Bainbridge-Guilford Central School Board of Education Meeting Minutes January 20, 2022

President Keith Hanvey called the January 20, 2022 meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:03 PM in the District Conference Room.

Call to Order

Board members in attendance were Keith Hanvey, Gordon Daniels, Shelly Bartow, John Gliha, Tim Suda and Rebecca Sullivan. Jeanne Shields participated via ZOOM.

Board Members in Attendance

The administrators in attendance were Tim Ryan and Business Manager Janice Rideout.

Administrators in Attendance Executive Session

On a motion by Shelly Bartow, seconded by Rebecca Sullivan, the Board of Education voted to go into executive session at 6:04 PM to discuss the Superintendent Evaluation and possible litigation regarding the District. Yes-7, No-0. Carried.

Open Session

On a motion by Shelly Bartow, seconded by Tim Suda, the Board of Education voted to go back to open session at 6:59 PM. Yes-7, No-0. Carried.

Order of the Agenda Established & Approved

On a motion by, Rebecca Sullivan, seconded by Shelly Bartow, the Board of Education voted to approve the evening's agenda. Yes-7, No-0. Carried.

Reports and Presentations

President Keith Hanvey read the following statement: "We at B-G are aware of a disturbing video that is being circulated through social media showing two individuals, one of whom is a B-G student, depicting a violent, racist threat. No specific individual was targeted in this video. However, the B-G School Community takes this very seriously and is taking appropriate measures to ensure the safety and well being of all students and staff in all buildings. This includes reporting the issue to law enforcement."

James Rideout, Director of Facilities, presented the budget proposal for Buildings and Grounds.

Mr. Ryan reported on the following items:

- The Guilford fuel tank is ready to be hooked up as soon as piping is available. Concrete work will take place in the Spring.
- For budget purposes, discussed with the Board how many members would be attending the NYSSBA Convention. Board members agreed that four was a good number.
- The State Comptroller report regarding fiscal stress in schools was published this week. B-G is in good shape fiscally and the numbers are better than last year.
- The Legislative Breakfast is Saturday, February 5th. The event will be virtual. Board members are welcome to come to the District Conference Room to participate. Breakfast could be served if there is interest.
- The District received the FFA Charter letter this week. The program is led by Emily Anderson and is quite popular with students.
- COVID cases have dropped this week. Chenango County is no longer providing contact tracing. The District will continue to monitor positive cases and provide recommendations if students are affected.
- The Coffee with the Community held last week was well attended. Many people are supportive and appreciative of the efforts that have been made through this school year.
- In response to the video that circulated on Monday, the administrators and DASA coordinator met to draft a statement for staff and students. The event was not on campus but did sufficiently disrupt the school day as students reported their discomfort about the possible threat. The District has been aggressive with the discipline process. Interviews were held with several newspapers and the local radio station. Increased training for students and staff in racial sensitivity, diversity and inclusion will be discussed. A committee of parents, community members, students and staff will be formed to spearhead this initiative.

Mr. Ryan introduced Greg Winn to the Board of Education. Mr. Winn is the new Assistant Principal in the Jr-Sr High School and is very excited to be starting on January 31, 2022.

President Hanvey read the statement regarding the protocol for guests to address the Board.

Guest Comments

Several parents of bi-racial students spoke about the video incident this week and shared other occasions that their children have heard racial slurs directed at them in school. It is not just a racial issue, but anyone who feels marginalized should be considered. No one should feel uncomfortable in school. Staff and students need to be more aware of actions and words that might be hurtful to others.

The following planning events were discussed:

Board Events

- February 3 Special Education and Transportation Budget Presentations.
- February 5 Annual Legislative Breakfast
- Feb 11 CASSC Board Officers Academy

On a motion by Shelly Bartow, seconded by Tim Suda the Board of Education voted to adjourn at 7:54 PM. Yes-7, No-0. Carried

Adjournment

Planning

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan L. Weibel
District Clerk