

Serving the Towns of Bethlehem and Woodbury

Minutes Regular Meeting of the Board of Education Tuesday, January 19, 2021 Join Zoom Meeting <u>https://zoom.us/j/93875204772</u> Meeting ID: 938 7520 4772 Phone: (646) 558-8656

*Board approved on February 3, 2021 with amendments (highlighted in red)

Present:

George Bauer, Chairman Carol Ann Brown Michael Devine Jonathan Kapstein Tikva Rose James Crocker

Absent:

Pamela Zmek, Vice Chairperson Janet Morgan

Also Present:

Dr. Joseph Olzacki, Superintendent Wendy Nelson Kauffman, Coordinator of Teaching and Learning Wayne McAllister, Director of Finance and Operations Tina Tanguay, Assistant Director of Finance and Operations Mark Harutunian, Covid 19 Liaison Patricia Paige, Board Clerk Patrick DiSarro, Communications Specialist

1. Call to Order

Mr. George Bauer called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. Introductions

Members of the Board introduced themselves

3. Approval of the Minutes

A. Regular Meeting dated Monday, January 4, 2021

A motion was made by Jonathan Kapstein and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the minutes as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

4. <u>Superintendent's Report</u>

A. District All In Schedule

Superintendent Olzacki thanked parents and students for their part in a successful reopening of school. He spent time in each of the buildings during the day and noted that students and teachers were social distancing and engaging in teaching and learning. Plans are to include classes on Wednesdays in approximately three weeks with the hopes for full days, all days before the end-of-year as long as students can be brought back safely.

Each of the principals were polled to share their experiences regarding the first day back.

Dr. Olzacki publicly praised the custodians for keeping the buildings immaculate for a safe return.

B. Covid Update

The Administrative Council meets every Wednesday and continue to strategize on how to return students safely back to school. Mark Harutunian performed a walkthrough of the buildings to ensure that PPE and hand sanitizer was available in all nurses' offices, front offices, and classrooms.

Sports are commencing at the high school with the exception of swimming and gymnastics, where outside facilities are utilized and the safety of our students cannot be assured.

C. Vision of a Learner

The mission of Region 14's Vision of a Learner Committee is to ensure that all students are prepared for the opportunities and challenges of the 21st century. The committee worked to develop a common understanding of the skills and qualities that will help students thrive in life, provide coherence across the district's schools from Pre-K through 12th, and serve as a guide for instruction and decision making. Their work is also driving the district's three-year improvement plan.

Members of the committee were in attendance and excited to share their work. Speaking to their efforts were members John McDonald, Barbara Perkinson, Todd Gorski, Carol Ann Brown, Wendy Nelson Kauffman, **Bonnie Knapik, and Marrisa Uva**.

The Board asked to be updated every few months.

5. <u>Committee Reports</u>

There were no Committee Reports

6. Board Chair Comments

Mr. Bauer received, and read into record, correspondence from several parents asking that the Board reconsider their decision to cancel gymnastics. Letters were received from Cari Brandt, Jennifer Thompson, and Kim Sherwill.

7. <u>Old Business</u>

There was no old business

8. <u>New Business</u>

A. Covid 19 Vaccination Policy

First read for Board members.

George Bauer introduced the policy and provided a brief background of its foundation. The policy, generated by the Board's attorney, addresses Covid 19 vaccinations for staff and was reviewed and discussed at several Policy Committee meetings. The main emphasis is to demonstrate the importance of safety for staff and the vaccination.

9. Other business

There was no other business

10. Adjournment

A motion was made Tikva Rose and seconded by Jim Crocker to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

well large

Patricia Paige Board Clerk

Recorded and filed subject to Board of Education approval by: Patricia Paige, Board Clerk