



Board of Education Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, March 11, 2025 at 7:00 P.M.

**Hybrid Meeting**

In-Person Location: Bloomfield Board of Education, Board Room  
1133 Blue Hills Avenue  
Bloomfield, CT 06002

Virtual Option: Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85686658679?pwd=V7JtMKrBHCVgrcUBpVb5OEAr5QbpD.1>

Meeting ID: 856 8665 8679

Passcode: 9faXwd

<b>Attendance:</b>	L. Easmon, Chair	Present
	H. Frydman, Vice Chair	Absent
	F. Bogle-Assegai, Secretary	Present
	T. Moore	Absent
	K. Dunbar	Present
	T. Mack-Mohammed	Present
	L. Simone	Absent

**Also Present:** T. Youngberg, Superintendent  
D. Greco, Director of Accounting  
G. Martinez, Executive Director of Talent Management & Community Partnerships  
L. Lamenzo, Director of School Improvement  
M. Sutton, Director of Student Support Services  
J. Titelbaum, District Data Systems Coordinator  
E. Pierce, District Grants Specialist  
N. Jones, District Teaching & Learning Specialist  
D. Bunting, Principal, Carmen Arace Intermediate School  
T. Ellis, Principal, Carmen Arace Middle 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. Recognitions**

**A. Bloomfield Coach of the Year, Anne Burrows and Team of the Year**

Tracy A. Youngberg, Ed.D., Superintendent recognized Coach Anne Burrows who



was named the 2024-25 Connecticut High School Coaches Association Girls Indoor Track & Field Coach of the Year. The 2025 Girls Indoor Track & Field Team was also recognized as the Connecticut High School Coaches Association Girls Indoor Track & Field Team of the Year.

**B. Board of Education Appreciation Month**

Tracy A. Youngberg, Ed.D., Superintendent recognized Bloomfield's Board of Education members for their service. She presented a token of appreciation to each Board member.

**5. Presentations**

**A. Student Showcase for Womens'**

The student was unable to attend.

**B. Student Representative Report – Students from Carmen Arace Intermediate School**

Student representatives from the Intermediate School shared the process of publishing their personal narratives in Mrs. Kerrigan's class. They shared writing samples and project displays.

**C. Student Representative Report – Students from Carmen Arace Middle School**

Student representatives from the Middle School Student Advisory Committee shared a presentation on their Winter Wonderland Dance. The Advisory Committee made a proposal for a school dance and then organized, promoted and then raised funds for the event. The dance was held on February 21, 2025. The students shared various other events and updates.

**D. Student Presentation Showcasing Upcoming Musical Productions**

Three Carmen Arace students performed an act from the upcoming musical *Guys and Dolls*, which will be held on April 4 and April 5, 2025 at Carmen Arace. The production is led by Musical Executive Director, Shana Crimi.

The Board Chair called a short break from 7:27 – 7:31 p.m. to permit student presenters to depart.

**6. Consent Agenda**

**A. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting – February 11, 2025**

**B. Approval of Minutes – Special Meeting – February 25, 2025**

**C. Approval of Minutes – Special Meeting – March 3, 2025**

**D. Approval of Minutes – Special Meeting – March 4, 2025**

A motion was made by T. Mack-Mohammed and seconded by F. Bogle-Assegai for the Bloomfield Board of Education to approve the consent agenda, as presented.

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



T. Mack-Mohammed Aye

The motion passed unanimously 4-0-0.

**7. Superintendent's Report**

**A. Solar Panel Update**

Dr. Tracy Youngberg, Superintendent provided a Solar Panel update at the request of the Board. She shared a slide showing how the panels are saving the Board of Education money. She shared the credit reduction and overall savings. It is an approximate estimate 21.24% reduction.

**B. Superintendent's Transition Update**

Dr. Youngberg shared an update on her transition plan. She is working on four priorities: building teams, student outcomes, family & community engagement and efficient operations.

Next steps include student focus groups, parent and community listening sessions and making connections for recruitment with local colleges and universities. An update from Human Resources will be presented at an upcoming meeting.

The district recently held a Food Services forum and updates will also be shared with the Board at this meeting.

T. Mack-Mohammed would like to see a proposed timeline added to the objectives.

**C. Superintendent Evaluation**

Dr. Youngberg summarized the information about the Superintendent's Evaluation. The contract is a mutually agreed upon between Board and Superintendent. The evaluation is completed annual prior to the expiration of each year. The evaluation must contain the following criteria: educational leadership, organizational management, community and Board relations and personal and professional relationships.

The Board will produce a written evaluation and the Superintendent has a right to respond. Dr. Youngberg shared some proposals regarding the evaluation tools and developing strategic goals that are mutually agreed upon.

**D. Bloomfield Literacy Celebration**

Dr. Youngberg highlighted the Literacy Celebration Night on March 7<sup>th</sup> and the events throughout Literacy Week.

**E. Global Experience Magnet School Update**

Dr. Youngberg gave an update on Global Experience Magnet School and the decision not to accept any new students in 2025-2026. She noted there will be no impact on staffing for the current school year or in 2025-2026. A committee will be formed to



research the long-range viability of the school and will present to the Board to make a decision. Dr. Youngberg held four parent forums to answer questions.

Dr. Youngberg also provided a short update on the blue water at Bloomfield High School and the bidding process status. She also gave an update on student attendance as of February 28, 2025.

**F. Financial Report – February 2025**

Dr. Youngberg reported on the financial as of March 7, 2025 on behalf of Mr. Domenic Greco, Director of Accounting. She noted that 3.82% of the adopted budget has yet to be expended or encumbered.

Major object 01 – Certified Salaries has a balance \$544,000 due to teacher vacancies. The non-certified salaries balance has decreased due to the UPSEU retroactive pay with the new contract. On the one-page summary report, major account 03 Employee Benefits with a balance of \$194,000 a significant decrease from last month as the pension contribution payments has been made. The major account 04 – Contracted Services will be spent down by the end of the fiscal year.

On page 1 of the six-page detail report, sub account 1210 - Salaries, Professional Staff is over budget but the overage continues to come down as the January receivables for special education were booked.

On page 3 of the six-page report, sub account 3500 is currently is no longer over expended as the district received all the revenue from e-Rate expenses.

**8. Board of Education Committee Reports**

**A. Finance Committee**

The Finance Committee Chair, Kim Dunbar commented that the committee did not meet in February but the Board held a special February 25, 2025 to hear the proposed budget from the Superintendent. The Board members did have an opportunity to ask questions and give feedback during budget workshops. Public comments were held on March 3, 2025 and answered additional questions on March 4, 2025. The Board deliberated and approved the budget on March 4, 2025. The budget meeting recordings and approved 25/26 Board budget is available on the district website.

**B. Curriculum Committee**

Mr. Frydman was not in attendance.

**C. Policy Committee**

Policy Committee Chair, Femi Bogle-Assegai noted the committee did not meet in February.

**9. Public/PTO Comment**

Pat Davis, 4 Lisa Lane



She thanked the Board of Education and welcome Dr. Youngberg. She shared her support of Dr. Youngberg as an effective leader for Bloomfield. Ms. Davis stated she has shown strong communication skills and an ability to work with everyone. She also addressed the Board and suggested they continue to work together, demonstrate transparency and keep student success as their mission. She stated they are moving in the right direction.

Jackie Green, 29 Wood Road

Jackie Green echoed the statements of Ms. Davis and the positive comments she has heard. She shared a concern to make sure the Board of Education and the Town Council can come to an agreement on the budget so they can hire quality teachers in a timely manner. She also noted she is impressed with the solar panel savings.

## **10. Old Business**

### **A. Review and Possible Action on the 2025-2026 Academic Calendar**

Dr. Youngberg presented a revised 2025-2026 calendar to the Board of Education with the following changes, removal of Early Start programming in July 2025 and changing Veteran's Day to a non-school day.

A motion was made by T. Mack-Mohammed and seconded by F. Bogle-Assegai for the Bloomfield Board of Education to approve the revised 2025-2026 academic calendar, as presented.

L. Easmon	Aye
F. Bogle-Assegai	Aye
K. Dunbar	Aye
T. Mack-Mohammed	Aye

The motion passed unanimously 4-0-0.

### **B. Food Services Department Update**

Mr. Nicholas Carambelas, Food Services Director provided an update on the Food Services Department. He provided the same presentation to the Board of Education that was shared at the Community Forum on February 26, 2025. He shared the menu changes that have already been implemented such as adding culturally appropriate menu items, using local farms, and a sandwich bar at Bloomfield High School. Future changes include policy updates, staff training, standardized recipes and commodity order changes.

The Food Services Department has held student forums and community surveys to solicit feedback on how to improve school meals. In addition, Mr. Carambelas has been meeting with his staff and will be sharing reports to the Board of Education quarterly. As a result of the surveys, the Food Services Department has partnered with local businesses, and is offering additional items for grades 5-12. They are also considering other environmentally friendly options for food containers.



Mr. Carambelas reviewed the major areas of revenue and expenses for the Food Services Department, which operates from a separate budget. He provided short term and long-term goals.

## 11. New Business

### A. Review and Recommend Approval of the 2025-2026 Healthy Food Certification Statement

A motion was made by T. Mack-Mohammed and seconded by F. Bogle-Assegai for the Bloomfield Board of Education to authorize Dr. Tracy Youngberg to be given access to the Child Nutrition Program online system to submit the claims to the Connecticut State Department of Education.

L. Easmon	Aye
F. Bogle-Assegai	Aye
K. Dunbar	Aye
T. Mack-Mohammed	Aye

The motion passed unanimously 4-0-0.

A motion was made by Mack-Mohammed and seconded by F. Bogle-Assegai, pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, for the Bloomfield Board of Education to certify that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, culinary programs, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or non-school organizations and groups.

L. Easmon	Aye
F. Bogle-Assegai	Aye
K. Dunbar	Aye
T. Mack-Mohammed	Aye

The motion passed unanimously 4-0-0.

A Board member inquired about milk versus chocolate milk, and Mr. Carambelas clarified this motion addresses snacks served during the school day and the second motion addresses food and drinks allowed for sale after-school or during events.

A motion was made by Mack-Mohammed and seconded by F. Bogle-Assegai, for the Bloomfield Board of Education to allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards and beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes provided that the following conditions are met:



- 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend;
- 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and
- 3) the food and beverage items are not sold from a vending machine or school store.

An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The “regular school day” is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held and must be the same place as the food and beverage sales.

L. Easmon	Aye
F. Bogle-Assegai	Aye
K. Dunbar	Aye
T. Mack-Mohammed	Aye

The motion passed unanimously 4-0-0.

## 12. Board Comments

T. Mack-Mohammed thanked the public and students for attending the meeting. She commended the Food Services Director and reiterated the importance of communicating. She also stated the importance of parent involvement and attendance at Board meetings.

K. Dunbar wished all a happy Womens’ Month. She gave a special recognition to all students who presented at the Board meeting. She attended the family Literacy Night and thanked all the collaborators. She also wanted to stress the importance of focusing on the district’s youngest learners’ grades K-2 as these are the foundational years. She encouraged the community to visit the district website for up-to-date events.

F. Bogle-Assegai she echoed her colleagues and stated the district is moving in the right direction. She encouraged the community to join the Board meeting, even with the virtual option.

L. Easmon thanked Dr. Youngberg for the gifts. She congratulated Anne Burrows and the girls track team. She recognized GEMS students on their artwork and the students of Carmen Arace Intermediate School and Middle School on their presentations. Happy Women’s History Month. Ms. Easmon attended Literacy Celebration and reminded the community the budget is on the website. The Town Council presentation will be on March 12, 2025 and encourage the community to also attend the Listening Sessions.

## 13. Adjournment

At 8:57 p.m. a motion to adjourn was made by F. Bogle-Assegai and seconded by T. Mack-Mohammed.

The motion passed unanimously 4-0-0.



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F. Bogle-Assegai, Secretary

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T. Youngberg, Superintendent of Schools