

Tentative minutes of the **Bethel Board of Education Regular Meeting** held on **Thursday, August 20, 2009**, in Board of Education Conference Room E.

Attendance: None

Administrative Attendance: G. Chesley, J. Jordan, T. Yonsky, P. Cosentino, D. DeBlois, B. Germinaro, K. Gombos

B. Kingston, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

1. **Call to Order**
  - A. ***Roll Call for Quorum***

Board Members Present: S. Carlsen, L. Craybas, B. Kingston, M. Knickerbocker, C. McCorkindale, R. Renner

Board Members Absent: J. DeRosa, M. Duff, K. Harrison

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

2. **Approval of Minutes**
  - A. ***August 6, 2009 – Special Meeting***

**Motion by C. McCorkindale: Move to amend the minutes of August 6, 2009 to read as follows: “Mr. Carlsen recommended the cross country course not be named after Mark Goodwin because the recommendation came from a subordinate.”**  
**Seconded by M. Knickerbocker**  
**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**Motion by C. McCorkindale: Move to amend the minutes of August 6, 2009 to read as follows: “The breakfast program is intended to be self-funded.”**  
**Seconded by L. Craybas**  
**AYE: S. Carlsen, C. McCorkindale**  
**NAY: L. Craybas, B. Kingston, M. Knickerbocker, R. Renner**  
**Motion Failed**

**Motion by R. Renner: Move to approve the minutes of August 6, 2009 – Special Meeting as amended.**  
**Seconded by M. Knickerbocker**  
**Motion Carried Unanimously**

3. **Correspondence**

- Letter from Mr. & Mrs. Di Grandi praising Rockwell School and Mrs. Sprock’s impact on their son’s passion for learning.
- Letter from Mr. & Mrs. Smith complimenting the Bethel Public Schools on providing their daughter a first-rate education.

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- Letter from Mr. & Mrs. Improta regarding the terrific learning environment at Bethel Middle School.
- Letter from CABE congratulating Ms. Deanna Gesuero, Berry School Teacher, on her students being chosen to showcase their work at the November 2009 CABE/CAPPS Convention.
- Email from Andrew Morosky, Director of Public Works, regarding the Berry School boilers.

**4. Consent Calendar**

**A. *Health Services Report - June***

<p><b>Motion by M. Knickerbocker: Move to accept the Consent Calendar.</b> <b>Seconded by R. Renner</b> <b>Motion Carried Unanimously</b></p>
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**5. Administrative/Board Member Update**

- Dr. Chesley distributed the NEASC Report to the Board. Dr. Cosentino and her staff will go through the report with the Board at the September 3<sup>rd</sup> Board meeting.
- Dr. Chesley informed the Board that the Continuing Education brochure has been distributed to the community. He has also sent information to the new Board candidates as recommended by CABE.
- Dr. Chesley discussed the H1N1 Flu with the Board. Dr. Chesley said the CDC has said that closing schools have not been effective in limiting student/staff flu occurrences and will only be considered if the severity of flu illness warrants it.
- New teachers attended three days of orientation. He is impressed with the new teachers as they are very well trained. Opening day for staff is Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Dr. Jordan reviewed with the Board the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade CMT scores in Bethel compared to the entire state of Connecticut. In writing Bethel 3<sup>rd</sup> graders scored 2<sup>nd</sup> out of 123 towns. In reading they scored 13<sup>th</sup> out of 123 towns, and Math they scored 4<sup>th</sup> out of 123.

**6. Audience Participation**

None.

**7. Reports to the Board**

**A. *Finance***

**1. *ARRA Expenditure Plan***

Mrs. Yonsky, Director of Fiscal Services, said the ARRA revenue is a one-time funding and cannot be used to supplant existing local funding. The funding is coming through IDEA 611 and 619 Individuals with Disabilities Act. Mrs. Yonsky reviewed with the Board the awarded amounts and how they will be used.

**Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to accept the ARRA Expenditure Plan.  
Seconded by M. Knickerbocker  
Motion Carried Unanimously**

***B. Curriculum***

***1. Alternative School 9-12***

Dr. Chesley said the ARRA funding will allow this program to start with minimal cost to continue when the stimulus funds end. Dr. Cosentino, BHS Principal, plans to invite approximately 12 students to attend as the school year begins. This program is for students that are unsuccessful in the high school setting. The program will run during the regular school day from 7:35 AM to 11:45 AM. Students then can go to a work study program or internship. Students can also take classes from 12:15 PM – 2:15 PM. Students and parents will have contracts to sign regarding student attendance. There will be a group counseling session once a week and individual counseling available to the students. Dr. Cosentino is very excited about this program. This has been a goal of the Board for many years.

***C. Facilities***

***1. Capital Plan***

Mr. Craybas reviewed the Facilities Subcommittee meeting with the Board and discussed the Capital and Maintenance Plan. Mr. Germinaro, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds, reviewed the Capital Plan priorities.

Mr. Craybas updated the Board on the security system at Bethel High School. They are currently \$3,400 under budget on the project.

***D. Personnel***

***1. Resignations/Appointments***

None.

**8. Adjourn**

**Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to adjourn at 9:15 p.m.  
Seconded by M. Knickerbocker  
Motion Carried Unanimously**

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Paré  
Recorder