

BETHANY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes
BCS Learning Commons
May 8, 2019

Present

Angelo Amato
Doreen Fox
Lisa Gaw after being sworn in
EJ Maher after being sworn in
Christopher Pittenger
Lynette White
Namita Wijesekera

Administration

Colleen Murray
Kai Byrd
Robert Davis

Absent

John Paul Garcia
Dorothy Seaton

- Call to Order** Dr. Pittenger called the meeting to order at 6:41 p.m.
- Unfinished Business** **Motion** by White, seconded by Fox to nominate Lisa Gaw as the new Board of Education member to fill the Bethany Board of Education vacancy created by Inez Kelso's passing for the term ending June 30, 2021. *The motion carries 5 yes, 2 absent (Garcia, Seaton), 2 vacancies (Kelso, Fox).*
- New Business** **Motion** by Fox, seconded by Wijesekera to nominate EJ Maher as a Board of Education member to fill the Bethany Board of Education vacancy created by the end of Doreen Fox's term on May 6, 2019. The newly appointed Board of Education member's term will end on June 30, 2019. *The motion carries 5 yes, 2 absent (Garcia, Seaton), 2 vacancies (Kelso, Fox).*
- Lisa Gaw and EJ Maher were sworn in by Bethany Town Clerk, Nancy McCarthy. Mrs. Gaw and Mr. Maher joined the Board at the table.
- Community Recognition** Mrs. Murray and Mr. Davis presented Melissa Canham-Clyne from the Clark Memorial Library with the Connecticut Association of School Friends of Education Award.
- Student Recognition** Mrs. Murray and Mr. Davis presented Nidhi Kompalli and Zachary Plaza with certificates for being chosen as the 2019 SCASA Superintendent's Award recipients.
- Mrs. Murray and Mr. Davis presented certificates to Maria Banka for her invention Super Snow Shoes, Madison Fitzsimons for her invention Head Phone Storage 2000, and Matthew Crisci for his invention Remote Retriever.
- New Staff** Mrs. Murray introduced Donna Ricciardi, BOE Office Assistant who started on April 22nd.
- Student Report** Leadership Council sixth graders, Zachary Plaza and Nidhi Kompalli presented a report on recent school activities.
- PTO Report** A PTO report was given by MaryGrace Crisci. Mrs. Crisci reported on recent and upcoming PTO events.
- Public Comment** None.
- Minutes** **Motion** by Maher, seconded by Wijesekera to approve the April 10, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. *The motion carries 6 yes, 2 absent (Garcia, Seaton), 1 abstain (Gaw).*

Committee Reports

Finance: Motion by Amato, seconded by Wijesekera to adopt the report of expenditures and adjustments to the approved 2018-2019 Operating Budget through April 30, 2019, as presented. *The motion carries 7 yes, 2 absent (Garcia, Seaton).*

Curriculum: Mr. Amato reported and the meeting agenda is on file.

Facilities: The committee has not met recently.

Policy: The committee has not met recently.

Technology: The committee has not met recently.

Transportation: The committee has not met recently.

Negotiations: The committee met last night.

New Business

Motion by Maher, seconded by Fox to grant a Child Care Leave of Absence to Melissa Rakowski beginning in the 2019-2020 school year through January 1, 2020 following her maternity leave. *The motion carries 7 yes, 2 absent (Garcia, Seaton).*

Superintendent Report

Mrs. Murray reported that student enrollment was 379 on May 1, 2019.

Mrs. Murray stated that as of today there are 57 pre-registered incoming Kindergarten students which does not include the 2 Open Choice seats. The Board discussed the process of adding an additional section.

Mrs. Murray announced that Bethany was awarded a State Security Grant in the amount of \$96,894.27.

Mrs. Murray stated that the 5K Color Run was a huge success despite the rain. She thanked the members of the committee for their hard work. Profits are anticipated to be approximately \$5,000 which will go towards Phase II of the All-Inclusive Playground.

Mrs. Murray announced that the State School Lunch Audit was successful with only minor corrections. She thanked Portia Whitted and Chartwells for their support.

Director Report

Mrs. Byrd reported on Curriculum and Special Services. Her report is on file.

Principal Report

Mr. Davis reported on BCS recent and upcoming events. His report is on file.

Chairman Report

Dr. Pittenger reminded Board members to attend the Town meeting on May 20, 2019 to vote on the budget.

Dr. Pittenger and Mrs. Murray reminded the Board members of the Spotlight Spectacular on May 15, 2019.

Correspondence

Reviewed and on file.

Public Comment

None.

Executive Session

Motion by Wijesekera, seconded by Fox that the Board of Education enters into Executive Session to discuss the Superintendent Evaluation and Employment Contract and that the Superintendent be invited to attend. *The motion carries 7 yes, 2 absent (Garcia, Seaton).*

Attendance

Angelo Amato
Doreen Fox
Lisa Gaw
EJ Maher
Christopher Pittenger
Lynette White
Namita Wijesekera

Reconvene

Moved from Executive Session and the regular meeting reconvened at 8:21 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Susan L. Carpenter
Recording Secretary

Approved June 12, 2019

APPROVED