In Cindy Kubick’s absence, Mr. Finch called the meeting to order. He asked that members review the minutes from the November meeting. Motion made by Johanna Moore and seconded by Nancy Keeney to accept the November minutes. There were no objections.

**TOPIC: Instrumental Music and Students In-Need**
The grant that Mr. Finch wrote for after school support sessions for instrumental music was approved by the Red Hook Education Foundation. Mr. Finch has a meeting with Mr. Boyd and Mr. Dunda and Dr. Summers to discuss the logistics of the grant.

**TOPIC: Extended Absence of Students**
Mr. Finch was able to survey his colleagues on how they handle extended absences of students. What do you do for students below the compulsory age? There was not a great deal of feedback from his colleagues. The District may come up with a number of days in which to reach as a limit for unenrolling students. Mr. Finch is still working on getting a sub-committee together on this topic.

**TOPIC: Transportation Sub-Committee**
Mr. Finch handed out a transportation survey went out to all parents regarding transportation in the District. Mr. Finch handed out the survey results, of which about 162 people responded. The responses were discussed. Nancy Keeney thanked Maggie Rothwell for her suggestion of a survey. Discussion ensued regarding the survey, the responses, the validity of the information from the survey, and where to go from here. Mr. Finch stated guidelines are needed, and they will begin to implement a plan to make recommendations to the Board for cutting back.

**TOPIC: Future Meetings**
Mr. Finch asked the group about agenda items for the January and February. Inclusion regarding racism was discussed. Rachel Gifford stated sometimes at the high school things are being said by students and teachers that could be racist. Sarah Ugolini asked about training for staff regarding racism. Stacie Smith stated they have a program at LAMS. Discussion ensued. Dawn Jardine spoke of a woman, Berna Meyers, who does bias training and has a very interesting TED Talk. Rachel Gifford suggested adding this topic to the advisory period in the future. Ms. Gifford said students really appreciate the advisory period. Mr. Finch suggested a survey for bias and racism. Maggie Rothwell also suggested asking a parent who was at a BOE Meet & Greet to come speak to the group about her son’s experiences with racism. Mr. Finch said he would look into this for the January meeting.

Amy Husten suggested another topic brought up by a parent at the BOE Meet & Greet, which was cell phone use in school and the possibility of a cell phone policy for students. Mr. Finch stated he will look into this for the February meeting.

Maggie Rothwell suggested a book titled, “Reinventing Conversation” and it is a great study on what is happening with the digital age.

**FUTURE MEETING DATES 2018-19** January 14, 2019; February 11, 2019; March 18, 2019; April 22, 2019; May 20, 2019; and June 17, 2019

The meeting was adjourned at 4:06 p.m.