



Board of Education Regular Meeting
Tuesday, April 7, 2026 at 7:00 P.M.

Hybrid Meeting

In-Person Location: Bloomfield Board of Education, Board Room
1133 Blue Hills Avenue, Bloomfield, CT 06002

Virtual Option: Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87063652501?pwd=n5nTJTLeNjGaF2pynSKYm8aHddZ5Gf.1>

Meeting ID: 870 6365 2501

Passcode: 387613

Attendance:	L. Easmon, Chair	Present
	T. Mack-Mohammed, Vice Chair	Present
	F. Bogle-Assegai, Secretary	Present (<i>online; left meeting at 8:25 p.m.</i>)
	K. Dunbar	Present
	H. Frydman	Absent
	C. Jones	Absent
	L. Simone	Present

Also Present: T. Youngberg, Superintendent of Schools
L. Lamenzo, Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Leadership
D. Greco, Director of Accounting
G. Martinez, Executive Director of Talent Management & Community Partnerships
N. Jones, District Teaching & Learning Specialist
D. Bunting, Principal, Carmen Arace Intermediate School

1. Establishment of a Quorum and Call to Order

L. Easmon determined a quorum was present and the Bloomfield Board of Education Special meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All rose to recite the Pledge of Allegiance. The Board Chair asked for a moment of silence for the family of Bloomfield affected by the recent home explosion.

3. Opening Statement

L. Simone welcomed all attendees. The purpose and process of the Board of Education meeting were stated.

4. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes – Special Meeting – March 4, 2026

B. Approval of Minutes – Special Meeting – March 5, 2026

C. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting – March 10, 2026

A motion was made by T. Mack-Mohammed and seconded by K. Dunbar for the Bloomfield Board of Education to approve the consent agenda, as presented.



L. Easmon	Aye
T. Mack-Mohammed	Aye
F. Bogle-Assegai	Aye
K. Dunbar	Aye
L. Simone	Aye

The motion passed unanimously 5-0-0.

5. Presentations

A. Student Representative Report – SOAR Program

Student representatives from The SOAR program, Bloomfield Public Schools' Gifted and Talented Program, shared a Power Point presentation. The students shared information about their research projects and upcoming SOAR showcase.

6. Superintendent's Report

A. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Tracy Youngberg, Superintendent shared updates on the following items:

- Reminder for the District Parent Advisory meeting on April 8th and the Budget Presentation to the Town on April 9th
- Participation in a multi-district School Climate & Student Support form on March 17, 2026
- District took part in a regional School Safety Forum on March 26, 2026
- Bloomfield Public Schools also visited Windham's Phoenix Academy, Alternative Learning program
- Strategic Planning process has been pushed back to 2026-2027 with full plans to engage students, staff, families, community businesses and university partners
- Lisa Lamenzo gave an update on the Alliance District Symposium on April 2, 2026

B. CAIS School Closure

Dr. Youngberg reported on the closing of Carmen Arace Intermediate School to clarify the closure of the school and grade level reconfigurations. She noted a communication was sent out to families and the community on April 1, 2026. Dr. Youngberg noted this move will more efficiently use resources and has both development and instructional benefits.

A chart with all schools, grade levels and principals has been shared with the public. This will also be available on the website.

C. Human Resources – Staffing Report

G. Martinez provided a staffing update. The report provided updates for the month of March 2026 including new hires, transfers, resignation and/or retirements. A vacancy report was also shared.

L. Easmon inquired about the requirements for hiring Food Service Workers. Mr. Carambelas noted the interview questions include specific questions about their cooking



experience. Ms. Easmon further inquired about Food Services substitute staff. Mr. Carambelas noted the district has in-house substitutes that are trained.

L. Easmon inquired the replacement of the culinary arts teacher. It was noted a replacement was found and the person is also certified in Vocational Agriscience.

T. Mack-Mohammed inquired about the resignations have any impact on those positions as part of the attrition.

L. Easmon inquired about the closing of Carmen Arace Intermediate school and the impact of food service workers. Mr. Carambelas noted there is a possibility of moving one staff member over to Metacomet to accommodate the additional students.

D. Financial Report – March 2026

Domenic Greco, Executive Director of Finance and Operations reported financials as of April 1, 2026. He noted that 3.47% of the adopted budget has yet to be expended or encumbered.

Mr. Greco noted on the one-page summary report, major account 01 Certified Salaries is overbudget by almost \$728,000 dollars. Transfers to offset the negative balances of this line will be made in June 2026. Major object 03 Employee Benefits still shows a balance of 1.7 million dollars as funds for pension contributions have yet to be encumbered. Mr. Greco noted major object 08 Tuition for magnet school and out-placement tuition now has an available balance. This is due to the Excess Cost Grant estimate provided by the State of Connecticut. Major object is 11 Operations is overbudget by about \$335,000 as the district expects to receive funds from the Town for the 1% set aside account.

Mr. Greco noted some budget transfers have been made to the 01 Certified Salaries accounts. On page 3 of the six-page detail report, the balance of object 03500, Technical Services has been running overbudget but the district received eRate reimbursements and these have been reflected.

L. Easmon asked if the financials and reporting are easier now that the School District accounting and Town are both integrated into Munis. Mr. Greco acknowledged his staff and noted they will next be integrating payroll and human resources.

7. Board Committee Reports

A. Finance Committee

K. Dunbar Committee Chair noted they met on March 24, 2026. Dr. Youngberg presented at the committee current and past staff full-time equivalent (FTE) and enrollment trends. Dr. Youngberg also gave an update about current and future budget responses including operational costs to run the building. She also provided an update to the committee on the Munis conversion specifically related to HR, Payroll & Benefits.



B. Curriculum Committee

T. Mack-Mohammed, Committee Chair noted they also met on March 24, 2026. The meeting focused on the district's work on curriculum mapping. It is a multipronged approach to look at curriculum at an in-depth level. It provides an at-a-glance view of what students will learn and provided equity and coherence. They also discussed the district's Safe School and Climate Plan which is also on the agenda.

C. Policy Committee

F. Bogle-Assegai noted the committee reviewed several policies and decided to move forward four of the policies for an initial review of the full Board of Education.

8. Public/PTO Comment

No public comment.

9. Old Business

A. Discussion and Possible Action of Board of Education Policy 5132 Regarding School Uniforms

Dr. Tracy Youngberg shared that the district hosted a community forum on March 10, 2026 on School Uniforms to allow the public to provide input. She also shared feedback from the community that was provided in writing. Dr. Youngberg presented three options to the Board of Education for the next steps on the school uniform policy. Dr. Youngberg shared that if the Board opted to rescind the current policy and go with a dress code, families can still choose to wear uniforms.

The Board engaged in discussion regarding the dress code policy and the various options moving forward.

A motion was made by T. Mack-Mohammed and seconded by K. Dunbar for the Bloomfield Board of Education to rescind the current Board of Education Policy 5132 and adopt a school uniform policy for K-8 (option #2) or a dress code policy K-12 (option #3).

The Board Chair asked for a roll-call vote to choose either option #2 or option #3.

L. Simone	Option #3
K. Dunbar	Option #2
T. Mack-Mohammed	Option #3
F. Bogle-Assegai	Option #2
L. Easmon	Option #3

The motion passed in favor of Option #3; 3-2-0.

10. New Business

A. Review and Possible Action on the 2026-2027 Healthy Food Certification

The Healthy Food Certification is something the Board of Education can opt into each year. The state provides an additional \$0.08 per meal. The district opts into a healthier



option list including whole grains, lower salt and lower sugar content. There is also a vote for exemptions for fundraisers or sports games.

A motion was made by Mack-Mohammed and seconded by K. Dunbar, pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, the Bloomfield Board of Education certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, culinary programs, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or non-school organizations and groups.

L. Easmon	Aye
T. Mack-Mohammed	Aye
F. Bogle-Assegai	Aye
K. Dunbar	Aye
L. Simone	Aye

The motion passed unanimously 5-0-0.

A motion was made by Mack-Mohammed and seconded by K. Dunbar, for the Bloomfield Board of Education to allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards and beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes provided that the following conditions are met:

- 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend;
- 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and
- 3) the food and beverage items are not sold from a vending machine or school store.

An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The “regular school day” is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held and must be the same place as the food and beverage sales.

L. Easmon	Aye
T. Mack-Mohammed	Aye
F. Bogle-Assegai	Aye
K. Dunbar	Aye
L. Simone	Aye

The motion passed unanimously 5-0-0.



B. Discussion and Possible Action on the District Safe School Climate Plan

Dr. Tracy Youngberg, Superintendent presented on the District Safe School Climate Plan. The district is working to be in compliance with state mandates. She shared a checklist of items that need to be completed from Public Act 23-167 to be in compliance. Dr. Youngberg provided an overview of these items. In regards to the climate survey, the district has been collecting data informally and from that goals will be drafted relative to school climate. Dr. Youngberg noted that data demonstrates an uptick in achievement when people feel better about their climate.

She noted some additional resources from the State of CT are included in the Board packets including a template of school improvement plans.

A motion was made by T. Mack-Mohammed and seconded by K. Dunbar for the for the Board of Education to approve the District Safe School Climate Plan, as presented.

- L. Easmon Aye
- T. Mack-Mohammed Aye
- F. Bogle-Assegai Aye
- K. Dunbar Aye
- L. Simone Aye

The motion passed unanimously 5-0-0.

C. Initial Reading of Policies

- 1. Curriculum Policy – 6141**
- 2. Nondiscrimination – 0521**
- 3. Title IX Sexual Harassment – 4000.1/5145.44 – Personnel/Students**
- 4. Work Release – 5113.13**

Nicole Jones, District Teaching and Learning Specialist shared a copy of Policy 6141 with the committee members and noted the policy was from the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) recommended policies. This policy is anchored in curriculum design and development, with clear roles and responsibilities.

Dr. Youngberg noted Policy 0521 is required and has mandated updated language around victims of sexual assault. It was also noted that the Title IX policy is being reverted back to the 2020 legislation. The attorney informed us this will still need to go through the approval process of a first and second reading.

Dr. Youngberg noted Policy 5113.13 – Work Release is a mandated policy and the language was recommended by CABE.

11. Board Comments

L. Simone stated the importance of attending the presentation of the budget to the Town on April 9th at 6:30 p.m. in support of the school district. She also asked those to support the SOAR Showcase on May 20, 2026 to support the students who presented at the meeting.



K. Dunbar thanked everyone for joining the meeting this evening. She commented that the students presenting did an excellent job. She hopes the SOAR program can be extended to all students. She commented on the uniform vote.

F. Bogle-Assegai stated it was a pleasure to hear the students present. She is disappointed in the rescinding of the uniform. She echoed the comment of Dr. Simone in supporting the presentation of the Superintendent at the Town Council.

T. Mack-Mohammed acknowledge next week is Spring Break. She is passionate about the rescinding of the uniform policy. She is also noted the comments on social media about the closure of Carmen Arace Intermediate School and showed that people are not paying attention. She noted the Board has had several conversations regarding the footprint of the Bloomfield schools. She encouraged the families to come to the meetings to keep updated to the business of the schools. She further encouraged families and community to come to the Town Council in support of the budget presentation.

L. Easmon noted the next BHS PTO meeting is on April 21, 2026. Ms. Easmon reiterated that Dr. Youngberg will be presenting to the Town Council on Thursday, April 9, 2026. She noted the budget is based on student outcomes and is fiscally responsible. She thanked the students of the SOAR program for presenting and the projects are very impressive. She offered everyone a wonderful spring break.

12. Other Business

A. Personnel matters: Periodic discussion of Superintendent's Performance (discussion proposed for Executive Session)

A motion was made by T. Mack-Mohammed and seconded by K. Dunbar for the Bloomfield Board of Education to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the Superintendent's performance. They further invited attorneys from the Crumbie Law Firm and Superintendent Dr. Tracy Youngberg to participate in the executive session.

L. Easmon	Aye
T. Mack-Mohammed	Aye
F. Bogle-Assegai	Aye
K. Dunbar	Aye
L. Simone	Aye

The motion passed unanimously 5-0-0.

The Board members convened into Executive Session at 8:22 p.m. and returned to public session at 8:57 p.m.

F. Bogle-Assegai left the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

13. Adjournment

At 8:57 p.m. a motion to adjourn was made by K. Dunbar and seconded by L. Simone.



The motion passed unanimously 4-0-0.

F. Bogle-Assegai, Board Secretary

T. Youngberg, Superintendent of Schools