

APPROVED

**Brunswick Central Schools
Board of Education
Regular Meeting Minutes**

ORIGINAL

MEETING

Date: January 23, 2014
Place: Brittonkill Meeting Room
Presiding: Matthew Wade, President

ASSEMBLAGE

Members Present: R. Fitzgerald (*arrived at 8:10 pm*), M. Fortun, A. Grab, J. Lindemann, M. McCarthy, J. Roddy, L. Wertz and M. Wade

Members Absent: J. Wienman

Also Present: Angelina Bergin, Superintendent, Lyn Derway, Assistant Superintendent of Business/District Clerk and Maria Lewis, Board Secretary

**CALL TO ORDER
FLAG SALUTE**

President Wade called the public meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and began the meeting with a salute to the flag.

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES**

1 – Ms. Wertz 2 – Mr. Grab
The Board of Education hereby approves the following Minutes:
• January 9, 2014 Regular Meeting

**7 Yes
Motion Carried**

Karen Lederman and Rich Pogue updated the board on activities in their respective buildings.

BOARD

PRESENTATIONS Myles Goss presented to the board his 2013 - 2014 Annual Special Education Report.

SUPERINTENDENT

- Ms. Bergin updated the board on the following items:
 - She will be hosting a "Parent University" on February 27, 2014 titled *How You Can Help Your Child Thrive*
 - She would be writing a letter to the governor advocating for the district based upon the state aid figures released earlier in the week.
- 2014 – 2015 Budget Discussion:
 - Whitney Colvin, Eric Wetmore and Neil Haley provided an annual update to the board on their respective departments
- Ms. Derway explained the Fiscal Stress Monitoring System and the district's 0% classification rating.

Mr. Fitzgerald arrived at 8:10 pm.

BOARD DISCUSSION/REPORTS

- **Alternative Veterans Exemption** – Ms. Derway explained that the Governor signed Chapter 518 that allows school districts to opt into offering the alternative veterans exemption (RPTL 458-a). The law is effective immediately.

This exemption has been available to towns and other municipalities since 1984. Rensselaer County and each of our towns offer this exemption. Rensselaer County provided exemption lists for all the school districts in the county. If our district adopted the same exemption levels as the county, the total assessed value which would be exempt in our district is \$5,353,615. Based on the current year's tax rates, this equals \$264,743 in school taxes. This means that this exemption would shift \$264,743 from the current taxpayers, to the remaining taxpayers. This would equal about a 2.4% tax levy increase for next year before we increased the tax levy for budget purposes.

If the board is in favor of granting this exemption for 2014-15, action must be taken by March 1. This means a public hearing would have to be scheduled and action would have to be taken at the February 13, 2014 meeting. If action was not taken this year, it could be taken in future years. Due to the short turnaround time, the board agreed not to offer the exemption for the 2014 – 2015 school year in order to research it further for the following year.

- Mr. Wade asked for a board member to replace him on the **Superintendent Evaluation Committee**. He stated that his schedule does not allow him to devote the time needed. Ms. Lindemann volunteered and the following resolution was passed.

Superintendent Evaluation

Committee

1 – Mr. Fitzgerald

2 – Ms. Wertz

The Board of Education rescinds the appointment of Mr. Wade to the Superintendent's Evaluation Committee and appoints Ms. Lindemann to the committee in his place.

8 Yes

Motion Carried

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Mina Rice spoke on behalf of the Booster Club. She asked the board to be respectful of the money that the Booster Club has donated.
- Erick Roadcap said his students has done amazing things over the last ten years and he had done a poor job advocating for them.
- Kevin Brunick said he was there to support Mr. Roadcap but that he found it ironic that the board voted "no" on the Alternate Veterans' Exemption at this meeting since he hadn't attended a meeting in 15 years.

POLICY

Revision of

Current Policy

1 – Mr. Roddy

2 – Ms. McCarthy

The Board of Education approves the following revised policies:

- # 1120 – District Records (policy & regulation)
- #5500 – Student Records (policy & regulation)

8 Yes

Motion Carried

**First Reading of
Policy**

1 – Mr. Fortun 2 – Ms. Lindemann

The Board of Education approves, upon the recommendation of the Policy Committee, the first reading of the following policy:

- #9520.2 – Family and Medical Leave (policy & regulation)
- #TBD – Animals in the Schools

8 Yes
Motion Carried

PROGRAM

**New Course
Approval**

1 – Mr. Fortun 2 – Mr. Grab

The Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Curriculum and Assessment Council, approves the following new courses for the 2014 - 2015 school year. Funding for writing the curriculum for these courses is contingent upon the successful passing of the 2014 - 2015 school budget by the district voters.

- College English 121/AP Literature & Composition
- *Film In Modern America* History Course

8 Yes
Motion Carried

BY CONSENT

1 – Ms. Lindemann 2 – Mr. Fortun

SPECIAL EDUCATION

**2013 – 2014 Special
Education Report**

The Board of Education accepts the 2013 – 2014 Special Education Annual Report as presented by Myles Goss, Director of Special Education.

Student Placement Recommendations

**Section 504
Committee**

The Board of Education accepts the following recommendations of the Section 504 Committee dated 11/05/2013:

842

**Committees on Special Education and
Preschool Special Education**

The Board of Education accepts the following recommendations of the Committees on Special Education and Preschool Special Education dated 12/09/2013, 12/10/2013, 12/12/2013, 12/16/2013, 12/19/2013 and 01/15/2014:

723 821 847 845 844 846 735

SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS

Personnel

**Teaching Assistant
Resignation
Sharon Bevis**

The Board of Education accepts the resignation of Sharon Bevis from her position as Teaching Assistant with the Brunswick Central School District effective January 23, 2014.

Leaves of Absence The Board of Education approves the following requests for leave of absence:

| Name | Title | Type of Leave | Leave Start | Leave End | Comments/Location |
|---------------|---------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| William Mutch | Custodian | Medical | December 2, 2013 | Until further notice | Initiation of Leave District-wide |
| Angie Harris | Special Education Teacher | Childcare | On or about April 14, 2104 | June 26, 2014 | Initiation of Leave Elementary School |
| Kelly Hindes | Elementary Teacher | Childcare | On or about April 18, 2014 | On or about June 12, 2014 | Initiation of Leave Elementary School |

Appointment of Substitutes

The Board of Education approves the appointment of the following individual(s) as Substitute(s) in the area(s) indicated with the Brunswick Central School District, contingent upon Part 87 of the Commissioner of Education Regulations on fingerprint clearance requirements, effective January 24, 2014 (unless otherwise noted).

| Name | Position |
|-----------------|---|
| Karie Ravida | Non-certified Substitute Teacher @ \$70 per day |
| Jennie Williams | Certified Substitute Teacher @ \$85 per day |

**Music Director (Conductor)
Rescind Appointment**

Matthew Duclos The Board of Education rescinds the following appointment made at the December 12, 2013 board meeting:

Music Director (Conductor) Matthew Duclos

Extra & Co-Curricular Appointments

The Board of Education approves the following Extra and Co-Curricular appointments for the 2013-14 school year at a salary per the current BTA contract (unless otherwise noted):

Music Director (Conductor) Jeff Calistri
Vocal Director Matthew Duclos

Now, therefore, it is hereby resolved as follows:

The Assistant Superintendent for Business, Lyn Derway is hereby authorized to execute and deliver the Cooperative Investment Agreement in the name of and on behalf of Brunswick Central School District.

DONATION

The Board of Education accepts, with appreciation, the following donation:

- \$250 from the Grafton Trail Blazers Snowmobile Club for the Art Department

END OF CONSENT

8 Yes Motions Carried

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Eric Olson expressed his anger at the governor for pitting students against veterans' with his Alternate Veterans' Exemption.

**MOTION TO
ADJOURN**

1 – Mr. Roddy 2 – Mr. Fortun
The Board of Education adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

**8 Yes
Motion Carried**

Respectfully submitted,

ANGELINA BERGIN, SUPERINTENDENT

Angelina Bergin

LYN DERWAY, DISTRICT CLERK

Lyn Derway

MARIA LEWIS, BOARD SECRETARY

Maria E. Lewis