

BETHANY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes
Via Zoom Webinar
October 14, 2020

Present

Doreen Fox
John Paul Garcia
Lisa Gaw
Christopher Pittenger, Chair
Dorothy Seaton
Lynette White
Namita Wijesekera

Administration

Colleen Murray
Kai Byrd
Tom Reed-Swale

Absent

EJ Maher
Shawn Uscilla

Call to Order

Dr. Pittenger called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

Public Comment

None.

Minutes

Motion by Seaton, seconded by Garcia to accept the September 9, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. *The motion carries 6 yes, 1 abstain (Gaw), 2 absent (Maher, Uscilla).*

PTO Report

A PTO Report was given by MaryGrace Crisci. Mrs. Crisci reported on recent and upcoming PTO events.

Committee Reports

Finance:

Motion by Gaw, seconded by Wijesekera to adopt the report of expenditures and adjustments to the 2020-2021 Operating Budget through September 30, 2020 as presented. *The motion carries 7 yes, 2 absent (Maher, Uscilla).*

Mrs. Murray reported on the balances and purpose of miscellaneous accounts.

Mrs. Seaton reported on the 2020-2021 budget preparation process.

Curriculum:

Mrs. Fox reported that the committee met earlier today and received an update on Curriculum programs, new report card, remote learning, and the Equity Team.

Facilities:

Mr. Garcia reported that the committee met on September 16, 2020 and received an update on the building, grounds, and the Annex project.

Negotiations:

Dr. Pittenger reported that teacher negotiations reached a tentative agreement which will be discussed later in the agenda.

Policy:

Mrs. White reported that the committee met last night and will present policies for consideration at the next meeting.

Technology:

The committee met on September 24, 2020 to discuss updates and remote learning.

Transportation:	The committee has not met recently.
ACES:	No report was available.
Unfinished Business	None.
New Business	<p>Motion by Pittenger, seconded by Seaton to adopt the Connecticut State Department of Education Teacher Evaluation Plan Flexibilities for the 2020-2021 school year. <i>The motion carries 7 yes, 2 absent (Maher, Uscilla).</i></p> <p>Motion by Pittenger, seconded by White to approve the contract between the Bethany Education Association and the Board of Education effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024. <i>The motion carries 6 yes, 1 no (Garcia), 2 absent (Maher, Uscilla).</i></p>
Superintendent Report	<p>Mrs. Murray reported that on September 30, 2020, PK-6 enrollment was 369 students.</p> <p>Mrs. Murray provided an update on the Annex project. Board members asked questions and Mrs. Murray responded.</p> <p>Mrs. Murray reviewed a draft of the 2021-2022 school calendar which will be presented for approval at the November Board meeting. Board members asked questions and Mrs. Murray responded.</p> <p>Mrs. Murray provided an update on the status of snow days. At this time, the State Department of Education has not approved remote learning for snow days. The SDE will provide guidance in the near future.</p>
Director Report	Mrs. Byrd reported on Curriculum and Special Services. Her report is on file in the BOE Packet.
Principal Report	Mr. Reed-Swale reported on BCS recent and upcoming events. His report is on file in the BOE Packet.
Chairman Report	<p>Dr. Pittenger stated that a meeting will be held tomorrow night with the Woodbridge Board of Education and Interim Superintendent regarding shared services.</p> <p>Dr. Pittenger reminded Board members of the BOE Open Forum on October 28th at 6:30 pm.</p>
Public Comment	None.

Executive Session

Motion by Garcia, seconded by Wijesekera that the Board of Education enters into Executive Session to discuss the Superintendent's 2020-2021 goals and that Superintendent Colleen Murray is invited to attend. *The motion carries 7 yes, 2 absent (Maher, Uscilla).*

Attendance

Present

Doreen Fox
John Paul Garcia
Lisa Gaw
Christopher Pittenger
Dorothy Seaton
Lynette White
Namita Wijesekera

Administration

Colleen Murray

Absent

EJ Maher
Shawn Uscilla

Reconvene

Moved from Executive Session and the regular meeting reconvened at 8:26 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.



Susan L. Carpenter
Recording Secretary

APPROVED