



BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION - BOARD OF EDUCATION CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING

Board of Education Curriculum Committee Meeting AT Tuesday, October 24, 2023

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

1. Establishment of a Quorum and Call to Order
H. Frydman
2. Consent Agenda
 - A. Approval of Minutes - Curriculum Committee Meeting - May 26, 2023 2
H. Frydman
3. Old Business
 - A. English Learner/Multilingual Learner Update 4
A.M. Cullinan and S. Shippee
4. Adjournment
H. Frydman



Board of Education – Curriculum Committee Meeting
Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 6:30 PM
Bloomfield Board of Education, Board Room
1133 Blue Hills Avenue
Bloomfield, CT 06002

ATTENDANCE: H. Frydman, Chair Absent
R. Ike Present
F. Bogle-Assegai Present
D. Harris, *ex-officio* Present

ALSO PRESENT: J. Thompson W. Guzman D. Nesmith
J. Titelbaum L. Lamenzo A.M. Cullinan
S. Simpson W. Shepard-Bannish L. Easmon
T. Moore J. Wilkerson

1. CALL TO ORDER

R. Ike called the meeting to order at 6:18 p.m. The roll was called and a quorum was present.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes – Curriculum Committee – April 25, 2023

A motion was made by F. Bogle-Assegai and seconded by R. Ike for the Curriculum Committee to approve the meeting minutes from April 25, 2023, as presented.

The motion was passed unanimously (3-0-0).

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. Right to Read Waiver

Ms. Lisa Lamenzo, Director of School Improvement shared a PowerPoint presentation about the Right to Read Waiver with the Curriculum Committee.

Ms. Lamenzo gave an overview of the legislation and Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) guidance regarding the Right to Read Waiver. The statute mandates that each local Board of Education implement a reading curriculum model or program that has been reviewed and recommended by the CSDE for the 2023-2024 school year. If an approved program is not implemented then an extension or waiver must be submitted.

There are seven approved models and Open Court was not on the approved list. Bloomfield opted to submit a waiver.

Ms. Lamenzo further provided details on the waiver application process, including the Right to Read Waiver Writing Team. The application waiver for Bloomfield included evidence such as data, Tier I, II and III programming, professional development, Literacy Academy, and community partnerships. A timeline and next steps was also share with the committee.



A board member inquired what happens if the waiver is not accepted. It was noted that the state would likely issue parameters to implement over time.

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. The Nest – Program Evaluation

Anne Marie Cullinan, Curriculum Specialist provided an update on the program evaluation for the new preschool program *The Nest* at Laurel Elementary School. This was one of three evaluations by an outside organization. The program received exemplary ratings on the Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale (ECERS) from the Connecticut Office of Early Childhood (OEC). The program was evaluated on criteria such as culture, climate, curriculum and the environment.

R. Ike inquired if the district can monitor the Pre-K students as they progress through Bloomfield Public Schools.

L. Easmon asked if families were surveyed at the end of the year. A.M. Cullinan noted the district has opted but is not required to during their initial opening year.

B. National association for Gifted Children (NAGC) 70th Annual Convention – SOAR Accepted Proposal

Anne Marie Cullinan shared an update that the teachers of the Talented and Gifted program in Bloomfield, known as SOAR, was selected to present at a national convention. They were 1 of 900 entries selected to present. They will share their identification process, curriculum and assessment tools.

It was asked about the cost to travel to the annual convention. Mrs. Cullinan estimates it will be \$2,000 per person but the teachers wrote a grant that will hopefully offset some of the costs.

5. ADJOURNMENT

At 6:45 p.m., a motion was made by F. Bogle-Assegai and seconded by D. Harris to adjourn.

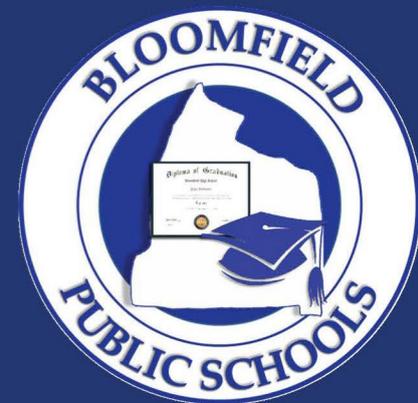
The motion passed unanimously (3-0-0).

H. Frydman, Chair

Bloomfield Public Schools



English Language/ Multilingual Learner Update



Making a Difference

Anne Marie Cullinan

Curriculum Specialist

Suzanne Shippee

District English Language Learning
Teacher Coordinator



Overview

Purpose

Review status of EL/ML students in Bloomfield Public Schools

Process

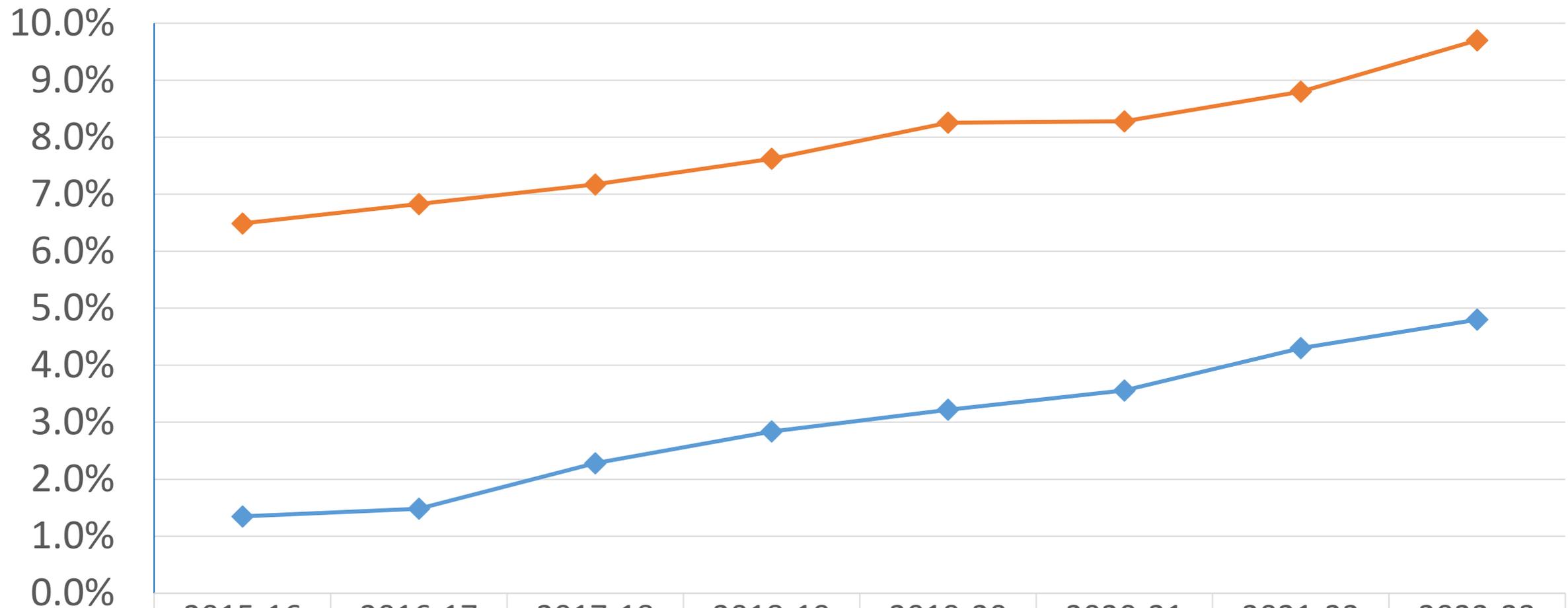
Discuss EL/ML trends, services, and resources to meet student needs.

Payoff

Our Board of Education will have a common understanding of EL/ML strengths and supports for success



State and District EL/ML Enrollment



	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
◆ Bloomfield %	1.3%	1.5%	2.3%	2.8%	3.2%	3.6%	4.3%	4.8%
◆ State %	6.5%	6.8%	7.2%	7.6%	8.3%	8.3%	8.8%	9.7%



How do students qualify for services

- Home Language Survey as part of registration
- LAS Links Testing
- Working with prior districts



EL/ML Data for Bloomfield

- 16 languages spoken by our students

Twi/Fante	Arabic	Hausa	Spanish	Patois
Urdu	Haitian	Tamil	French	Portuguese
Lao	Vietnamese		Guyanese Creole	
St. Vincent Creole		Afrikaans	Bengali	

- Staff members servicing our students
- Laurel – 1 tutor to support 19 students
- Metacomet – 1 tutor to support 13 students
- CAIS-CAMS – 1 shared full time teacher to support 28 students
- GEMS – 1 tutor to support 19 students
- BHS – 1.5 tutors to support 22 students



Curriculum Design for EL/ML Students

- Grade level material taught to students
- Content based
- Individually designed to meet the needs of students
- Focused on speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills



Professional Development and Family Engagement

- EL Team communicates directly with families
- Teachers and paraprofessionals are provided trainings on how to work with students
- Administrators work to coordinate scheduling and have the ability to send communications home to families in their native language



