



BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION – SPECIAL MEETING

Tuesday, September 4, 2018 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 Absent
P. Davis Present
T. Moore Present *arrived at 7:01 p.m.*

Also Present: J. Thompson, Jr., Superintendent of Schools
B. Silver, Assistant Superintendent of Accountability and Performance
S. McCann, Chief Academic Office
W. Guzman, Chief Operations Officer
F. Burr, Human Resource Specialist
S. Simpson, Director of Strategic Communication and Planning
E. Pierce, District Grant Specialist
A.M. Cullinan, Curriculum Specialist
N. Poplin, Principal, Global Experience Magnet School
D. Moleti, Principal, Bloomfield High School
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 Special 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, 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 – June 12, 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 June 12, 2018 regular Board meeting, as presented.

The motion was passed unanimously.



B. Approval of Minutes – Special Meeting – June 12, 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 June 12, 2018 special Board meeting, as presented.

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|---------------|---------|
| D. Harris | Aye |
| M. R. Walters | Aye |
| D. Bolton | Aye |
| P. Davis | Abstain |
| T. Moore | Aye |

The motion was passed 4-0-1.

C. Approval of Minutes – Special Meeting – June 27, 2018

A motion was made by M. Walters and seconded by P. Davis for the Bloomfield Board of Education to approve the minutes from the June 27, 2018 special Board meeting, as presented.

The motion was passed unanimously.

5. Presentations

No presentations.

6. Public/PTO Comment

No comments.

7. Superintendent's Report

A. Opening School Report

Dr. James Thompson, Jr., Superintendent of Schools provided a report on the opening schools to the Board of Education. He provided information on Convocation, the first day of school, staffing and the Million Father March on August 29, 2018.

8. Old Business

A. Policy for a Second Reading

1. Nepotism Policy

Mr. William Guzman, Chief Operations Officer presented a second reading of the Nepotism policy. This policy was presented to the Policy Committee on May 22, 2018 and to the Board of Education for an initial reading on June 12, 2018. This policy is being presented for a second reading and adoption.

A motion was made M. Walters and seconded by D. Bolton for the Board of Education to approve the adoption of policy 4112.8/4212.8 – Nepotism.

The motion was passed unanimously.



9. New Business

A. Approval of Policy 5118.111 Request

Mr. William Guzman presented an employee request under Policy 5118.111, Children of Out-of-Town Board of Education Employees.

This policy was last adopted and approved on October 6, 2015. Under the provision of the policy, children of Board of Education employees who live out-of-town may attend the Bloomfield Public Schools at a special tuition rate set annually by the Superintendent. The rate is 10% of the most recent per pupil expenditure determined by the State Department of Education.

D. Bolton inquired if we currently have any students attending Bloomfield under this provision. Dr. Thompson responded that the district does not.

A Board member asked if the request has to be approved yearly. The request does not have to be approved annually. The stipend is an annualized payment and may fluctuate based on the per pupil expenditure.

A motion was made by M. Walters and seconded by T. Moore to approve the application of non-resident employee to have her child attend Bloomfield Public Schools in accordance with the requirements of Board of Education policy 5118.111.

The motion was passed unanimously.

B. Student Performance Results

Dr. Bethany Silver, Assistant Superintendent of Accountability and Performance and Ms. Stacey McCann, Chief Academic Officer presented the 2018 SAT Results. Members of the Bloomfield High School and Global Experience Magnet School leadership teams were introduced.

Dr. Silver reviewed the SAT Total scores from 2017 to 2018. With regards to the average total scale score from 2017 to 2018, Bloomfield High School increased 26 points, Global Experience Magnet School increased 33 points and the district had an overall average increase of 27 points.

The Evidenced Based Reading and Writing (EBRW) scores were reviewed on slide 5 and mathematics scores on slide 6. Ms. McCann highlighted the district strengths as the double-digit increases, the average EBRW scores exceeding the state goal, and Bloomfield being one of nineteen (19) districts to show an increase in EBRW and Math. Ms. McCann further stated that although the district is closing the achievement gap and encouraged by the SAT results they recognize there is still work to be done.

The Bloomfield High School leadership team and Principal at Global Experience Magnet School were invited to share their efforts and next steps.

Mr. Hanson noted that they have improved numeracy strategies through curriculum pedagogy, striving to have student make more than one year of growth.



Dr. Beryl Bailey, Director of Literacy noted that they have been systemic and strategic in their work using high effect-sized strategies that yield results. In addition, teachers have been reflective in their practice.

It was added that the high school also has mentors for each high school student. Ms. McCann added that the district is working to be supportive of children and families and have added programs such as Khan Academy to bridge the home-school connection.

Ms. Bolton stated the average math score is 530 and the state target is 480. She inquired about efforts to improve ELA.

Dr. Bailey noted that their first step was to align the content standards with the state core standards. The skills are developed through strategies such as close reading, which teaches students how to take apart the text. Through this process, children learn about text structures such as cause and effect, vocabulary, figurative language and eventually can understand the intended message of the author. The students are learning these skills across all content areas.

It was also noted that Bloomfield High School summer academy focused on mathematic skills.

Ms. Bolton asked for a description of SAT course. It was clarified this course helps students learn the language of the SAT and how to respond to questions on the SAT.

The Board commended the teachers across the district on their hard work.

10. CABE Updates

CABE hosted the annual CABE Leadership workshop on August 13, 2018 at the Water's Edge.

Mr. Donald Harris, Jr. attended the National School Boards Association Leadership Conference, August 16-19, 2018 in Chicago.

Mr. Harris strongly encouraged all Board members to register for the CABE/CAPSS Convention at the Mystic Marriott in November.

11. Board Comments

P. Davis stated she is excited for the new school year. He son is a senior and she is excited for her position on the Board. This is an opportunity to make a difference and her priority is the students of Bloomfield.

T. Moore excited about another school year. He observed the positivity in our teachers at the start of the school year.

D. Bolton welcomed everyone back to the new academic year. She congratulated Nicola



Poplin on her appointment as Principal. Ms. Bolton looks forward to visiting all of the schools.

M. Walters commented that he was in attendance at Convocation. He shared that was a unique event that celebrated each other. He was also at the Million Father March at Carmen Arace. Mr. Walters congratulated Ms. Poplin and shared his impressions of the SAT score increases. He shared his excitement for another school year.

D. Harris stated he attended Convocation on August 27, 2018 and the Million Father March on August 29, 2018 along with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor. He offered his congratulations to Nicola Poplin who was appointed as the Principal of Global Experience Magnet School. He also echoed the double-digit SAT score increases and thanked Stan Simpson for communicating information to the media and town leaders. Mr. Harris noted that the school renovations allowed for the district to remain open during the very recent hot weather when other districts were closing early.

12. Adjournment

At 7:45 p.m. a motion to adjourn was made by P. Davis and seconded by M. Walters.

The motion passed unanimously.

D. Bolton, Secretary

J. Thompson, Ed. D., Superintendent