



BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION - BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING

Board of Education Special Meeting AT Tuesday, February 15, 2022

Virtual - Zoom Meeting

1. Establishment of a Quorum and Call to Order
D. Harris
2. Pledge of Allegiance
D. Harris
3. *Phenomenal Woman* by Maya Angelou
K. Tate
4. Opening Statement
J. Wilkerson
5. Consent Agenda
D. Harris
 - A. Approval of Minutes - Regular Meeting - January 11, 2022 3
6. Presentations
 - A. Student Representative Report - Bloomfield High School
D. Harris
 - B. Introduction of Adult Education Director, Michael Bailey
J. Robinson
7. Public/PTO Comment
D. Harris
8. Superintendent's Report
 - A. Superintendent's Update
J. Thompson
 - B. Health and Safety Update
W. Shepard-Bannish and J. Robinson
9. Old Business
 - A. Policies for a Second Reading
W. Guzman
 1. Age of Attendance - 5112
 2. Students Who are Homeless - 5118.1
10. New Business
 - A. Presentation of Superintendent's Proposed 2022-2023 Budget
J. Thompson and W. Guzman
 - B. Policy for an Initial Reading
W. Guzman



1. District Goals - 0200

11. CAFE Updates
D. Harris
12. Board Comments
D. Harris
13. Adjournment
D. Harris



Board of Education Regular Meeting
Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at 7:00 P.M.
Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86211536368?pwd=OWdsaXZHNGQxdWNHa3JNOXNzaVpEZz09>

Meeting ID: 862 1153 6368 Passcode: z9m3QN

Dial-In Number (929) 205-6099

Meeting ID: 862 1153 6368 Passcode: 666614

Attendance:	D. Harris, Chair	Present
	H. Frydman, Vice Chair	Present
	J. Wikerson, Secretary	Present
	R. Ike	Present
	L. Easmon	Present
	T. Moore	Absent
	F. Bogle-Assegai	Present

Also Present: J. Thompson, Superintendent
W. Guzman, Chief Operations Officer
J. Robinson, Director of Technology/Human Resource Coordinator
S. McCann, Chief Academic Officer
A.M. Cullinan, Curriculum Consultant
W. Shepard-Bannish, Director of Student Support Services
J. Titelbaum, District Data Systems Coordinator
E. Pierce, District Grants Specialist
S. Straker, Principal, Wintonbury Early Childhood Magnet School
J. Dwyer, Principal, Laurel Elementary School
P. Guzzo, Principal, Metacomet Elementary School
S. Williams, Principal, Carmen Arace Intermediate School
T. Ellis, Principal, Carmen Arace Middle School
J. Bernabe, Principal, Global Experience Magnet School
D. Moleti, Principal, Bloomfield High 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 7:01 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All rose to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Opening Statement

Joseph Wilkerson, Jr., 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 14, 2021

A motion was made by H. Frydman and seconded by R. Ike to approve the minutes from the December 14, 2021 regular Board Meeting, with edits as noted by L. Easmon.

The motion passed unanimously.

5. Presentations

A. Student Representative Report – Global Experience Magnet School

Two student representatives from Global Experience Magnet School were introduced by the Chairman. Students prepared a Power Point providing updates from GEMS. The students shared information on a variety of school clubs and activities including induction into the National Honor Society and Student Council elections. GEMS held a virtual cultural fair and hosted a school spirit week. Students were recognized for quarter one honor roll and for those who qualified for the GEMS Society. Students are looking forward to traveling again soon.

6. Public/PTO Comment

No public comment.

7. Superintendent's Report

A. Superintendent's Update

Dr. James Thompson, Jr. provided an update to the Board of Education members. He gave reports in the areas of COVID-19 health and safety updates and its impact on staffing, and mid-year student academic performance.

B. Financial Report – December 2021

Mr. William Guzman, Chief Operations Officer reported on the financials as of January 6, 2022 and represents the first half of the 2021-2022 fiscal year. He noted that 1.87% of the adopted budget has yet to be expended or encumbered.

On the summary page, he noted two major accounts with deficits 01-Certified Salaries and 08-Tuition. The Certified Salaries account will be addressed when receivables are posted for tuition receivables.

With respect to account 08-Tuition, there have been 63 new students to Bloomfield who arrived with Special Education requirements. This has impacted the budget, specifically the out-of-district tuitions account. Mr. Guzman noted the following sub-accounts to major account 08: 5600 Tuition, Public and 5630 Tuition, Private.

Sub-account 5690 Tuition, Magnet is over-budget due to an increase of 35 students, above the number budgeted that are attending magnet schools this year.



L. Easmon inquired if the deficit in Certified Salaries will be balanced with the expected receivables. Mr. Guzman noted some of the receivables will address this issue as well as budget transfers at year-end. Ms. Easmon also inquired about budgeting more accurately for certified salaries during the budget development process. Mr. Guzman stated that the district estimates the costs during budget development but due to the movement of certified staff those estimates will fluctuate and is part of the budget management.

C. Health and Safety

Wendy Shepard-Bannish, Director of Student Support Services and COVID-19 Liaison provided an update on local and regional health data. Positive notification reporting has been centralized using a google form. Vaccination clinics for children ages 5-11 will be held in January.

The district has received and distributed N95 masks for all staff.

SEMA4 will continue to be in schools through the end of January 2022, testing asymptomatic staff and students.

Bloomfield has received a very limited supply of home testing kits for staff and students. The district has precise recommendations from the state on how our nursing staff should be distributing and prioritizing these test kits.

Effective yesterday, the district moved forward with implementing recommendations for reduced quarantine time from 10 days to 5 days. In addition, the district will no longer be quarantining for in-school close contacts. These decisions were made in collaboration with the West Hartford/Bloomfield Health district and from recommendations by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH). The district continues to monitor data, and will revert to 10 day quarantine if warranted.

H. Frydman inquired if there were any child-sized N95 masks. Mrs. Shepard-Bannish noted the state did not provide any masks that would properly fit younger students.

Mr. John Robinson, Director of Technology/Human Resource Coordinator provided a staffing update. Staffing vacancies has been exasperated by COVID-19 and the nationwide teacher shortages. The new variant has impacted coverage for staff absences. Mr. Robinson further noted the district's staffing partners have also experienced staffing shortages.

8. New Business

A. Student Academic Performance Update

Anne Marie Cullinan, Curriculum Specialist, and the principals gave a student academic performance update. The purpose of this presentation was to review student performance, highlighting strengths as well as current and future



instructional focus areas. The presentation shared information regarding the standards that teachers are targeting during instruction.

Each principal from the following schools shared the areas of instructional strength, followed by instructional focus areas.

- Samantha Straker, Wintonbury Early Childhood Magnet School
- Jennifer Dwyer, Laurel Elementary School
- Paul Guzzo, Metacomet Elementary School
- Sarah Williams, Carmen Arace Intermediate School
- Trevor Ellis, Carmen Arace Middle School
- Jeff Bernabe, Global Experience Magnet School
- Daniel Moleti, Bloomfield High School

In conclusion, Anne Marie Cullinan provided an overview of how the Portrait of a Graduate connects to the academic instruction.

D. Harris noted all Board members will receive a copy of the presentation.

R. Ike commented that he likes to see how the Portrait of a Graduate is impacting all the schools.

F. Bogle-Assegai would like to see some statistical data in future presentations about academic performance and to make a connection to state standards.

J. Wilkerson inquired how the district is measuring success regarding the Portrait of the Graduate. Ms. Cullinan noted the sub-committees are drafting action plans that will include measurable outcomes. This will be presented at a future Board meeting.

B. Approval of Bloomfield Educators Association Contract July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2025

Mr. John Robinson, Director of Technology/Human Resource Coordinator shared information relative to the mediated Bloomfield Educators Association contract. This is a tentative agreement for three years from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025. The contract settlement over three years is 11.62% and the Hartford county average is 11.2%.

The contract includes:

- Salary step increases over three years with 2% general wage increase
- BEA members will move to the State Partnership Medical Plan resulting in a .92% decrease in contract costs
- Elimination of 1% pay incentive plan

R. Ike asked if he can have information relative to the percentage breakdowns of certified staff based on degrees.



L. Easmon inquired if the health plan savings mentioned was annually or over the course of the contract. Mr. Robinson noted annually, but it is estimated.

J. Wilkerson asked where new staff would fall relative to salary. He stated the salary grids are located at the end of the contract and are based on experience and degrees.

L. Easmon asked who was included in the contract. Mr. Robinson stated teachers, coaches, guidance counselors, speech/language therapist among others.

A motion was made by H. Frydman and seconded by R. Ike to approve the tentative agreement between Bloomfield Board of Education and the Bloomfield Educators Association for the period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025.

The motion passed unanimously.

9. CABA Updates

Mr. Donald Harris, Jr. shared that he and Mr. Wilkerson attended the CABA New Board Member/Leadership Conference on December 8, 2021. Mr. Joseph Wilkerson was also nominated as an Associate Board of Directors with the CABA Association.

10. Board Comments

L. Easmon thanked everyone for their presentations, especially the students. She extended a thank you to staff and teachers for getting us through this pandemic and for their dedication.

R. Ike congratulated Mr. Wilkerson. He applauded the district on their presentation. He agreed that he would like to see the metrics regarding student academic success. He acknowledged Dr. Thompson for keeping all apprised during the holiday recess.

F. Bogle-Assegai thanked Superintendent and administration for moving forward during the pandemic. She gave a special thanks to Wendy Shepard-Bannish and the students from Global Experience Magnet School. She would like to see more student presentations. Everyone is doing a stellar job.

J. Wilkerson seconded Ms. Assegai on the work of Dr. Thompson and the district staff. He thanked the principals for their presentation and highlighted the work at Wintonbury Early Childhood Magnet School. He acknowledged Mrs. Shepard-Bannish and her leadership.

H. Frydman thanked principals for coming tonight and giving a great presentation. He appreciates the regular updates from the district. He congratulated Mr. Wilkerson on his nomination. He wished all a Happy New Year.

D. Harris applauded the student representatives from GEMS. He alerted the Board to the CEA's sponsoring a "Black Out" on January 12. They are asking educators to wear black



to bring attention to the fact that some schools are not as safe as they should be during this pandemic. The Bloomfield Educators Association (BEA) made a statement that the association is appreciative of the safety precautions in Bloomfield.

11. Adjournment

At 8:45 p.m. a motion to adjourn was made by R. Ike and seconded by H. Frydman.

The motion passed unanimously.

J. Wilkerson, Secretary

J. Thompson, Ed. D., Superintendent