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MAY 19 2026
8:30am
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
BLOOMFIELD, CT

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Tuesday, May 12, 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/88336607959?pwd=Ovtn4EqMcKjqG0YokUBRT8hniiUsUf.1
Meeting ID: 883 3660 7959 Passcode: 551914

Attendance:	L. Easmon, Chair	Present
	T. Mack-Mohammed, Vice Chair	Present
	F. Bogle-Assegai, Secretary	Present *(online)*
	K. Dunbar	Present
	H. Frydman	Present
	C. Jones	Present
	L. Simone	Absent

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
J. White, Principal, Bloomfield High School
L. Curley-Colon, Principal, Global Experience Magnet School
A. Wright, Interim Principal, Carmen Arace Middle School
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 7:01 p.m.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
   All rose to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Opening Statement**
   F. Bogle-Assegai welcomed all attendees. The purpose and process of the Board of Education meeting were stated.

4. **Consent Agenda**
   A. **Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting – April 7, 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
H. Frydman	Aye
C. Jones	Aye

The motion passed unanimously 6-0-0.

5. Presentations

A. CABE Student Leadership Award Recipients

The Connecticut Association of Boards of Education, Student Leadership Awards were presented to students from Carmen Arace Middle School, Global Experience Magnet School and Bloomfield High School. Dr. Youngberg noted that this annual

award program recognizes students in the middle and high schools who exhibit exemplary leadership skills. To qualify as a recipient of this award, students must demonstrate concern for others, be willing to take on challenges, possess the ability to work with others, and have the capability to make difficult decisions. A brief statement about the achievements of each student was read by the school principal.

B. Student Representative Report – Responsive Classrooms (CAIS and CAMS Students)

Students from Carmen Arace reported on how Responsive Classrooms methodology is being used in their school and classrooms. The Responsive Classroom approach is an evidence-based, student-centered teaching method designed to integrate academic, social, and emotional learning. Morning Meeting is the foundational daily practice at the heart of the Responsive Classroom approach. A video as shared by students at Carmen Arace that highlighted the impact Morning Meeting has had on their school experience.

C. Student Representative Report – Bloomfield BOTS at Arace (CAMS Students)

Bloomfield Public Schools students collaborated with MakerspaceCT for the Bloomfield BOTS program. Through this partnership, students created remote-controlled robots for battling in an arena. Students shared highlights of the program and demonstrated for the Board of Education members. MakerspaceCT is a collaborative workspace for education, exploration and innovation in downtown Hartford, Connecticut.

6. Superintendent's Report

A. Superintendent's Report

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

- Response to the 2026-2027 budget and its impact on employees, facilities and the Bloomfield community.
- She discussed the moving of the Alternative Learning Center to Carmen Arace and the impact of not funding the Capital Improvement Projects (CIP). She further discussed the relocation of Grade 5 and timeline for moving Central Office to Arace.

- Dr. Youngberg noted some employees have received the Reduction in Force (RIF) letters in response to the 2026-2027 budget.

- In terms of the community, Dr. Youngberg noted there would be a letter going out to community once the district knows if there will or will not be a referendum. In addition, there will be a community meeting, a video presentation and encouraged families to reach out if they have questions.
- Dr. Youngberg announced the Teachers of the Year for Bloomfield. She also shared information relative to the Education Celebration on June 10, 2026. This year the Education Celebration will also honor Paraeducators of the Year, retirees and service milestones.
- Dr. Youngberg provided a list of end-of-year events to all Board of Education members. She highlighted the 2nd Annual Literacy Night on June 4, 2026 at the Prosser Library.
- Bloomfield High School students Class of 2026 graduation will be held on June 16, 2026 and the senior parade will be held on June 12, 2026. GEMS graduation will also be on June 16, 2026.

B. Human Resources – Staffing Report

Grace Martinez, Executive Director of Talent Management & Community Partnerships, provided a staffing update. The report provided updates for the month of April 2026 including new hires, transfers, resignation and/or retirements. A vacancy report was also shared.

L. Easmon inquired about the summer positions and if they are available to our teachers. Ms. Martinez noted the positions are posted internally first and then externally.

C. Financial Report – April 2026

Domenic Greco, Executive Director of Finance and Operations reported financials as of May 8, 2026. He noted that 2.84% 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 $850,000 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. Of the 1.7, 1.5 million is for the annual pension contribution. Major object is 11 Operations is overbudget by about $307,000 as the district expects to receive funds from the Town for the 1% set aside account.

Mr. Greco pointed out page 1 of the six-page detail report, salaries clerical is overbudget by $80,000 due to a new position at Vogad. On page 2, object 01290, Overtime, Support is overbudget by $36,000 due to overtime from snowstorms. has been running overbudget but the district received eRate reimbursements and these have been reflected. The Business Department is working to close out the 2025-2026 fiscal year. The cost center managers and directors are reviewing open purchase orders and grants.

L. Easmon asked if the grant funds have been allocated for planned expenditures.

D. Sharing of the 1% Set Aside Account Report

Domenic Greco, Executive Director of Finance and Operations, noted he presented an analysis to the Finance Committee on April 28, 2026. He provided an account overview as of July 1, 2023 to current, including expenditures and the current balance.

He noted $382,000 has been spent in the current fiscal year. These include water issues at Bloomfield High School, and the gym floor at Bloomfield High School. It was noted there is a balance of $127,000.

Dr. Youngberg noted the facilities Request for Proposals (RFP) is on hold due to funding.

H. Frydman inquired if those funds can ever be placed into a money market to make interest. D. Greco will need to do further research.

7. Board Committee Reports

A. Finance Committee

K. Dunbar Committee Chair expressed her gratitude to community members who supported the district during the budget conversations. The Finance Committee met on April 28, 2026 and the committee discussed the current and future budget outlook and possible options for reductions. The committee reviewed the 1% Set Aside account report. The committee also discussed the School-Based Health Centers. An overview was provided on how services are being utilized and there currently no expenses incurred by the district.

B. Curriculum Committee

T. Mack-Mohammed, Committee Chair noted they did not meet in April 2026.

C. Policy Committee

F. Bogle-Assegai noted the committee met at a special meeting on May 7, 2026 and reviewed the policies for an initial reading and those for a second reading.

8. Public/PTO Comment

James McGovern, 25 Diana Drive

He attended Bloomfield Public Schools and had two children who also attended Bloomfield Public Schools. Mr. McGovern shared his disappointment with what he has seen through the budget process, noting Dr. Youngberg had to stand and advocate for the school. He noted that elected officials should demonstrate support for district leadership during budget meetings and that the Board of Education should maintain a stronger visible presence. Mr. McGovern noted growing frustration that, despite having capable educators, political challenges were creating obstacles to progress.

Lynn Weisel, 17 Maple Edge Drive

She shared her appreciation for Dr. Youngberg and the Board of Education. She is very disappointed of the budget cuts. Ms. Weisel noted the strong communication with families regarding the budget and inquired whether there has also been communication with older students about the budget situation. She shared that discussions among students about potential staffing changes may be contributing to some anxiety. She also noted an open house

would be helpful. She inquired about shared spaces at Arace with the Alternative Learning Center.

9. Old Business

A. Reading and Possible Adoption 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**

Dr. Tracy Youngberg reviewed the policies that are on the agenda for a second reading and possible adoption. Curriculum Policy - 6141 is recommended and was drafted from a model policy from the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE).

Dr. Tracy Youngberg, Superintendent of Schools, noted there are three additional policies before the Board of Education. These are all mandated policies. Policy 0521 and 4000.1/5145.44 are both being updated due to new legislation that aligns these policies with 2020 legislation.

A motion was made by T. Mack-Mohammed and seconded by K. Dunbar for the Bloomfield Board of Education to adopt the following policies as listed under agenda items 9A:

- Curriculum Policy – 6141
- Nondiscrimination - 0521
- Title IX Sexual Harassment – 4000.1/5145.44 – Personnel/Students
- Work Release – 5113.13

L. Easmon	Aye
T. Mack-Mohammed	Aye
F. Bogle-Assegai	Aye
K. Dunbar	Aye
H. Frydman	Aye
C. Jones	Aye

The motion passed unanimously 6-0-0.

10. New Business

A. Initial Reading of Policies

1. **Transportation – 3541**
2. **Bus Conduct – 5131.1**
3. **Dress and Grooming – 5132**
4. **Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process – 5114**
5. **Orientation of Board Members – 9230**

Dr. Tracy Youngberg, Superintendent, shared a revised draft of the Transportation Policy – 3541 which was last updated in 2015. Some considerations for Board of Education members as they review this is eligible limits for walking distance to school and the age of students who are required to have an adult waiting on the bus stop.

The second policy is Bus Conduct - 5131.1 which is a new policy. This policy ensures bus safety by clearly outlining behavior expectations (in the administrative regulations).

The new Student Dress Code Policy – 5132 will replace the uniform policy that was rescinded on April 7, 2026. This draft policy is based on the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) model policy and current Bloomfield High School dress code guidelines.

The Suspension/Expulsion Due Process Policy – 5114 will replace the current Board of Education Policy 5131 – Conduct and Discipline. This new policy is required due to PA 25-93 & 25-67 and is inclusive of due process.

The last policy is the New Board Member Orientation – 9230. This is a recommended policy based on PA 23-167and the language has been updated by the Policy Committee.

H. Frydman inquired about bus monitors. Dr. Youngberg noted some of the buses have monitors but not all buses. He inquired about disciplinary actions based upon behaviors on the bus.

L. Easmon stressed for the Board of Education members to thoroughly review these policies so they can discuss them.

11. Board Comments

C. Jones thanked the staff and students for their presentations. He noted coordination between the Town Council and school district during the school transitions, specifically Global Experience Magnet Schools so the building does not sit empty.

K. Dunbar thanked everyone for attending the meeting tonight. The CABE Student Leadership Award is great honor as it demonstrates student leadership attributes. She also thanked Dr. Youngberg and the district team for their advocacy on behalf of students and teachers throughout the budget process. She encouraged families to continue showing their support and acknowledged the many school activities taking place across the district.

H. Frydman shared that he will be saddened when the Central Office building is vacated, as he attended kindergarten there. He expressed his hope to see the district continue to grow while providing a high-quality education. He encouraged graduates to ensure they are prepared for their next steps. He also noted his interest in presenting the rocking chair gift to Thomas Moore's family.

F. Bogle-Assegai echoed the sentiments of her fellow Board members. In response to the public comments, she noted the importance of having a Superintendent who can communicate directly with parents and the community. She also stated that, as a Board member, she does not wish to engage in political conflict and wants the public to know that the Board supports the Superintendent.

T. Mack-Mohammed shared that she has been reflecting on the meetings surrounding the 2026–2027 budget and expressed appreciation to the Superintendent and her team. She also wanted the public to know of her appreciation and commitment to moving forward.

L. Easmon recognized the challenges presented during the budget process and also expressed appreciation for the teachers and staff during Teacher Appreciation Week. She wanted to thank everyone for their hard work and support. She noted the Global Experience Magnet School high school graduation on June 16, 2026 at 1:30 p.m. and the Bloomfield High School graduation is on June 16, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. She congratulated the student scholars who received awards and the student presenters. She thanked Dr. Youngberg for her detailed budget presentations and for effectively sharing information with the community and Town Council regarding the budget. She also noted that Mr. Moore would be honored with a gift presented to his family.

12. Adjournment

At 8:44 p.m. a motion to adjourn was made by T. Mack-Mohammed and seconded by K. Dunbar.

The motion passed unanimously 6-0-0.

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F. Bogle-Assegai, Board Secretary

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T. Youngberg, Superintendent of Schools