted the importance of the day and discussed with students why we observe the day.
- Successful evacuation week

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Zanghi provided an overview of the "Go Math" Program which was piloted last year along with "Envision Math" instead of "Every Day Math". March 1st made the decision to select "Go Math", based on the pilot and teachers input. Focuses on vocabulary practices and skill development. It has been implemented for K-6; entered into a 6-year contract which is financed for 3 years for significant savings.

- Go Math Presentation - Mrs. Hosterman provided a display to compare both "Every Day Math" and "Go Math", describing and showing the differences. "Go Math" is very concrete with grounds to learning; talking the same language much less confusion for students/teachers and parents involved.

TANTASQUA REPRESENTATIVE

Mrs. Pecore provided a few highlights from the meeting:

- Increase for this FY14 for cost of out of district students in tech division
- Plan for district to purchase electricity from solar grids from UMASS hospital; total savings would be over 3 million over 20 years.
- Two students were chosen based on their academic performance to attend the James Otis Lecture at Faneuil Hall in Boston; they were accompanied by two teachers
- Sports literature Class – Visited Fenway Park; on the list of historical sites
- Booster Club - Doing very well; made a number of contributions to the schools
- Technical Division – Junior Carpentry Students; annual project at Old Sturbridge Village
- Sophomore's Health Careers - Reviewing their 1-4 units
- Seniors – Beginning their rotation at "Overlook" in Charlton
- Senior Electrical Projects – Ran four new lines for the Sturbridge Police Station in their training room, moved a smart board at the elementary school, repaired fixtures, installed motion sensors and multiple other projects in the works.
- Tantasqua Warriors Football Team – Participated in cleaning up around town hall center office building and the library on the weekend
- Black Hills – 16 students attending

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Protective Windows - Mrs. Hosterman looked into the request; the windows would not be bullet proof they would only be blacked out and would not provide the security needed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Selection of Vice Chair:

Motion 14-50

Mr. Brunell moved, seconded by Mr. Oxman, to recommend Mrs. Pecore as Vice Chair

Discussion:

VOTE: Unanimous

- MASS/MASC Joint Meeting Update - Mr. Brunell and Mrs. Pecore provided an overview stating it was a great learning experience. Reviewed discussion of the Common Core and many votes that were taken.

PUBLIC ACCESS II

Concern regarding the recent vote in regards to PARCC vs. MCAS decision was discussed in detail. Teachers and the community voiced their opinion that they would recommend the committee review all details thoroughly with teachers/community/students and the Principal prior to future votes to ensure all information is studied.

Motion 14-51

At 7:00 p.m., Mrs. Pecore moved, seconded by Mr. Oxman to adjourn the meeting.

Discussion:

VOTE: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Oxman
Secretary

BO/km