

Tentative minutes of the **Bethel Board of Education Regular Meeting** held on **October 15, 2009**, in Board of Education Conference Room E.

Attendance: None

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

L. Craybas, Vice Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

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

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

Board Members Absent: Wm. Kingston, M. Duff, K. Harrison

BHS Representative: Angelicca Heffner

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

2. **Approval of Minutes**
  - A. *October 1, 2009 – Regular Meeting*

**Motion by Stuart Carlsen: Move to approve the minutes of October 1, 2009.**  
**Seconded by: R. Renner**  
**Discussion**

Under "Correspondence," needs to be revised to read, "Letter to Robert Burke, First Selectman from Dr. Chesley, Superintendent, regarding legal opinion related to the authority of the First Selectman over Board of Education employees."

Last paragraph under, "Administrative/Board Member Update" should be amended to read, "Ms. McCorkindale asked what the purpose of the Leadership Cadre Candidate Forum is. Dr. Chesley said it was to give teachers a lesson in leadership and give candidates the opportunity to answer questions."

**Motion by Stuart Carlsen: Move to approve the minutes of October 1, 2009 as amended.**  
**Seconded by: C. McCorkindale**  
**Motion Carried Unanimously**

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**TOWN CLERK**

3. **Correspondence**

- Letter received from Don Warfield, President, Bethel Land Trust, to Lt. Com. Mark Dwinells and Master Sgt. Joseph Meehan, ROTC, expressing gratitude for student assistance in fabricating their boardwalk project.

4. **BHS Representatives Report: Anjelicca Heffner**

Spoke about events in October:

- Oct. 1st – College Application Night
- Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> – Conferences were held - good parent turnout
- Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> – PSAT's were taken by 312 students
- Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> – Sheila Levine will present a Drug Awareness Program
- Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> – “Cabaret” being performed at 7 p.m.
- Last week was Homecoming Week:
  - Monday Madness
  - Toga Tuesday
  - Wednesday – Color Day – each grade wore a different color
  - Thursday – Spirit Day and outdoor Pep Rally
  - Friday – Bon Fire and Football Game
  - Saturday was parade of floats – Freshman Class won
- DECA Club – Business/Marketing Club. Project they are working on is a School Calendar where students can have their pictures put on it, or choose a day on the calendar for a special occasion. Calendar will be on sale soon.
- National Honor Society met on October 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss plans for upcoming school year. Forms for the new members are due Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> and Induction into the National Honor Society will be at the end of November.
- Renaissance Program promotes “school spirit.” Introducing a new program called, “As a Bell Rings” promoting attendance in the classroom. Students will get a prize if they are all present in class when the school bell rings.

Anjelicca explained a bit about the College Career Center and how helpful it is to seniors. This week Duke University, Virginia Tech and Fordham University visited BHS.

Pat Cosentino wanted to thank Ms. McCorkindale for visiting a French class. They greatly appreciated the visit. Ms. McCorkindale stated that she thought the student's conversational level was very high and was impressed.

5. **Audience Participation:** None

6. **Administrative/Board Member Update**

Dr. Chesley spoke briefly about the CABA Convention that some Board members and administrators were going to attend.

7. **Consent Calendar**

- A. Health Services Report – September – some discussion regarding lice in the schools. Larry Craybas asked about precautionary measures against H1N1 flu. Spoke about hand sanitizing dispensers in the schools. Students are being taught about prevention from nursing staff, teachers, etc.*
- B. Tuition Contract Report – as projected.*
- C. Maintenance Report – Update from Bob Germinaro*

**Motion by M. Knickerbocker: Move to approve Consent Calendar.**  
**Seconded by: J. DeRosa**  
**Motion Carried Unanimously**

8. **Reports to the Board**

*A. Curriculum*

*1. Summer Curriculum Work*

Dr. Jordan briefly displayed binders of the work teachers had done over the summer to improve their curriculum. Curricula presented were Bethel Middle School Science Curriculum and Grade 7 Math Curriculum.

Dr. Jordan proposed to set up times for teachers involved to speak briefly to the Board about the changes to their curriculum. Explain why they felt the need to make such changes. Jill DeRosa commented that this was good way to see exactly how budget funds were being utilized.

*B. Finance*

*1. 2009-2010 Budget Update*

Stuart Carlsen stated there were no “red flags” to speak of for this budget.

*2. 2009-2010 Budget Transfers*

Stuart Carlson spoke briefly about some transfers made:

- Investment by Administrators in technology – SMARTBoards
- Chairs for Johnson School
- Proper classification of Linda Anderson and her assistant in her Intern Program
- Vocational Agricultural for student – increase in interest
- Purchase of “Destiny” – a district-wide library data-base program to be used by all school media centers.

**Motion by M. Knickerbocker: Move to approve 2009- 2010 Budget Transfers.**  
**Seconded by: S. Carlsen**  
**Motion Carried Unanimously**

Stuart Carlsen discussed the 2010-2011 Budget. His concern was, since the high school renovation is complete, there would be a substantial increase due to the bonding costs. T. Yonsky will confirm with L. Curina what the costs will be. This will be discussed at next Board meeting. T. Yonsky stated that the bid process is at the beginning of November. Larry Craybas mentioned that like last year, the budget process should begin early.

**C. Policy**

**1. First Reading:**

• **Policy 5131.111 Video Surveillance**

Policy sub-committee met earlier this evening. Minor changes were made to the original draft presented to the Board, they were:

- All of the words that appeared as “shall” have been changed to, “will;”
- The terminology, “video recordings” was changed to “video records;” and,
- The sentence, “Audio recordings shall not be part of any video surveillance” has been changed to read as follows: “Audio recordings shall not be part of any video surveillance except on transportation vehicles.”

**Motion by M. Knickerbocker: Move to approve Policy 5131.111 – Video Surveillance.**

**Seconded by: S. Carlsen**

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**9. Recommended Executive Session**

Dr. Chesley asked to withdraw the recommendation for Executive Session.

**10. Adjourn**

**Motion by M. Knickerbocker: Move to adjourn at 8:11 p.m.**

**Seconded by S. Carlsen**

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

Respectfully submitted,

Karen G. Alongi  
Board Recorder