

Tentative minutes of the **Bethel Board of Education Regular Meeting** held on **Thursday, December 6, 2007**, in Board of Education Conference Room E.

Attendance: Jen Larsen

Administrative Attendance: G. Chesley, J. Jordan, T. Yonsky, K. Brooks, P. Chapman, P. Cosentino, D. DeBlois, B. Germinaro, B. Kirmil, G. Lawlor, D. Muharem, L. Pica, K. Rockwell, C. Troetti, K. Smith

1. Selection of Temporary Chairperson

Motion by M. Knickerbocker: Move to nominate Dr. Gary Chesley as temporary Chairman.

Seconded by W. Kingston

Motion Carried Unanimously

2. Call to Order

A. *Roll Call for Quorum*

Board Members Present: S. Carlsen, L. Craybas, J. DeRosa, M. Duff, K. Harrison, W. Kingston, M. Knickerbocker, B. Foulk, R. Renner

Board Members Absent: None

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

3. Annual Meeting

a. *Election of Officers*

Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to nominate Bill Kingston for Chairman of the Board of Education for 2008.

Seconded by J. DeRosa

Hearing no other nominations, nominations were closed and ballots distributed.

B. Kingston was unanimously elected as Chairman of the Board of Education.

Motion by M. Duff: Move to nominate Larry Craybas for Vice Chairman of the Board of Education for 2008.

Seconded by K. Harrison

Hearing no other nominations, nominations were closed and ballots distributed.

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**TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK**

L. Craybas was unanimously elected as Vice Chairman of the Board of Education.

**Motion by J. DeRosa: Move to nominate Robin Renner for Secretary of the Board of Education for 2008.
Seconded by M. Knickerbocker
Motion Failed**

**Motion by M. Duff: Move to nominate K. Harrison for Secretary of the Board of Education for 2008.
Seconded by S. Carlsen
Hearing no other nominations, nominations were closed and ballots distributed.
For Harrison: S. Carlsen, L. Craybas, M. Duff, B. Foulk, K. Harrison, B. Kingston,
For Renner: J. DeRosa, M. Knickerbocker, R. Renner**

K. Harrison was elected as Secretary of the Board of Education.

b. Appointments to Standing Committees

Bill Kingston announced the following appointments to standing committees for 2008:

2008 Standing Committees of the Board

Finance/Transportation

Stuart Carlsen – Chairman Finance
Mike Duff – Chairman Transportation
Kris Harrison
Larry Craybas
Robin Renner

Personnel/Negotiations

Ben Foulk - Chairman
Jill DeRosa
Matt Knickerbocker
Larry Craybas
Stuart Carlsen
Kris Harrison

School Facilities

Mike Duff – Chairman
Kris Harrison
Larry Craybas
Jill DeRosa

Policy Review

Larry Craybas - Chairman
Mike Duff
Stuart Carlsen
Kris Harrison
Matt Knickerbocker

Curriculum

Jill DeRosa – Chairman
Ben Foulk
Larry Craybas
Robin Renner
Stuart Carlsen

Public Relations

Kris Harrison - Chairman
Mike Duff
Stuart Carlsen

Education Connection Representative

TBA

PTO Representative

Robin Renner

Cable Advisory Commission (BOE)

Mike Duff

Mr. Kingston stated that Michael Duff will serve on Cable Advisory Commission as soon as legally permissible.

4. **Administrative/Board Member Update**

A. ***High School Renovation Project Update***

T. Yonsky said the Building Committee responded to the Board's letter inviting them to come to the Board meeting to give an update on the high school renovation project. They would like to come to the first meeting of the Board of Education in January. At that time, it will be the end of one phase and the start of another phase in the project and a good time to update the Board of Education.

**Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to give Bill Kingston, Chairman, permission to send a letter on behalf of the Board of Education to Mr. Roche, Building Committee Chairman, inviting him to come to the January 10, 2007 Board of Education meeting to update the Board on the high school renovation project.
Seconded by M. Knickerbocker
Motion Carried Unanimously**

B. ***Strategic School Profile 2006-2007***

R. Renner and S. Carlsen reported on the CAFE Convention. The Bethel Board of Education received the CAFE Leadership Award for 2007.

T. Yonsky reported the Town is holding a Freedom of Information seminar December 10, 2007.

Mrs. Yonsky was notified by the Town the State Department of Transportation awarded Bethel the Safe Routes to School Grant in the amount of \$250,000.

Dr. Jordan informed the Board a consultant worked with administrators for three days on the revision of the Teacher Evaluation Program. She will return in March for more training.

Dr. Jordan reviewed the Strategic School Profile for 2006-2007 with the Board.

Dr. Chesley informed the Board 50 WCSU students attended training workshops given by Bethel administrators. This is Bethel's part of the deal for reduced tuition for students and faculty at WCSU. Dr. Chesley said the high school will go back to testing juniors with placement tests to help juniors know what is expected in college.

5 **Approval of Minutes**
A. *November 15, 2007*

Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to approve the minutes of November 15, 2007.
Seconded by M. Knickerbocker
AYE: S. Carlsen, J. DeRosa, W. Kingston, M. Knickerbocker, R. Renner
NAY: None
Abstain: L. Craybas, M. Duff, K. Harrison, B. Foulk
Motion Carried

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

Dr. Chesley recognized the students on the All SWC-Academic Teams and students and coaches who participated in the Fall sports season and in particular those students who received individual honors.

Gifts to School System

Johnson School

- Children's Books, donated by Belmont Mechanical, Bethel

7. **Correspondence**

- Article from *The News-Times* regarding Danbury Public Schools Teachers' Union concerns related to NCLB.
- Letter from CSDE to Mr. Morosky, Town Engineer, awarding the Safe Routes to School Program Grant.

8. **Audience Participation**

Jen Larsen, 128 Grassy Plain, welcomed the new Board members and congratulated the middle school administration on an interdisciplinary project the students are working on.

9. **Reports to the Board**

A. *Curriculum*

1. **K-3 Report Cards**

Dr. Jordan informed the Board the Johnson School report cards went home last week and parents appreciated all the information on the new report cards. The report cards are standards-based. Dr. Jordan reviewed the K-3 report cards with the Board.

B. *Personnel*

1. **Resignation/Leave of Absence**

**Motion by R. Renner: Move to approve the following personnel resignation:
Kathleen O'Hare, Grade 7 Reading/LA, Middle School
Seconded by M. Knickerbocker
Motion Carried Unanimously**

**Motion by R. Renner: Move to approve request to extend child care leave to the
end of the school year for Lori Doscher.
Seconded by S. Carlsen
Motion Carried Unanimously**

2. Job Description, 1.25 – Curriculum Leader – Grades 6-8

**Motion by M. Knickerbocker: Move to approve Job Description, 1.25 – Curriculum
Leader – Grades 6-8
Seconded by J. DeRosa
Motion Carried Unanimously**

C. School Facilities

1. Facilities Update

Bob Germinaro, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds, explained the different categories on the 460 Maintenance Summary Report.

Teri Yonsky informed the Board the Town has implemented a new software package to electronically track work orders.

2. Berry School Acceptance

**Motion by M. Knickerbocker: Move that the Bethel Board of Education accepts the
Berry School building project, State Project Number 009-0054EA as complete.
Seconded by J. DeRosa
Motion Carried Unanimously**

10. New Business

A. 2008 Board of Education Meeting Dates

**Motion by B. Kingston: Move to accept the calendar as proposed.
Seconded by M. Knickerbocker
Motion Carried Unanimously**

11. **Adjourn**

Motion by M. Duff: Move to adjourn at 8:50 p.m.
Seconded by M. Knickerbocker
Motion Carried Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Paré
Board Recorder