

Tentative minutes of the **Bethel Board of Education Regular Meeting** held on **August 21, 2008**, in Board of Education Conference Room E.

Attendance: None

Administrative Attendance: G. Chesley, J. Jordan, T. Yonsky, K. Brooks, P. Cosentino, L. Pica

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, L. Craybas, J. DeRosa, M. Duff, K. Harrison, B. Kingston, R. Renner

Board Members Absent: B. Foulk, M. Knickerbocker

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

2. **Approval of Minutes**

A. ***July 23, 2008***

<p>Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to approve the minutes of July 23, 2008 as corrected. Seconded by K. Harrison Motion Carried Unanimously</p>

3. **Board Recognition**

The Board congratulated Cindy Feuerman on winning First Place in the NECTA Public Service: Education, Single Event/Special for ***Primitive Technologies***.

Gifts to the Schools:

Bethel Middle School

- \$1000 contribution for BMS Business Venture, Macricostas Family Foundation
- Flynn science supplies from ATMI, Danbury, CT

4. **Correspondence**

- Email to Dr. Chesley from Elisa Volpati and Mark Goodwin regarding the Summer's BEST program.
- Email to Dr. Chesley from Bill Hillman regarding mailing to BHS students.
- Letter from State Elections Enforcement Commission regarding findings and conclusions in the matter of a complaint filed by William A. Michael, Bethel.

RECEIVED
AUG 25 2008
TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

Dr. Chesley told the Board no funds were spent defending the complaint filed by W. Michael. Dr. Chesley said the findings also stated CGS 9-369b does not apply to automated phone messages and they do not require prior Board approval.

L. Craybas said the Summer's BEST program is a great addition to the schools and Linda Anderson should be very pleased.

Dr. Brooks noted the Summer's BEST Kindergarten Skills class success in reducing the number of students entering the Kindergarten Buddies program. The number of students being invited to the Kindergarten Buddies program has been reduced by almost half.

Dr. Chesley said these efforts being made are saving money and need to be looked at.

5. **Consent Calendar**

A. ***Health Services Report – June***

Motion by R. Renner: Move to accept the Consent Calendar.

Seconded by S. Carlsen

Motion Carried Unanimously

6. **Administrative/Board Member Update**

Dr. Chesley spoke about the three-day New Teacher Orientation workshops. He and Dr. Jordan are impressed with the new teachers. Dr. Jordan informed the Board she and Dr. Chesley will be working and keeping in touch with the new teachers during the year using Moodle.

L. Craybas requested the Board publish for the parents and community the new teacher bio's to show these are talented teachers. Dr. Cosentino said she publishes the bio's in her newsletters and also interviews the new teachers for Channel 26. Dr. Chesley said all five principals do publish the new teacher's bio's in their newsletters. Bio information will be emailed to all schools.

Dr. Cosentino updated the Board on the high school renovation. Dr. Cosentino said the high school is in great shape and the freshman orientation went well. She reviewed what areas have been turned over to her and the schedule for the remaining areas. The school staff will be working a full day Saturday and Sunday to help get it ready for opening day.

L. Craybas commended Dr. Cosentino and her staff for working miracles in getting ready for opening day Tuesday, August 26, 2008. Dr. Cosentino stated she wants the building to be completed by February 2009 and ready for the NEASC visit in March 2009.

7. **Audience Participation**

None.

8. **Reports to the Board**

A. Finance

1. 2007-2008 Year-end Transfers

T. Yonsky, Director of Fiscal Services, informed the Board the year ended in the black. She will be returning \$20,000 to the Town. Significant investments were made in textbooks. Four SMARTBoards were purchased for Johnson School and four for the high school. Each team of two teachers at Johnson will share a SMARTBoard setup. Security systems were purchased for Rockwell, Berry, and Johnson. T. Yonsky said funds will be needed to convert data from SASI to Power School student data systems.

Motion by S. Carlsen: Move the Board approve the 2007-2008 Year-end Transfers as delineated in the memo dated August 21, 2008.

Seconded by R. Renner

Motion Carried Unanimously

2. 2008-2009 Budget Year

The Board discussed the damage at the high school due to three separate floods. The Board discussed the need for a security system at the high school to protect the Town's investment.

3. Copier Lease Renewal

T. Yonsky spoke to the Board about the savings in renewing the copier lease agreement. There will be a savings of \$14,000 a year (which is a rough estimate).

Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to renew our lease with Ricoh ending our current lease agreement with them and entering a new five year lease agreement for copier/duplicator equipment and to waive the bid procedure as this transaction is in the best interest of the Bethel Board of Education and the Town of Bethel.

Seconded by L. Craybas

Motion Carried Unanimously

B. Personnel

1. Resignations/Appointments

Motion by R. Renner: Move to accept the following personnel resignations:

Bryan Darcy, Business Teacher, BHS

Sara Filomia, Grade 4 Teacher, Johnson School

Teresa McKenna, Physical Science Teacher, BHS

Giannia Perugini, PE/Health Teacher, BMS

Gary St. Cyr, Grade 5 Teacher, Johnson School

Darren Wittko, Social Studies Teacher, BMS

Sara Zablocki, Occupational Therapist, Systemwide
Seconded by B. Kingston
Motion Carried Unanimously

Motion by R. Renner: Move to approve the following personnel appointments:
Amanda Stevens, Guidance Counselor, BHS
Ryan DeRubertis, Social Studies Teacher, BHS
Jamie McDonald, Business Teacher, BHS
Mattea Heller, English Teacher, BHS
Jeffrey Sherman, Business Teacher, BHS
Robert Belden, Math Teacher, BMS
Nathan Rinas, Health/PE Teacher, BMS
Robyn Frazao, Grade 4 Teacher, Johnson School
Kristina Esposito, Grade 5 Teacher, Johnson School
Kristine Vichiola, COF Teacher, Berry School
Elizabeth Nischan, English Teacher, BHS
Seconded by J. DeRosa
Motion Carried Unanimously

9. **Adjourn**

Motion by J. DeRosa: Move to adjourn at 8:24 p.m.
Seconded by R. Renner
Motion Carried Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Paré