



BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION - REGULAR MEETING

Regular Meeting AT Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Bloomfield Board of Education 1133 Blue Hills Avenue Board Room, 1133 Blue Hills Avenue ,
Bloomfield, CT 06002

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 - B. Policies for Initial Reading
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 1. Bullying Behavior in School - 5131.911
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 - C. Proposal to Eliminate Policy 5141 - Immunizations
B. Silver and W. Guzman
 - D. Safe School Climate Plan
B. Silver and W. Guzman
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W. Guzman
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W. Guzman



G. Solar Panel Proposal
W. Guzman

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D. Harris
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12. Adjournment



BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION – REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, January 12, 2016 7:00 p.m.

Bloomfield Board of Education

1133 Blue Hills Avenue

Board Room

Attendance: D. Harris Present
M. R. Walters Present
H. Frydman Present
R. Ike Present
M. Williams Present
Q. Johnson Present
R. Coleman-Mitchell Present

Also Present: J. Thompson, Jr., Superintendent of Schools
W. Guzman, Chief Operations Officer
B. Silver, Accountability, Performance & Assessment Officer
S. McCann, Director of School Improvement and Intervention
A.M. Cullinan, Interim Chief Academic Officer
W. Joslyn, Human Resource Specialist
E. Pierce, District Grant Specialist
S. Simpson, Director of Strategic Communication and Planning
D. Moleti, Principal, Bloomfield High School
S. Loveland, Principal, Global Experience Magnet School
J. White, Principal, Metacomet Elementary School
T. Ellis, Principal, Carmen Arace Middle School
S. Williams, Principal, Carmen Arace Intermediate School

1. Establishment of a Quorum and Call to Order

D. Harris determined a quorum was present and the Bloomfield Board of Education Regular Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All rose to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Opening Statement

H. Frydman, Secretary, welcomed all attendees. The purpose and process of the Board of Education meeting was stated.

4. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting – December 8, 2015

A motion was made by M. Walters and seconded by R. Ike for the Bloomfield Board of Education to approve the minutes from the December 8, 2015 regular board meeting, as presented.

The motion was passed unanimously.



5. Presentations

A. Lions Club International Peace Poster Contest Winners

Mr. Donald Harris, Jr., Board Chair introduced Phyllis Perry, representative from the Bloomfield Lions Club.

Ms. Perry stated it is a proud time to be a citizen of Bloomfield with the resurgence in academics and adding to the story, talented young artists.

Ms. Perry commented that the Lions Club is one the largest service organization in the world and is over 100 years old. The Peace Poster Contest is an initiative that encourages children to express their vision of “peace” in the art realm.

This year 18 students participated from Bloomfield. Ms. Perry thanked art teacher, Mr. Marc DeNovellis for his assistance with the student participation.

The contest winners from Carmen Arace Middle School Carmen Arace Intermediate School were recognized. The posters will be on display at the Board of Education through the month of January.

B. Recognition of Bloomfield Public Schools by the CT Council for Education Reform

The Connecticut Council for Education Reform (CCER) is a non-profit organization tasked with closing the academic achievement gap through public awareness, policy and partnerships with school districts.

Dr. Villar noted that Bloomfield has demonstrated best practices that should be replicated statewide and shared with other school districts. There is a high level of leadership and belief in the students. The mentality that all students can rise to the level if given the opportunity has been very successful.

CCER recognized Bloomfield Public Schools for its strategic use of data and data teams in improving student performance.

C. Student Representative Report – Bloomfield High School

Mr. Harris welcomed the student representative from Bloomfield High School.

Bloomfield High School football team won the Class “S” State Championship in a win over Ansonia. The BHS Drum and Dance Groups hosted the first annual Kwanzaa Celebration on December 11, 2015. The Harford Courant honored student athletes and one Bloomfield student was recognized. Students are continuing to apply for college and recently the winter sports programs began. The Quarter 1 Honor dinner was on December 15, 2015 and 198 students were honored. Students are participating in community service through Cookies for the Troops and the Do Something club.

The student representatives participated in the CABE/CAPSS Conference on November 21, 2015.



6. Public/PTO Comment

No comment.

7. Superintendent's Report

A. Introduction of New Principals: Mr. Jesse White and Mrs. Sarah Williams

Dr. James Thompson, Jr. announced the new principals to the Board of Education, Mrs. Sarah Williams, the principal of Carmen Arace Intermediate School and Mr. Jesse White, the principal of Metacomet Elementary School. Dr. Thompson welcomed Mr. William Joslyn, the district Human Resource Specialist to discuss the facilitation the interviews for these positions.

Mr. Joslyn noted there were over 30 applicants for each position. A committee of teachers, non-certified staff, parents and building administrators was comprised for each position. There were two recommendations that were made to the Superintendent, both of which were internal candidates.

Mr. White addressed that Board of Education, stating he is elated to be the new principal. He is excited to move to the next level and is very thankful for his team.

Mrs. Williams started as a teacher ten years ago and is thankful to supervisor who allowed her to shine. She later became the Curriculum Specialist at Wintonbury Early Childhood and is excited for her new role.

B. Financial Report – November 2015

Mr. William Guzman reported on the financials for December 2015. He distributed the one-page and six-page financial reports. Approximately 2.3% of the budget has not been expended or encumbered. The remaining balance is approximately \$700,000.

Mr. Guzman noted the 02 non-certified salaries account with a deficit of \$20,000. This is primarily due to the addition of tutor and Instructional Assistants to support special education.

The second item of discussion was account 08, Tuition. Mr. Guzman noted there is a deficit of \$413,000. The magnet schools account for \$58,000 as there are 32 more students attending magnets school in the current school year than in the previous year.

The line item 5600 Tuition, Public in the six-page report shows a deficit of \$512,000. This is attributed to outside placement of students. There are 17 additional students (with only a projected increase of 1 student). Many students are placed by DCF to a foster family or have recently moved into town. Mr. Guzman noted this is a very volatile account. The district is obligated to provide the services as required in a student's IEP.

Mr. Frydman noted he was pleased to see the repairs to the roof. The repairs started approximately two weeks ago.



8. Old Business

Nothing to report

9. New Business

A. District Accountability Report Update

Dr. Bethany Silver, the district Accountability, Performance & Assessment Officer presented the District Accountability Report update. The purpose of the presentation is to inform the board of the progress made writing the new plan.

The 2015-2018 District Accountability Plan is guided by the district's Theory of Action which supports the adult work in the district. The District Accountability Plan helps to communicate district goals, focus the adult work and report district achievements.

The district is currently in the process of drafted a new three year plan. The draft will be presented to the Curriculum Committee in March of 2016 and to the Board of Education for adoption in April of 2016.

B. Cycle I & Cycle II Benchmark Assessments

Dr. Bethany Silver, the district Accountability, Performance & Assessment Officer reported the Benchmark Assessment for Cycle I and Cycle II. The purpose of this presentation is to review benchmark assessments and highlight strengths and strategies by school. Benchmark assessments help teachers target instruction and help students prepare to meet end of year expectations while demonstrating skill on the spring assessments.

Dr. Silver explained that benchmark assessments are valuable as they inform students of their skill level, inform instruction and demonstrate our learners' skills relative to the end of the year grade-level expectations.

Each principal from the following schools shared the strength areas, followed by the standards and strategies in each of their focus areas.

- Mr. Jesse White, Metacomet Elementary School
- Mrs. Sarah Williams, Carmen Arace Intermediate School
- Mr. Trevor Ellis, Carmen Arace Middle School
- Mr. Dan Moleti, Bloomfield High School
- Mr. Sabin Loveland, Global Experience Magnet School

It was further noted that the benchmarks are selected through an advisory committee and this year they have reduced the testing time and found an assessment that is highly predictive of performance on the Smarter Balanced Assessments.

The district also has three levels of data teams: District, school-wide and instructional. They use data teams to review data and to inform instruction. Schools also participate in vertical teaming to meet the expectations for the next level.



The board members commended the principals on challenging students to cite evidence and on their public speaking.

One board member inquired how they determine the areas of focus. It is a collective decision from the principals and they also use research.

10. CABE Updates

On November 21, 2015, three students from Bloomfield Public Schools attended the CABE/CAPSS conference.

On Thursday, January 14, 2016, Mr. Harris stated he would be participated in a CABE retreat in New Haven.

He would be spending five day in Washington, D.C. at an Equity Symposium and participating in advocacy workshops.

11. Board Comments

R. Ike wished everyone a happy New Year and congratulated the high school football team. He encouraged others to attend events on January 18, 2016, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

R. Coleman-Mitchell congratulated the winners of the Peace Poster contest. She noted that Dr. Thompson at the Legislative Office Building speaking on Minority Teacher Recruitment and how Bloomfield has

Q. Johnson wished everyone a happy New Year. He congratulated the high school football team and the new principals Mr. White and Mrs. Williams.

M. Williams echoed previous sentiments.

H. Frydman extended a happy New Year. He congratulated the new principals

M. Walters commented the presentation of the Cycle I and Cycle II Benchmark Assessments was very informative. He thanked Ms. Perry from the Bloomfield Lions Club and echoed her statement, that it is a proud time to be a citizen of Bloomfield.

D. Harris offered his congratulations to Mr. White and Mrs. Williams. He also thanked all the principals for their hard work. He gave praise to the district for building strong partnerships. He also encouraged the community to participate in programs on January 18, 2016, Martin Luther King Day.

12. Adjournment

At 8:38 p.m. a motion to adjourn was made by R. Ike and seconded by M. Walters.

The motion was passed unanimously.



H. Frydman, Secretary

J. Thompson, Ed. D., Superintendent