

August 21, 2009

A special meeting of the Brooklyn Board of Education was held on Friday, August 21, 2009 in the Middle School library. The meeting was called to order at 8:40 a.m. with Mrs. Lyons presiding. In attendance were: Mrs. Johnson, Ms. Gerardi-Voccio, Mrs. Downs, Mrs. Sweet, Mr. Yanku and Mrs. Berry. Also in attendance were Mr. & Mrs. Cavagnet.

The issues on the agenda for this meeting were:

- 1) Parental Request for Placement of Student in Grade 8;
- 2) Vacancy - Spanish Teacher; and
- 3) Schedule for BEA Contract Negotiations - Meeting with Attorney

### **Placement Request**

MOTION: (Downs/Gerardi-Voccio) to enter into executive session at 8:40 a.m. for a discussion on the placement of a student in grade 8.

VOTE: Unanimous

MOTION: (Downs/Gerardi-Voccio) to come out of executive session at 10:00 a.m.

VOTE: Unanimous

MOTION AS AMENDED: (Johnson/Downs) to approve the request to place Angelique Cavagnet in grade 8 with the courses discussed previously and a Child Study team review at the end of the first marking period, or earlier if necessary, in an effort to ensure that progress is acceptable.

VOTE: Unanimous

### **Spanish Vacancy**

Mrs. Berry presented information on Spanish program in middle schools throughout the state, specifically the following:

|           |                                                  |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Grade 5 - | 18.4% of the schools start Spanish at this level |
| Grade 6 - | 36.7% of the schools start Spanish at this level |
| Grade 7 - | 72.2% of the schools start Spanish at this level |
| Grade 8 - | 80.1% of the schools start Spanish at this level |

Mrs. Berry also commented on the annual hours of instruction in Spanish across the state which range from 34 - 150 hours for students in grade 7 and 8, with Brooklyn planning to offer 66 hours of instruction during the 2009-2010 school year.

**Spanish Vacancy (continued)**

Following a discussion on Spanish and Reading in grades seven and eight, the need for remedial reading for those students who scored at basic or below basic on the 2009 CMT tests, and the need for staff members to attend the CMT state workshops on the emphasis on detail in the writing section of the CMT, the Board members took the following action:

MOTION: (Johnson/Downs) to approve the appointment of Eugene Bergenn to the Spanish vacancy for the 2009-2010 school year.

VOTE: Unanimous

**Meeting with Attorney Littlefield - BEA Negotiations**

The Board members agreed to meet at 6:15 p.m. with Attorney Littlefield to plan for negotiations with the BEA.

MOTION: (Downs/Johnson) to adjourn at 11:00 a.m.

VOTE: Unanimous