Board of Education Regular Meeting
Tuesday, November 10, 2026 at 7:00 P.M.
Hybrid Meeting
In-Person Location: Bloomfield Board of Education, Board Room
1133 Blue Hills Avenue
Bloomfield, CT 06002

RECEIVED
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12:27pm
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
BLOOMFIELD, CT

Virtual Option: Zoom
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89685455867?pwd=HtVrllyah0XD0yYHZadgvGBnNfpqKW.1
Meeting ID: 896 8545 5867 Passcode: 795472

Attendance:	L. Easmon, Chair	Present
	T. Mack-Mohammed, Vice Chair	Absent
	F. Bogle-Assegai, Secretary	Present
	K. Dunbar	Present
	H. Frydman	Absent
	C. Jones	Present
	R. Ike	Present

Also Present: T. Youngberg, Superintendent of Schools
D. Greco, Executive Director of Finance and Operations
E. Hilversum, Director of Talent Management and Community Partnerships
J. Preuss, Director of Assessment, Accountability, and Performance
C. Kennedy, Director of Student Support Services
J. White, Principal, Bloomfield High School

1. **Establishment of a Quorum and Call to Order**
   L. Easmon 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**
   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 – October 13, 2026**
   A motion was made by K. Dunbar and seconded by R. Ike for the Bloomfield Board of Education to approve the consent agenda, as presented.

L. Easmon	Aye
F. Bogle-Assegai	Aye
K. Dunbar	Aye

C. Jones	Aye
R. Ike	Aye

The motion passed unanimously 5-0-0.

A motion was made by K. Dunbar and seconded by R. Ike for the for the Bloomfield Board of Education to move agenda item 10D. "Discussion and Possible Action on Renaming the Alternative Learning Center" to Agenda item 5B. Presentations, for the purpose of allowing student presentations.

L. Easmon	Aye
F. Bogle-Assegai	Aye
K. Dunbar	Aye
C. Jones	Aye
R. Ike	Aye

The motion passed unanimously 5-0-0.

5. Presentations

A. Student Representative Report – Donald F. Harris Sr. AgriScience & Technology Center

Ms. Jarvis, Teacher and Student representatives from the Donald F. Harris Sr. AgriScience & Technology Center reported to the Board of Education. They shared updates on:

- **Enrollment:** Reached 158 students as of October 1 (up 20% from last year), representing about one-third of the high school, including 25 full-time Hartford students and 5 part-time students from Windsor and West Hartford.
- **Competitions:** Senior and junior officer teams competed in CDEs/LDEs, including the Agriscience Fair (advancing to the Big E), CRE, Extemporaneous Public Speaking, and Opening/Closing Ceremonies (2nd in the state).
- **Field Trips:** Conducted water quality sampling and trawling with Project Oceanology on Long Island Sound, and studied nocturnal animal behavior at the Bronx Zoo.
- **Community Events:** Hosted inaugural adult education classes (with another session planned for May/June), annual Ag Day for Laurel and Wintonbury students, and preparations for the upcoming Holiday Bazaar.

B. Discussion and Possible Action on Renaming the Alternative Learning Center

Laura Curley-Colon, Principal at the Alternative Learning Center and two students presented two name options for consideration of the Board.

Choice 1: Alternative Learning Center (ALC): Retained as an option due to familiarity from the start of the school year, though students want to move away from the negative stigma associated with the word "alternative."

Choice 2: Lynx Academy of Bloomfield (LAB): The school community's consensus choice, paired with the tagline "Find your path, reach your potential." The name reflects being a supportive "link" to schools and community services, while the trail lynx mascot symbolizes how students use their unique strengths to navigate challenges toward graduation and future success.

Board members commended the students' presentation and leadership. No vote was taken; the Board will review the school renaming policy and place the item on next month's agenda for action.

C. Food Services Partnership and Program Update

Nick Carambelas, Director of Food Services, presented an update on district-wide culinary operations, local partnerships, and program expansion:

- **Menu Concepts & Scratch Cooking**: Highlighted new build-your-own high school concepts (with student surveys planned for upcoming Indian and Asian options) and noted over 56,000 lunches served at the high school. Popular items are adapted down to Pre-K, supported by commercial cooking equipment installed across all schools.
- **Farm-to-School & Local Partnerships**: Detailed produce sourcing from local farms (Slowpoke, Oxen Hill, Sub Edge, Clark's, and Microlife), upcoming partnerships with Just Greens Farm and Doughboy Bakery, and Bloomfield's role in developing the state's Fresh Ed Commons reporting tool.
- **Interschool Agreements**: Alongside its ongoing CREC Museum Academy contract, Bloomfield launched a food service agreement with East Granby Public Schools, where participation has doubled and tripled. Excess revenue is reinvested into Bloomfield kitchen equipment while boosting district purchasing power and grant eligibility.
- **Sustainability & CEP Renewal**: Launching a pilot at CAMS to replace plastic utensils with reusable stainless steel and begin composting via a $50,000 CT Grown for CT Kids grant. Confirmed Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) renewal at an 85.25% claiming percentage, securing free breakfast and lunch for all Bloomfield students for four more years.

6. Board of Education Committee Reports

A. Finance Committee

The Finance Committee reviewed the UConn ISM Sports Clinical Services athletic training contract for Bloomfield High School and discussed a potential device protection/insurance plan for classroom computers and Chromebooks.

B. Curriculum Committee

The Curriculum Committee received an update from Assistant Superintendent Lisa Lamenzo and Nicole Jones District Teaching & Learning Specialist, reviewed 2026–2027 teaching and learning priorities and provided an update on phase 3 of the curriculum implementation (including secondary mathematics implementation). The committee also reviewed the Educator Evaluation Plan with Eric Hilversum, Director of Talent Management and Community Partnerships.

C. Policy Committee

The Policy Committee Reviewed the Transportation Policy and Preschool Lottery Policy (brought forward tonight for second reading/adoption) and sent the Cell Phone Policy back to committee for further discussion.

7. Superintendent's Report

A. Superintendent's Update

Dr. Tracy Youngberg, Superintendent of Schools, shared a PowerPoint presentation and updates on professional learning, district initiatives, facilities, strategic planning, school climate and safety, and finance.

The Teaching, Learning and Leadership team led professional development on October 13 and has been invited to present its curriculum and instructional coherence work at the Connecticut State Department of Education's Performance Matters event on October 30. The district is collaborating with Engage to Learn to host author and consultant Jim Knight, and Bloomfield High School will continue its partnership with the RISE Network. The district is also working to support student participation in the CABE/CAPSS convention.

The district is working with the Town on environmental and sustainability initiatives. A pilot to replace plastic utensils with reusable utensils is planned at Carmen Arace and Bloomfield High School, with grant-funded equipment and supplies. The district is also pursuing a composting initiative supported by an approximately $50,000 grant, with the goal of expanding the work over time.

The Superintendent reported that the district received a painting estimate of approximately $138,000 for Bloomfield High School and Carmen Arace and is identifying a funding source. The GEMS building walkthrough with Town representatives went well; minor repairs and removal of some items are planned while the Town considers next steps. Construction is underway on an additional student bathroom at Metacomet. Preliminary plans are underway to relocate Central Office staff to the Carmen Arace building.

Formal strategic planning is now anticipated to begin in spring 2027. The district is considering completing initial data gathering in-house and adjusting existing vendor work to support a marketing and communications plan without increasing planned expenditures. The Superintendent also reviewed the legislatively required Climate and Safety Committee, which monitors school climate, attendance, discipline, survey data, and collaboration with Town social and youth services. Fiscal year 2025 audit submissions and the state financial report were completed on time; fiscal year 2026 reconciliation work and Munis training continue, with the HR, payroll, and benefits modules targeted for an April 1, 2027, launch.

B. Human Resources Update

Eric Hilversum, Director of Talent Management and Community Partnerships presented the July 1–September 30, 2026, human resources update. He reported that recruitment efforts had filled nearly all positions needed by schools and that hiring

and recruitment would continue. Staff reassignments largely reflect school closures and grade-level reconfigurations. Board members asked about the campus supervisor position at Bloomfield High School and food service staffing at Seymour and Allgrove schools, which are part of the East Granby food service partnership.

C. Financial Report – October 2026

Domenic Greco, Executive Director of Finance and Operations that, as of October 8, approximately 21.81% ($12.2 million) of the adopted budget remained unexpended or unencumbered. Certified salaries were approximately $596,000 over budget pending billing and recognition of anticipated out-of-district tuition revenue. Employee benefits and tuition costs had not yet been fully encumbered, including health insurance, pension and OPEB contributions, special education placements, and magnet school tuition. Building improvements were approximately $335,000 over budget due to necessary repairs. The district is exploring grants and budget transfers to offset some costs. Board members also asked about a literacy intervention grant and the district's vehicle inventory; follow-up information was requested.

8. Public/PTO Comment

Paula Miller, 88 Kenmore Rd.: Representing the Democratic Town Committee alongside Shelby Young and Leen, commended the student presentations, the farm-to-table and composting initiatives, and emphasized the district's urgent need for a Capital Improvement Budget.

Martin, 45 (street unknown): Parent of a Metacomet student; asked how food waste is handled. Food Services Director Nicholas explained current recycling separation and upcoming composting initiatives designed to address state-mandated meal components.

Anisha Davis, 4 Mallard Dr.: Parent of a CAMS student; inquired about adding middle school sports such as track and field or volleyball. Administration confirmed current offerings (fall soccer, winter basketball, spring baseball/softball) and noted budget constraints currently prevent expansion.

9. Old Business

A. Second Reading and Possible Adoption of Board Policies

a. Transportation – 3541

A motion was made by K. Dunbar and seconded by R. Ike to adopt Policy 3541 – Transportation, as presented.

L. Easmon	Aye
F. Bogle-Assegai	Aye
K. Dunbar	Aye
C. Jones	Aye
R. Ike	Aye

The motion passed unanimously 5-0-0.

b. Preschool Lottery Process – 5112.1

A motion was made by K. Dunbar and seconded by F. Bogle-Assegai to adopt Policy 5112.1 – Preschool Lottery Process, as presented.

L. Easmon	Aye
F. Bogle-Assegai	Aye
K. Dunbar	Aye
C. Jones	Aye
R. Ike	Aye

The motion passed unanimously 5-0-0.

10. New Business

A. Discussion and Possible Action on the Educator Evaluation Plan 2026-2027

Dr. Youngberg noted that the plan had been previously reviewed in committee and at the October meeting with no substantive changes since its state-aligned adoption in 2024.

A motion was made by K. Dunbar and seconded by R. Ike to approve the 2026-2027 Educator Evaluation Plan, as presented.

L. Easmon	Aye
F. Bogle-Assegai	Aye
K. Dunbar	Aye
C. Jones	Aye
R. Ike	Aye

The motion passed unanimously 5-0-0.

B. Review and Possible Action on the 2027 Board of Education Meeting Schedule

The Chair noted that the proposed dates aligned with the district calendar, with the April meeting moved to the first Tuesday due to spring recess.

A motion was made by K. Dunbar and seconded by R. Ike to approve the 2027 Board of Education Meeting Schedule, as presented.

L. Easmon	Aye
F. Bogle-Assegai	Aye
K. Dunbar	Aye
C. Jones	Aye
R. Ike	Aye

The motion passed unanimously 5-0-0.

C. Review and Possible Action on the UCONN ISM Sports Medicine Services Contract

Board members noted that the item was being postponed pending follow-up information and legal review following committee discussion.

A motion was made by K. Dunbar and seconded by R. Ike to postpone item 10.C. Review and Possible Action on the UCONN ISM Sports Medicine Services Contract.

L. Easmon	Aye
F. Bogle-Assegai	Aye
K. Dunbar	Aye
C. Jones	Aye
R. Ike	Aye

The motion passed unanimously 5-0-0.

11. Board Comments

C. Jones commended the Food Services Department for its work providing diverse, quality meals to students and expressed hope that students continue to benefit from the expanded offerings.

K. Dunbar thanked in-person and online attendees, praised the student presentations from both the Agriscience Center and the Alternative Learning Center, applauded the local food service partnerships, thanked Dr. Youngberg for clarifying the district's grant strategy, and wished the community a happy Veterans Day, Indigenous Peoples Day, and Thanksgiving.

R. Ike praised the Director of Food Services for transforming the food service program, reflected on 25 years of positive district progress, including facility and parking lot improvements at Central Office, and commended Dr. Youngberg's leadership.

F. Bogle-Assegai credited students for pushing for better cafeteria meals and praised Nick Carambelas for delivering and assisting neighboring districts; highlighted the Agriscience Center's success, encouraged community members to share the district's turnaround story, and thanked Dr. Youngberg for explaining how the district is shifting away from fragmented, short-lived grant programs toward sustainable initiatives.

L. Easmon highlighted the Carmen Arace Middle School (CAMS) student artwork on display, thanked all presenters and Board members for their time, praised the Alternative Learning Center students for advocating on their own behalf, reflected on attending the CAMS Veterans Day assembly, and wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

12. Adjournment

At 8:54 p.m. a motion to adjourn was made by R. Ike and seconded by F. Bogle-Assegai.

The motion passed unanimously 5-0-0.

F. Bogle-Assegai, Secretary

T. Youngberg, Superintendent