

April 22, 2009

The Brooklyn Board of Education held its regular monthly meeting on April 22, 2009 in the Middle School library. In attendance were: Mrs. Lyons, Mrs. Downs, Mr. Gutierrez, Mrs. Johnson and Ms. Gerardi-Voccio. Also present were: Mr. Yanku, Mrs. Sweet, Mrs. Muscente, Dr. Keefe and Mrs. Berry. In the audience were members of the staff and the community.

1. The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Lyons at 9:00 p.m.

2. Public Comments/Comments by Representatives of:

- a. BEA - no report
- b. Local 1303 - AFSCME - no report
- c. PTO - no report

3. Minutes of Board Meetings:

MOTION: (Johnson/Gerardi-Voccio) to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2009 and the April 14, 2009 meetings.

VOTE: Unanimous

4. Correspondence:

Included in Board of Education packets were:

- a. Woodstock Academy Board of Trustees meeting minutes of February 24, 2009 and the agenda for the March 24, 2009 Board of Trustees meeting.
- b. A letter from Dr. Silver, superintendent in Killingly, concerning the unresolved issue of tuition payment for two students who did not attend K.H.S. during the 2007-2008 school year but were listed as enrolled at K.H.S.

Handed out at the Board of Education meeting were:

- Woodstock Academy Board of Trustees meeting minutes for April 3, 2009 and March 24, 2009 with the agenda for the April 21, 2009 Board of Trustees meeting.

5. Consent Agenda:

- a. Payment of Bills - a list of bills dated April 22, 2009 was distributed.
- b. Extracurricular - no report
- c. Use of Facilities - no report
- d. Bus Driver Approval - no report
- e. Library Books - no report

MOTION: (Downs/Gerardi-Voccio) to approve the consent agenda.

VOTE: Unanimous

6. Administrative Reports:

a. **Middle School Principal**

Mr. Yanku's report included comments on the following:

- Ice Cream Social as a concluding activity to the CMT testing;
- Eighth Grade Transition Program with counselors from Woodstock Academy and Killingly High School;
- Field trips for fifth grade students to an operatic performance; the Pequot Museum; and a trip to the Multiply Your Options conference at the University of Connecticut for a group of seventh grade students;
- The Invention Convention involving six grade students;
- The Winter Sports Assembly on April 6th; and
- The Parent-Teacher Conferences on April 7th and April 8th.

b. **Elementary Principal**

Dr. Keefe's report included comments on:

- Kindergarten Registration on April 21st, 22nd and 23rd;
- Parent Conferences on April 8th;
- Spring Concert on April 29th;
- The New Haven Symphony for students in grade 3;
- PTO Talent Show for April 3rd; and
- Field trips to the Ragged Hill Woods Environmental Center for students in grades 2 and 3.

c. **Assistant Principal**

Mrs. Sweet presented the ERR report for the period of March 16th to April 21st.

Grade	Minor Infraction 1	Minor Infraction 2	Academic, etc. 3	# Students 4
5	25	3	17	18
6	29	2	3	3
7	36	7	13	22
8	31	3	10	9
Totals	121	15	43	52

1. Recess, Lunch, One Class Period +/-
2. Full Day ERR
3. Make-up Work, Injury, Late to CMTs, etc.
4. Only student referred for Categories 1 and 2

6. **Administrative Reports (continued)**

c. **Assistant Principal (continued)**

The above table shows the seventh, 20 day period of ERR this year. Fifty-two students have been referred to the program for behavioral issues during this time period. Special Education students have not been separately noted in the above data. The table below shows year-to-date data.

Educational Resource Room Program - Year-to-Date

	Minor Infraction 1		Major Infraction 2		Academic, etc. 3		# Students 4
8/28/08-9/25/08	18		8		12		17
9/26/08-10/27/08	58		10		60		41
10/28/08-11/25/08	64		10		31		45
11/26/08-1/8/09	70		9		38		44
1/9/09-2/9/09	97		4		50		45
2/10/09-3/13/09	114		17		51		48
3/16/09-4/21/09	121		15		43		52

There was no report on spring sports as the season begins tomorrow. The annual `state report on Brooklyn's Wellness Program will be completed and sent to the state by May 11th.

d. **Director of Student Services**

Mrs. Muscente's report included a review of the April, 2009 enrollment in the Special Education program (160) with (126) in attendance at the Brooklyn School; (19) attending our designated high schools; and (15) placed out of the district.

e. **Superintendent's Report**

The following reports/issues were included in Board packets and Mrs. Berry commented on a number of them:

- Evaluation Study of the Middle School Gymnasium

MOTION: (Gerardi-Voccio/Johnson) to approve the proposal from J.P. Engineering for structural and mechanical engineering services for the evaluation of the middle school gymnasium, roof and floor structures at a cost of \$4,900.

VOTE: Unanimous

- Change in the Early Morning Schedule for Paraprofessionals
- Audit Report for the year ending June 30, 2008

6. **Administrative Reports (continued)**

e. **Superintendent's Report (continued)**

- Bid for Indoor Walk-In Galvanized Freezer

MOTION: (Downs/Gerardi-Voccio) to accept the bid of E.D.S. Mechanical, Inc. for an Indoor Walk-In Galvanized Freezer at a cost of \$17,288.

VOTE: Unanimous

The Town's Capital Improvement Committee has approved \$15,000 for this equipment.

- Teacher Appreciation Week

MOTION: (Downs/Gutierrez) to contribute **\$500** to the BEA Scholarship Fund in recognition of Teacher Appreciation Day.

VOTE: Unanimous

- Cafeteria Report - March, 2009
- Enrollment Report - April, 2009

7. **Committee Reports:**

- a. **Budget** - The proposed 2009-2010 budget was discussed and the Board of Education took the following action:

MOTION: (Johnson/Gerardi-Voccio) to accept the increase in the budget in Draft VI restoring the vocal music program at the middle school and approving a budget of **\$15,513,585** for the 2009-2010 school year, an increase of .82% over the budget of the present year.

VOTE: Yes - Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Gutierrez
Mrs. Gerardi-Voccio, Mrs. Lyons
No - Mrs. Downs

- b. **Curriculum** - a meeting will be held on May 14th at 3:30 p.m.

- c. **Educational Planning** - no meeting

- d. **Facilities/Capital Improvement** - The Facilities Committee will be sending two proposed projects to the Town's Capital Improvement Committee for review and action; specifically:

- an Asbestos Abatement Project in the middle school cafeteria and kitchen; and
- replacement of three hot water heaters in the middle school.

Applications for funding for these projects will be sent to the First Selectman's Office by May 4th. Also to be sent will be a copy of the Capital Projects Priority List for the Brooklyn Middle and Elementary Schools.

7. **Committee Reports (continued)**

- e. **Policy** - no meeting
- f. **Public Relations** - no meeting
- g. **Special Education** - no meeting
- h. **Staff Negotiations** - no meeting; a meeting is needed to negotiate four administrators' contracts.
- i. **Staff Relations** - no meeting
- j. **Technology** - no meeting
- K. **Transportation** - no meeting

8. Board Representatives to Other Committees:

- a. **EastConn** - The next meeting of the EastConn Board is scheduled for April 28th.
- b. **Board of Finance** - The Board of Finance met prior to this Board of Education meeting to review the Board of Education's proposed budget for 2009-2010. During that meeting, Mrs. Berry presented Draft VI of the budget and responded to many questions about the cuts in the budget, as well as a number of accounts. The Board of Finance Chair requested the completed budget document early in May and suggested that the Board of Education plan on a town hearing on the budget the middle of May.
- c. **Insurance** - no report
- d. **Killingly Board of Education** - no report
- e. **PTO** - no report
- f. **Preschool Building Committee** - no report
- g. **Recreation Commission** - Mrs. Downs reported on the following activities:

The last meeting of this committee was held on April 16th. Issues reviewed and/or discussed included:

- The establishment of Brooklyn Days Program
- Summer Camp Program Update
- Park Maintenance
- Prince Hill Basketball Courts
- 2009-2010 Parks and Recreation Budget
- Egg Hunt on April 11th.

The new chairperson of the Recreation Commission is Eric Costa.

- h. **School Readiness/Brooklyn Collaborative** - Mr. Gutierrez reported on the Community Conversation Night held on March 30th and the program on full day Kindergarten.

8. Board Representatives to Other Committees (continued)

- i. **School Safety Committee** - Mrs. Berry reported on her meeting with Mr. Lee, Brooklyn's Emergency Management Coordinator and the program scheduled for May 18th on emergency shelter training.
- j. **Woodstock Academy** - Ms. Gerardi-Voccio reported on the last meeting of the Woodstock Academy Board of Trustees; specifically:
 - the decision to reduce tuition for 2009-2010 to \$10,928, a 1.99% increase;
 - the appointment of a new Headmaster; and
 - an expulsion hearing.

9. Old Business:

- **Woodstock Academy Contract**

MOTION: (Gerardi-Voccio/Gutierrez) to table this issue until the May Board of Education meeting.

VOTE: Unanimous

10. New Business: none

11. Other: none

12. Public Comments: none

13. Adjournment:

MOTION: (Downs/Gutierrez) to adjourn at 10:40 p.m.

VOTE: Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted:

Ms. Jo Ann Gerardi-Voccio, Secretary
Brooklyn Board of Education