

*The minutes presented within this document summarize the discussion of the Special Board of Education meeting. To view the meeting in its entirety and hear full reports, please click the following link: [Bristol Board of Education - December 17, 2025 - Special Workshop Meeting](#)*

**BRISTOL BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Bristol, Connecticut**  
**Wednesday, December 17, 2025 at 6:30 p.m**  
**Special Meeting Minutes**

A Special Bristol Board of Education meeting was held on Wednesday, December 17, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. in The Auditorium of the Board of Education Building, located at 129 Church Street, Bristol, Connecticut, and via the Zoom meeting platform.

**PRESENT:** Commissioners: Russell Anderson (Virtual-6:32pm), Jill Fitzsimons-Bula, Kristen Giantonio, Kara Ledger, Chair Shelby Pons, Maria Simmons, Barbara Tedesco, Jennifer Van Gorder

**ABSENT:** Lorianne Osenkowski

**ALSO PRESENT:** Iris White, Superintendent, Mary Hawk, Deputy Superintendent, Joseph Grabowski, Director of Talent & Management, Carly Fortin, and Jodi Bond, Director of Finance.

**1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair Pons called the Special Meeting to order at 5:17 p.m. Meeting attendees stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Discussion and Possible Appointment of Principal for Hubbell Elementary School**

Superintendent White shared some background about the hiring for the position of Principal for Hubbell Elementary School. Ms. White recommended Megan Rheiner for the position of Principal of Hubbell Elementary School and provided an introduction of Ms. Rheiner. Ms. Rheiner addressed the board briefly about the appointment.

Questions and Discussion followed the introduction.

Chair Pons called for a motion to approve the appointment of Megan Rheiner as the new Principal of Hubbell Elementary School.

*Jill Fitzsimons-Bula made the motion and it was seconded by Kara Ledger.*

*Chair Pons declared the motion PASSED with (7) Commissioners (Anderson (Virtual), Fitzsimons-Bula, Ledger, Simmons, Tedesco, Van Gorder and Pons) in favor of the motion and (1) Commissioner (Giantonio) opposed.*

**Discussion of Regular Board of Education 2026 Meeting Dates**

Chair Pons called for a motion to approve the 2026 Regular Board of Education Meeting Dates.

*Jennifer Van Gorder made the motion and it was seconded by Maria Simmons. Motion passed unanimously.*

**3. Presentation on Roles and Responsibilities of Board Members: Facilitated by Nicholas D. Caruso, Jr. Associate Executive Director for Field Services and Technology, CABE.**

Nicholas Caruso Jr. introduced himself to the Board of Education members and provided a presentation on roles and responsibilities of Board Members.

**4. Vote To Convene Into Executive Session For The Purpose Of:**

**4.1. Discussion and Possible Action on Superintendent Goals 25-26.**

Chair Pons called for a motion to convene into Executive Session for the purpose of discussion and possible action on Superintendent Goals 25-26. They would invite Superintendent White to join the Executive Session. (8:01 p.m.).

*Jennifer Van Gorder made the motion and it was seconded by Jill Fitzsimons-Bula. The motion passed unanimously.*

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**PRESENT:** Commissioners: Russell Anderson (Virtual), Jill Fitzsimons-Bula, Kristen Giantonio, Kara Ledger, Chair Shelby Pons, Maria Simmons, Barbara Tedesco, Jennifer Van Gorder

**ABSENT:** Lorianne Osenkowski

**ALSO PRESENT:** Iris White, Superintendent, Mary Hawk, Deputy Superintendent

Executive Session was called to order at 8:03 p.m.

Commissioners discussed the Superintendent's Evaluation, Year-End Report, and Goal Setting.

**6. Vote To Reconvene Into Public Session To Vote On Any Items From Executive Session**

The Board of Education voted to Reconvene into Public Session to take any votes on matters discussed in Executive Session.

Chair Pons called for a motion to reconvene into Public Session. (8:04 p.m.).

*Jill Fitzsimons-Buula made the motion and it was seconded by Kara Ledger. The motion passed unanimously.*

Chair Pons called for a motion to vote and approve the 2025-2026 Superintendent Goals  
*Maria Simmons made the motion and it was seconded by Kara Ledger. The motion passed unanimously.*

**7. Adjournment**

With no other business to come before the board, the meeting should be adjourned. (8:18 p.m.).

Respectfully Submitted,



Recording Secretary

Bristol Board of Education