



BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION – REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, January 8, 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	Absent
	H. Frydman	Present
	P. Davis	Present
	T. Moore	Absent

Also Present: W. Guzman, Chief Operations Office
B. Silver, Assistant Superintendent of Accountability and Performance
F. Burr, Human Resource Specialist
E. Pierce, District Grant Specialist
S. Simpson, Director of Strategic Communications and Planning
T. Schondelmayer, District Athletic Director
D. Moleti, Principal, Bloomfield High School
N. Poplin, Principal, Global Experience Magnet School
T. Ellis, Principal, Carmen Arace Middle School
S. Williams, Principal, Carmen Arace Intermediate School
J. Poglitsch, Principal, Metacomet Elementary School
P. Guzzo, Principal, Laurel Elementary School
L. Eells, Principal, Wintonbury Elementary 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 7:02 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All rose to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. A Moment of Silence for Lou Schiavone, Jr. and Bette Egan

D. Harris asked for a moment of silence in memory of Lou Schiavone, Jr., Bette Egan, John Coghil and Terry Williams-Smith.

4. Opening Statement

D. Bolton, Board Secretary, welcomed all attendees. The purpose and process of the Board of Education meeting was stated.



5. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting – December 11, 2018

A motion was made by M. Walters and seconded by D. Bolton for the Bloomfield Board of Education to approve the minutes from the December 11, 2018 regular board meeting, as presented.

The motion was passed unanimously.

6. Presentations

A. Student Representative Report – Global Experience Magnet School

Students were unavailable to present.

B. Recognitions

1. Students – Bloomfield High School Football Team – Class ‘S’ Football Champions

Donald Harris, Jr., congratulated the Bloomfield High School Football team who are the 2018 Class ‘S’ State Football Champions. He gave accolades to the students, coaches and families for an exemplary season.

Coach Tylon Outlaw addressed the Board and also spoke to the freshman and JV teams who were also undefeated.

2. Staff – Rebecca Murphy and Haley Ryan – Kindness Day

Kindness Day is annual event started to honor the victims and loved ones of the Sandy Hook community with the goal of spreading kindness throughout the community. The children, along with their teachers, share acts of kindness throughout the day for other children, staff and members of the school.

"Kindness Day," is truly a community effort and Dr. Thompson thanked Rebecca Murphy, Haley Ryan and parent volunteer, Tiffany Wentworth for extending the spirit of kindness throughout the Bloomfield district.

Ms. Haley Ryan addressed the Board and shared additional information about “Kindness Day”.

3. Parents and Community – Bloomfield Public Schools Athletic Department Receives Michael’s Cup Award

The Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC) selected Bloomfield High School as one of nineteen schools, to be honored with the Michaels Cup award. This is fourth time and second year in a row, Bloomfield High School Athletic Department has received this prestigious award. The award was designed to recognize schools for athletic program excellence with a focus on sportsmanship.

Dr. Thompson introduced Tammy Schondelmayer, District Athletic Director who spoke to the award and Bloomfield serving as a pilot for the *Class Act* program.



7. Public/PTO Comment

Tymina Follins, 1067 Blue Hills Avenue, Bloomfield

T. Follins addressed the Board of Education and shared concerns regarding lack of technology, specifically Chromebooks at the high school. She noted these concerns were previously shared with the Board of Education in October 2018.

8. Superintendent's Report

A. Financial Report – December 2018

Mr. William Guzman, Chief Operations Officer reported on the financials as of January 3, 2019. He distributed the one-page and six-page financial reports. The district is six months into the fiscal year with about 3.17% of the budget yet to be expended or encumbered.

Mr. Guzman noted that the tuition account (08) has a negative balance. The district has started to receive the invoices for tuitions and will continue to monitor this account closely.

Mr. Guzman shared that currently there are 581 students attending magnet school with a tuition cost of approximately \$4,700, per student. Of these 581 students, 63 are receiving Special Education services with an additional cost of about \$9,300 per student. In addition, the district is currently serving 36 students who are receiving educational services outside the district at a cost of about \$75,000 per student.

P. Davis requested clarification on the additional costs of \$75,000 for special education services. Mr. Guzman noted these are for services and needs that are unable to be provided in-district.

9. Old Business

No old business to discuss.

10. New Business

A. Benchmark Assessments Update

Dr. Bethany Silver, the Assistant Superintendent Accountability and Performance and the principals reported the Benchmark Assessment for Cycle 1 and Cycle II. The purpose of this presentation is to review benchmark assessments and highlight strengths and strategies in literacy and numeracy for each school. Benchmark assessments help teachers target instruction, help students prepare to meet end of year expectations and demonstrate student skills relative to the Smarter Balanced assessment and SAT.

Each principal from the following schools shared the areas of instructional strength, followed by the standards and strategies in each of their focus areas.

- Ms. Lisa Eells, Wintonbury Early Childhood Magnet School
- Mr. Paul Guzzo, Laurel Elementary School
- Ms. Jocelyn Poglitsch, Metacomet Elementary School
- Mrs. Sarah Williams, Carmen Arace Intermediate School
- Dr. Trevor Ellis, Carmen Arace Middle School



- Ms. Nicola Poplin, Global Experience Magnet School
- Mr. Daniel Moleti, Bloomfield High School

Dr. Silver summarized that “If you want to experience significant progress toward your goal, you need to be intentional about the work you are doing every day”. The district uses the process of anchoring the instruction to the standards as a guide for student monitoring.

M. Walters inquired about the difference between Academic Reviews and data teams. He also commented about the importance of teaching grammar.

D. Bolton asked about the use of strategies at Carmen Arace Intermediate schools to improve literacy. Mrs. Williams stated that they are using John Hattie methodology and looking at each child individually.

P. Davis inquired as to why the sciences were not included in the presentation and noted the schools are using different strategies to address challenges.

B. 2019-2020 Proposed Academic Calendar

Mr. William Guzman, Chief Operations Officer presented the proposed academic calendar for 2019-2020 to the Board of Education. There are a total of 180 school days, 6 full-day and 2 half-day professional development days. There are also 6 half-days scheduled for parent-teacher conferences. Mr. Guzman noted that the spring recess aligns to surrounding districts. This calendar also reflects Veterans’ Day as a non-school day.

A motion was made by M. Walters and seconded by H. Frydman for the Bloomfield Board of Education to approve the 2019-2020 academic calendar, as presented.

The motion was passed unanimously.

11. CABE Updates

Mr. Donald Harris, Jr. congratulated Pat Davis for registering for the CABE Leadership Institute for Board members. Mr. Harris will be attending the National School Boards Association conference in Washington, DC January 25-29 on behalf of CABE. He will be meeting with Connecticut representatives on Capitol Hill.

12. Board Comments

H. Frydman congratulated the high school football team and Tammy Schondelmayer, the Athletic Director. He commented that other towns are coming to visit best practices in Bloomfield. Mr. Frydman thanked the principals for their presentation and added the Class of 2019 will be graduating in six months.

P. Davis wished everyone a happy New Year. She commented that the Board members are here to ensure the success of the children. She is looking forward to attending the CABE Leadership Institute. She offered her condolences to the family of Terry Williams-Smith.



D. Bolton offered her condolences to all families. She stated that Mr. Coghill and Mrs. Williams-Smith left their mark on the Bloomfield district. She was very impressed with how the students, teachers and families of Wintonbury are paying it forward.

M. Walters gave his condolences to the families of those who have passed. He congratulated the football players and Coach Outlaw. He is impressed on how well the students have demonstrated sportsmanship, leadership and are student-athletes.

D. Harris wished everyone a Happy New Year. On January 11, 2019 from 10:00-12:00 at the Legislative Office Building there will be a presentation on the importance of African American history in the classroom and making it a mandatory part of the curriculum. The event is called, *400 Years Commemoration of African History in these United States*.

13. Adjournment

At 8:50 p.m. a motion to adjourn was made by D. Bolton and seconded by M. Walters.

The motion passed unanimously.

D. Bolton, Secretary

J. Thompson, Ed. D., Superintendent