



BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION – REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, April 2, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Bloomfield Board of Education

1133 Blue Hills Avenue

Board Room

Attendance:	D. Harris, Chair	Present
	M. R. Walters, Vice Chair	Present
	D. Bolton, Secretary	Present
	R. Ike	Present
	H. Frydman	Present
	P. Davis	Absent
	T. Moore	Present

Also Present: J. Thompson, Superintendent of Schools
W. Guzman, Chief Operations Office
B. Silver, Assistant Superintendent of Accountability and Performance
S. McCann, Chief Academic Officer
E. Pierce, District Grant Specialist
A.M. Cullinan, Curriculum Specialist
S. Simpson, Director of Strategic Communications and Planning
B. Bailey, Director of Literacy

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

D. Bolton, Board 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 – March 12, 2019

A motion was made by M. Walters and seconded by R. Ike for the Bloomfield Board of Education to approve the minutes from the March 12, 2019 regular Board meeting, as presented.

The motion was passed unanimously.

5. Public/PTO Comment

Mary Kay Rendock, Bloomfield Instructional Math Coach

Mary Kay shared information about a special program introduced for students in grade 3-6 called Math Muscles. All mathematical questions are related to Smarter Balanced.

Rewards are given for correct answers and the most class participation.



6. Recognitions

A. Students – Charles Fennell, CT Spelling Bee

Ms. Stacey McCann, Chief Academic Officer acknowledged Charles Fennell, a 6th grade student at Carmen Arace Intermediate School (CAIS). Charles is the CAIS spelling bee champ and tied for 3rd place in the recent Connecticut Spelling Bee.

B. Staff and Board – Teacher of the Year, Amanda Powell

Dr. Thompson honored the Teacher of the Year, Amanda Powell. He thank Amanda for her dedication to the children and families of the Bloomfield community. Mary Kay Rendock presented Amanda Powell with a plaque.

C. Parents and Community – Pat Maneggia, Youth Services Coordinator – Bloomfield Social & Youth Services

Dr. Thompson recognized Pat Maneggia, Youth Services Coordinator for Bloomfield Social and Youth Services as a long-standing partner with Bloomfield Public Schools. He thanked Pat for her years of dedicated service and offered congratulations on her upcoming retirement.

7. Presentations

A. Student Representative Report – Bloomfield High School

The Bloomfield High School (BHS) representatives shared recent events at the high such as the football Class “S” State Champions ring ceremony and the NIA Arts Black History Month performances.

The BHS Unified Sports team hosted the first ever Unified Sports Tournament. High school students had the opportunity to attend a college and career readiness resume workshop on March 6, 2019 and attend the Student Business Conference at the Simsbury Inn on March 25, 2019.

The musical *Disney’s High School Musical* was performed March 21-23, 2019 and the Honor Roll Dinner for Quarter 2 was held on March 14, 2019. College acceptances are being received by seniors and spring sports are beginning.

Upcoming events at Bloomfield High School include PSAT day, the annual concert at the Bushnell on April 25, 2019 and a blood drive.

8. Superintendent’s Report

A. Highlights from Disney High School Musical

Bloomfield performed their second annual musical, Disney’s “High School Musical on Stage”, March 21 – March 23, 2019. There were over 800 people in attendance throughout the three performances. The musical was led by Directors Aubree Bowman, Shanna Crimi and Allison Glenney, Assistant Directors Barbara Lewis and Shane Davis and Production Manager – Frank Quinn.

The set design was created by the Graphic Arts department at Bloomfield High School, led by Richard Kenyon and his students.



The production included over forty students from Carmen Arace Intermediate School, Carmen Arace Middle School, and Bloomfield High School.

Dr. Thompson congratulated to the entire cast and production staff of the musical on their outstanding performances.

B. Financial Report – March 2019

Mr. William Guzman, Chief Operations Officer reported on the financials as of March 29, 2019. He distributed the one-page and six-page financial reports. The district is just over nine months into the fiscal year with about \$366,000 of the budget yet to be expended or encumbered.

Mr. Guzman noted that there are factors that impact the budget. Specifically, he noted tuition account (08) as being very unpredictable. There were 32 students budgeted for outside placements and the district currently has 42 students outplaced, with an average tuition costing about \$157,000. There are currently 75 students with severe disabilities that require 1 to 1 adult supervision.

Legislative mandates have determined educational requirements for expelled students. The average educational program cost for expelled students is about \$13,000 per student.

It was inquired what comprises the deficit in the overtime account. Mr. Guzman noted work done in winter months and classroom coverages can all constitute overtime.

Another Board member inquired about repairs to the Board of Education driveway. Mr. Guzman noted there are no funds at this time in the budget for repairs.

9. Old Business

A. Policies for a Second Reading

1. Attendance, Excused Absences and Truancy – 5113.2

Dr. Bethany Silver, Assistant Superintendent of Accountability and Performance, presented an update to current policy 5113.2.

This policy was presented to Policy Committee on January 22, 2019 and March 26, 2019 and to the full Board on February 19, 2019.

The amendments to this policy include prevention plans for absenteeism and chronic absenteeism and provides language around truancy. Bloomfield holds monthly meetings with principals, where they discuss absenteeism of specific students and plans to address chronic absenteeism. These meetings fulfill the requirements of the Connecticut State Department of Education.

A motion was made by M. Walters and seconded by R. Ike for the Board of Education to approve the adoption of policy 5113.2 – Attendance, Excused Absences and Truancy.



The motion passed unanimously.

2. Administering Medication – 5141.21

Mr. William Guzman presented an amendment to the existing policy 5141.21, Administering Medication. These changes are in compliance with State Statute P.A. 18-185, Life Threatening Food Allergies.

This policy was presented to Policy Committee on January 22, 2019 and March 26, 2019 and to the full Board on February 19, 2019.

Mr. Guzman noted that a prescription from a medical professional is required to permit the self-administration of an asthmatic inhaler or Epipen. It was inquired at the last meeting about an age restriction. Mr. Guzman noted there is no reference in the statute to age limit or restriction.

A motion was made by M. Walters and seconded by R. Ike for the Board of Education to approve the adoption of policy 5141.21 – Administering Medication.

The motion passed unanimously.

10. New Business

A. Access Transportation Contract – Proposal

Mr. William Guzman, Chief Operations Officer presented a revised contract proposal from Access Transportation who agreed to a 0% increase for 2019-2020 budget year while extending the contract through 2022/2023. The proposed contract includes a yearly 2.5% increase each year after 2019/2020 through 2022/2023.

Access Transportation provides Special Education transportation services for the district. This proposed contract was presented to the Finance Committee on March 26, 2019.

A motion was made by M. Walters and seconded by R. Ike for the Bloomfield Board of Education to approve the transportation contract for special education services to Access Transportation Solutions, LLC from 2019/2020 through 2022/2023, as presented.

The motion was passed unanimously.

B. Proposed 2019/2020 Meal Prices

Mr. William Guzman, Chief Operations Officer presented a proposal to adjust meal prices for 2019/2022 school year.

The last time meal prices were increased were in 2015/2016, four years ago. The proposed breakfast and lunch prices will increase \$0.25.



At the Finance Committee, it was inquired if the price increase would impact reduced price meals and Mr. Guzman noted the reduced meal prices would stay the same.

A motion was made by M. Walters and seconded by R. Ike for the Bloomfield Board of Education to approve the 2019/2020 Meal Prices, as presented.

The motion was passed unanimously.

11. CABE Updates

Mr. Donald Harris, Jr. shared that he just returned from the National School Boards Association Convention held March 28-April 1, 2019 in Philadelphia, PA. There were about 5,000 Board members in attendance and it was a great convention.

CABE Leadership Institute was attended by Pat Davis. It is a series of six workshops focused on what it means to be a Board member.

12. Board Comments

R. Ike stated he attended the high school sports banquet and the matinee of the musical performance. Mr. Ike also attended all recent budget meetings.

H. Frydman stated he attended Disney's High School musical and was very impressed. He also attended the sports awards and saw a lot of parents in attendance. He acknowledged Pat Maneggia who works very hard and he hopes she enjoys her retirement.

T. Moore stated he has been unable to attend district events due to family illness. He congratulated the Teacher of the Year, Amanda Powell and he hopes students will be in attendance at the next Board to read essays.

D. Bolton commended the artistic talents of the students. She also recognized Mary Kay Rendock for a creative way to engage students and practice mathematics. She thanked Dr. Thompson for the book gifted in March for Board appreciation month and noted it is World Autism Awareness Day.

M. Walters acknowledged Pat Maneggia and Charles Fennell, who placed 3rd in the CT Spelling Bee competition. Mr. Walters also attended the musical performance and was very impressed with the performance.

D. Harris reminded the Board and viewing audience of the upcoming concert at the Bushnell, Kings and Queens of Soul on April 25, 2019. Mr. Harris attended the BEA social event. He congratulated Pat Maneggia on her upcoming retirement and praised the high school on their NEASC two-year review. Mr. Harris recognized Dan Moleti who is a finalist for the Principal of the Year award.



13. Adjournment

At 8:07 p.m. a motion to adjourn was made by R. Ike and seconded by M. Walters.

The motion passed unanimously.

D. Bolton, Secretary

J. Thompson, Ed. D., Superintendent