

Tentative minutes of the Bethel Board of Education Special Meeting - Annual Meeting held on December 19, 2013, in Board of Education Conf. Room E.

Attendance: None

Administrative Attendance: K. Smith, J. Jordan, T. Yonsky, D. Muharem, C. Troetti, A. Salerno

L. Craybas, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Board Members Present: Attendance Taken at 7:01 PM:

Present Board Members:

**Mr. Stuart Carlsen
Mr. Scott Clayton
Mr. Larry Craybas
Mr. William Duff
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman
Mrs. Kristen Lacey
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien
Mrs. Robin Renner**

Absent Board Members:

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman

Updated Attendance:

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman was updated to present at: 7:21 PM

1. Call to Order

- 1.A. Roll Call for Quorum**
- 1.B. Pledge of Allegiance**

2. Annual Meeting

- 2.A. Election of Officers**

Motion Passed: Move to nominate Kevin Smith, Superintendent, as temporary Chairman. Passed with a motion by Mr. Larry Craybas and a second by Mrs. Robin Renner.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman	Absent
Mr. Stuart Carlsen	Yes
Mr. Scott Clayton	Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas	Yes
Mr. William Duff	Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman	Yes

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TOWN CLERK

Mrs. Kristen Lacey Yes
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien Yes
Mrs. Robin Renner Yes

2.A.1. Nominations for Chairman of the Board

Motion Passed: Move to nominate Larry Craybas Chairman of the Board of Education for 2014. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Robin Renner and a second by Mr. William Duff.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman Absent
Mr. Stuart Carlsen Yes
Mr. Scott Clayton Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas Yes
Mr. William Duff Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman Yes
Mrs. Kristen Lacey Yes
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien Yes
Mrs. Robin Renner Yes

Motion Passed: Move to close nominations for Chairman of the Board of Education for 2014. Passed with a motion by Mr. William Duff and a second by Mr. Scott Clayton.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman Absent
Mr. Stuart Carlsen Yes
Mr. Scott Clayton Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas Yes
Mr. William Duff Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman Yes
Mrs. Kristen Lacey Yes
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien Yes
Mrs. Robin Renner Yes

Mr. Larry Craybas was voted Chairman of the Board.

2.A.2. Nominations for Vice Chairman of the Board

Motion Passed: Move to nominate Melanie O'Brien as Vice Chairman of the Board of Education for 2014. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Robin Renner and a second by Mr. William Duff.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman Absent
Mr. Stuart Carlsen Yes
Mr. Scott Clayton Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas Yes
Mr. William Duff Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman Yes
Mrs. Kristen Lacey Yes

Mrs. Melanie O'Brien Yes
Mrs. Robin Renner Yes

Motion Passed: Move to close nominations for Vice Chairman of the Board of Education for 2014. Passed with a motion by Mr. William Duff and a second by Mr. Stuart Carlsen.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman Absent
Mr. Stuart Carlsen Yes
Mr. Scott Clayton Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas Yes
Mr. William Duff Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman Yes
Mrs. Kristen Lacey Yes
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien Yes
Mrs. Robin Renner Yes

Mrs. Melanie O'Brien was voted Vice Chairman of the Board.

2.A.3. Nominations for Secretary of the Board

Motion Passed: Move to nominate Robin Renner as Secretary of the Board of Education for 2014. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Melanie O'Brien and a second by Mrs. Kristen Lacey.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman Absent
Mr. Stuart Carlsen Yes
Mr. Scott Clayton Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas Yes
Mr. William Duff Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman Yes
Mrs. Kristen Lacey Yes
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien Yes
Mrs. Robin Renner Yes

Motion Passed: Move to close nominations for Secretary of the Board of Education for 2014. Passed with a motion by Mr. William Duff and a second by Mr. Stuart Carlsen.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman Absent
Mr. Stuart Carlsen Yes
Mr. Scott Clayton Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas Yes
Mr. William Duff Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman Yes
Mrs. Kristen Lacey Yes

Mrs. Melanie O'Brien Yes
Mrs. Robin Renner Yes

Mrs. Robin Renner was voted Secretary of the Board.

2.B. Appointments to Standing Committees

Discussion:

Mr. Craybas noted he is working on condensing the committees and working on a Board Member Handbook. He will bring these to Board in January.

Motion Passed: Move to table the appointments to Standing Committees to the January 23, 2014, Board meeting. Passed with a motion by Mr. Larry Craybas and a second by Mrs. Kristen Lacey.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman Absent
Mr. Stuart Carlsen Yes
Mr. Scott Clayton Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas Yes
Mr. William Duff Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman Yes
Mrs. Kristen Lacey Yes
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien Yes
Mrs. Robin Renner Yes

2.C. 2014 Board of Education Meeting Dates

Motion Passed: Move to approve the 2014 Board of Education Meeting Dates. Passed with a motion by Mr. Stuart Carlsen and a second by Mrs. Robin Renner.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman Absent
Mr. Stuart Carlsen Yes
Mr. Scott Clayton Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas Yes
Mr. William Duff Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman Yes
Mrs. Kristen Lacey Yes
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien Yes
Mrs. Robin Renner Yes

2.D. Code of Ethics

Discussion:

The success of our school system depends on an effective working relationship between the Board of Education and Superintendent of Schools. This code incorporates those standards and responsibilities most critical to productive Board and Superintendent relations. Board members signed the Code of Ethics for 2014.

3. Correspondence

Discussion:

None.

4. Consent Calendar

4.A. Approval of Minutes

4.A.1. November 21, 2013

Motion Passed: Move to approve the consent calendar. Passed with a motion by Mr. Larry Craybas and a second by Mr. Stuart Carlsen.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman Absent

Mr. Stuart Carlsen Yes

Mr. Scott Clayton Yes

Mr. Larry Craybas Yes

Mr. William Duff Yes

Mr. Nicholas Hoffman Yes

Mrs. Kristen Lacey Yes

Mrs. Melanie O'Brien Yes

Mrs. Robin Renner Yes

5. Audience Participation

Discussion:

None.

6. Administrative/Board Member Update

6.A. Brotherhood in Action Food Drive

Discussion:

Ms. Yonsky, Director of Fiscal Services, informed the Board the Brotherhood in Action Food Drive was successful. Food was collected at all of schools and 93 families were served by the donations.

6.B. Operation Sweet Tooth

Discussion:

Dr. Smith reported to the Board the NJROTC cadets, together with many children of Bethel and with the help of the Bethel Gentle Dental office, collected candy after Halloween and sent it to our "Ambassadors of Bethel" serving overseas. This was a gesture of good will, which we hope had a lasting impression on the children here in Bethel and overseas.

6.C. Rockwell School Cited as a "School of Distinction"

Discussion:

Dr. Smith informed the Board that last week the State Department of Education released school performance indices for every public school in the state. These reports are based on CMT and CAPT scores and reflect the state's new accountability system. Three of Bethel's schools, Berry School, Rockwell School, and Bethel Middle School were classified as "Excelling." This is the states highest designation for academic performance. Johnson School and Bethel High School were classified as "Transitioning" because of slight dips in performance.

Rockwell School was cited as one of the top performing schools in the state. The administration is very proud of the students and staff at Rockwell.

Dr. Smith noted Bethel's schools are very strong academically and we routinely outperform more affluent neighboring districts.

Dr. Smith will present a full report to the Board and hold a Board workshop on the SBACs.

6.D. "DARE TO SPEAK ABOUT DRUGS" - A Community Conversation

Discussion:

"DARE TO SPEAK ABOUT DRUGS" - A community conversation, will be held January 8th at 7 PM at BHS. Mr. Troetti, BHS Principal, spoke to the Board about the importance and need of this community discussion. This event is being advertised through the Superintendent's newsletter, district website, school newsletters, and posters and flyers. Dr. Smith and Mr. Troetti, encouraged the Board to use their networks to help get the word out about this event.

7. Reports to the Board

7.A. Policy

7.A.1. Regulation 5131.911 - Safe School Climate Plan

Motion Passed: Move that the newly revised and updated District Safe School Climate Plan (#5131.911) be approved. Passed with a motion by Mr. Nicholas Hoffman and a second by Mr. Scott Clayton.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman	Yes
Mr. Stuart Carlsen	Yes
Mr. Scott Clayton	Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas	Yes
Mr. William Duff	Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman	Yes
Mrs. Kristen Lacey	Yes
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien	Yes

Mrs. Robin Renner Yes

7.A.2. Updates and Changes for #5131.6 (Alcohol, Drugs, and Tobacco); #5131.1 (Smoking on a School Bus), #1331 (Smoke Free Environment); and #4118.231/#4218.231 (Drug and Alcohol Use and Possession)

Motion Passed: Move to approve policies #5131.6, #5131.1, #1331, and #4118.231/#4218.231, which now include nicotine delivery devices in the list of banned substances, be approved by the Bethel Board of Education. Passed with a motion by Mr. Larry Craybas and a second by Mr. Stuart Carlsen.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman Yes
Mr. Stuart Carlsen Yes
Mr. Scott Clayton Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas Yes
Mr. William Duff Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman Yes
Mrs. Kristen Lacey Yes
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien Yes
Mrs. Robin Renner Yes

7.B. Curriculum

7.B.1. Introduction to Law and Civics

7.B.2. U.S. History 32 Curriculum

7.B.3. Modern World History Revisions

Motion Passed: Move to table Modern World History curriculum. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Robin Renner and a second by Mr. William Duff.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman Yes
Mr. Stuart Carlsen Yes
Mr. Scott Clayton Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas Yes
Mr. William Duff Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman Yes
Mrs. Kristen Lacey Yes
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien Yes
Mrs. Robin Renner Yes

7.B.4. Ancient World History

Motion Passed: Move to approve Intro to Law & Civics, Modern World History, and Ancient World History curriculum. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Robin Renner and a second by Mrs. Melanie O'Brien.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman Yes
Mr. Stuart Carlsen Yes

Mr. Scott Clayton Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas Yes
Mr. William Duff Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman Yes
Mrs. Kristen Lacey Yes
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien Yes
Mrs. Robin Renner Yes

7.B.5. New Course Proposal - Digital Engineering

7.B.6. Astronomy

7.B.7. Science Research

7.B.8. Forensic Science

7.B.9. Exercise Science

Motion Passed: Move to approve the new course proposal - Digital Engineering, and the Astronomy, Science Research, Forensic Science, Exercise Science curriculum, beginning in the 2014 school year. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Robin Renner and a second by Mr. William Duff.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman Yes
Mr. Stuart Carlsen Yes
Mr. Scott Clayton Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas Yes
Mr. William Duff Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman Yes
Mrs. Kristen Lacey Yes
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien Yes
Mrs. Robin Renner Yes

7.B.10. Textbook Review - STATS in Your World

Motion Passed: Move to approve STATS in Your World pending budget approval for the 2014-2015 school year. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Robin Renner and a second by Mr. Scott Clayton.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman Yes
Mr. Stuart Carlsen Yes
Mr. Scott Clayton Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas Yes
Mr. William Duff Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman Yes
Mrs. Kristen Lacey Yes
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien Yes
Mrs. Robin Renner Yes

8. Executive Session

Motion Passed: Move to enter into Executive Session at 8:18 p.m. Passed with a motion by Mr. William Duff and a second by Mr. Stuart Carlsen.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman Yes
Mr. Stuart Carlsen Yes
Mr. Scott Clayton Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas Yes
Mr. William Duff Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman Yes
Mrs. Kristen Lacey Yes
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien Yes
Mrs. Robin Renner Yes

8.A. CT General Statutes 1-210(b)(2) - Personnel Custodian's Union Sick Bank Request

Motion Passed: Move to exit Executive Session at 8:30 p.m. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Robin Renner and a second by Mr. Larry Craybas.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman Yes
Mr. Stuart Carlsen Yes
Mr. Scott Clayton Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas Yes
Mr. William Duff Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman Yes
Mrs. Kristen Lacey Yes
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien Yes
Mrs. Robin Renner Yes

Motion Passed: Move to approve Sick Bank request. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Robin Renner and a second by Mr. Larry Craybas.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman Yes
Mr. Stuart Carlsen Yes
Mr. Scott Clayton Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas Yes
Mr. William Duff Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman Yes
Mrs. Kristen Lacey Yes
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien Yes
Mrs. Robin Renner Yes

9. Adjourn

Motion Passed: Move to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Robin

Renner and a second by Mr. Larry Craybas.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman Yes

Mr. Stuart Carlsen Yes

Mr. Scott Clayton Yes

Mr. Larry Craybas Yes

Mr. William Duff Yes

Mr. Nicholas Hoffman Yes

Mrs. Kristen Lacey Yes

Mrs. Melanie O'Brien Yes

Mrs. Robin Renner Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Pare

Board Recorder