

The minutes presented within this document are a summary of the discussion that took place at the Board of Education meeting. To view the meeting in its entirety and hear full reports please click the following link: [August 2, 2023 Regular Meeting](#).

BRISTOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Bristol, Connecticut
Wednesday, August 2, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting Minutes

The Bristol Board of Education meeting was held on Wednesday, August 2, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Bristol Board of Education auditorium and via the Zoom Meeting Platform.

PRESENT: Commissioners: Russell Anderson (virtual), Eric Carlson, Jennifer Dube, Jill Fitzsimons-Bula, Shelby Pons, Maria Simmons, and Dante Tagariello; **ALSO PRESENT:** Dr. Catherine Carbone, Superintendent and Dr. Michael Dietter, Deputy Superintendent, Lynn Boisvert, Business Manager, Erick Rosengren, Council Liaison

EXCUSED: Commissioner Kristen Giantonio

CALL TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MEETING NORMS

Chair Dube called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and asked the audience to stand for The Pledge of Allegiance. Chair Dube asked that the audience join her in a moment of silence for John T. Reardon, Jr. a Teacher at Bristol Central, Assistant Principal at Bristol Eastern and Bristol Central, and a Principal at Edgewood and Mountain View School.

Chair Dube read the meeting norms into the record.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

July 12, 2023 Regular Meeting

On a motion by Eric Carlson, seconded by Dante Tagariello, and following a Roll Call Vote,

*The Board of Education **APPROVED** the July 12, 2023 Special Meeting minutes as written with six (6) Commissioners (Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello, and Chair Dube) in **FAVOR** of the motion and one (1) Commissioner (Anderson) **OPPOSED**.*

July 26, 2023 Special Meeting

On a motion by Eric Carlson, seconded by Dante Tagariello, and following a Roll Call Vote,

*The Board of Education **APPROVED** the July 26, 2023 Special Meeting minutes as written with six (6) Commissioners (Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello, and Chair Dube) in **FAVOR** of the motion and one (1) Commissioner (Anderson) **OPPOSED**.*

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Policy Committee

Commissioner Pons reported that the committee met last week and discussed the gate fee policy which passed with a vote of 2-1. The committee also discussed new legislation around recess and legislation around transparency of board materials. Both of these topics were discussion items that the committee will continue to work on at next month's meeting.

Student Achievement Committee

Chair Dube reported that the committee met and there were several first readings of the curriculum were presented. This evening you will we will be hearing from Mrs. Fortin about Intro to Business II, Astronomy, Meteorology, Acting, Camera, and Voice and Playwriting. The committee also had a robust discussion on the school calendar being updated to accommodate folks with religious beliefs that were not already recognized and will we be voting on this item this evening.

CHAIR REPORT

Chair Dube reported that Jill Fitzsimons-Bula has offered to serve on the Edgewood Project Building Committee. It is going to be an exciting building project and the district is happy to have her as the person who will be representing the Bristol Public Schools in those dialogues.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr. Carbone presented the monthly Superintendent Report. Dr. Carbone shared information regarding the Community Celebration and Grand Opening of the PreK Academy, the Back to School Bash, the first day of School, and High-Quality Instruction (HQI) Live.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Dube called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, which will include Items 6.1.a through 6.1.e.

On a motion by Dante Tagariello, seconded by Shelby Pons, and

*Following a Roll Call Vote, Chair Dube declared the motion **PASSED** with seven (7) Commissioners (Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello, and Chair Dube) in favor of the motion.*

PERSONNEL

6.1.a. - Administrative Retirement - Effective September 1, 2023

Covino, Lawrence - Adult Education - Supervisor of Adult Education

On a motion by Dante Tagariello, seconded by Shelby Pons, and

Following a Roll Call Vote, the Board of Education (Commissioners Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello, and Chair Dube) voted unanimously to accept the Administrative Retirement - Effective September 1, 2023, as written.

6.1.b. - Administrative Resignations

Mainiero, Daniel - BOE - Director of Safety and Security - Effective July 14, 2023

Peck, Kristen - BECC - Instructional Supervisor, Early Childhood - Effective August 14, 2023

On a motion by Dante Tagariello, seconded by Shelby Pons, and

Following a Roll Call Vote, the Board of Education (Commissioners Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello, and Chair Dube) voted unanimously to accept the Administrative Resignations as written.

6.1.c. - Teacher Resignations - Effective June 14, 2013

Bluestein, Lindsey - GH - Grade 8 ELA Teacher

Levesque, Alanna - CHMS - Grade 8 ELA Teacher

Massicott, Emily - WB - Grade 1 Teacher

Negron, Alexis - GH - Speech and Language Pathologist

Torres, Jessica - GH - Kindergarten Teacher

On a motion by Dante Tagariello, seconded by Shelby Pons, and

Following a Roll Call Vote, the Board of Education (Commissioners Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello, and Chair Dube) voted unanimously to accept the Teacher Resignations as written.

6.1.d. - New Teacher Hire - Effective August 28, 2023

Guerrera, Joseph - CHMS - Grade 8 Social Studies Teacher

Laviero, Samantha - BAIMS - Grade 7 ELA Teacher

McLaughlin, Meredith - WB - School Psychologist

6.1.d. New Teacher Hire - Effective August 28, 2023 – cont'd

Olsen, Kate - BC/BE - Italian/Spanish Teacher
Phelan, Alyson - WB - School Social Worker

On a motion by Dante Tagariello, seconded by Shelby Pons, and

Following a Roll Call Vote, the Board of Education (Commissioners Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello, and Chair Dube) voted unanimously to accept the New Teacher hires as written.

6.1.e. A-1 Hires - Effective August 28, 2023

Lindstrom, Sarah - BCHS - World Language Team Leader
McCormick, Mary - CHMS - Silver Team Leader

On a motion by Dante Tagariello, seconded by Shelby Pons, and

Following a Roll Call Vote, the Board of Education (Commissioners Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello, and Chair Dube) voted unanimously to approve the A-1 Hires as written.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Dube read the Public Comment Rule into the record.

Public Comment was received via email. Chair Dube read it into the record.

Emily Bailey – 21 Tiffany Lane and Theresa Motel – 222 Tyler Way – emailed the Board regarding the removal of committee assignments.

DELIBERATED ITEMS/DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

New Teacher Hiring Overview for 2023-2024

Dr. Culkin presented the New Teacher Hiring Overview for 2023-2024. Half of those new teachers come to our Bristol Public School team as residents of Bristol. Almost all (9 out of eleven) hold a Master's Degree, and about half are newly certified teachers, entering into the profession in their first years of teaching. New teachers are joining us in all areas across the district: Special Education, Social Work, School Psychology, Middle and High school teachers, and Math, Science, English, Wellness, and Social Studies. We still have positions posted, many of those in various stages of the selection process and by the end of summer we anticipate being in good shape for the opening of the school year.

Revisions to 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 School Year Calendars

Dr. Carbone presented Revisions to the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 School Year Calendars. Recommendations to the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 calendars were presented at the July 19, 2023 Student Achievement Committee meeting. The committee has recommended revisions to the 2023-2024 to include the addition of Yom Kippur – 9/25, Removed: October PPD/PSAT Day, 11/7 - notation added Election Day and the New projected last day of school: 6/12/2024. The committee has recommended revisions to the 2024-2025 calendar 4 to include a new Teacher Meeting Date, 8/26, New Professional Development Dates: 8/27 and 8/28, New First Day of School: August 29, the addition of Rosh Hashanah on 10/3, Diwali on 11/1, Three Kings Day 1/6, Eid al-Fitr on 3/31, Removed: October PPD/PSAT Day, 11/5 - notation added Election Day and New projected last day of school: 6/13/2025

On a motion by Jill Fitzsimons-Bula, seconded by Shelby Pons, and

Following a Roll Call Vote, the Board of Education (Commissioners Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello, and Chair Dube) voted unanimously to Revise the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 School Year Calendars as presented.

Questions followed regarding the Board needing to approve the added dates every year.

Back to School Bash Information

Dr. Dietter shared information regarding the Back to School Bash being sponsored by The Office of Climate, Culture, and Community Engagement the "Back to School" event will take place on August 25th, 6-8 p.m. at BAIMS field.

CURRICULUM REVISION

Acting for Camera and Voice (Second Reading)

Carly Fortin presented Acting for Camera and Voice for a Second Reading.

On a motion by Jill Fitzsimons-Bula, seconded by Shelby Pons, and

Following a Roll Call Vote, the Board of Education (Commissioners Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello, and Chair Dube) voted unanimously to approve Acting for Camera and Voice as presented.

Playwriting (Second Reading)

Carly Fortin presented Playwriting for a Second Reading.

On a motion by Shelby Pons, seconded by Dante Tagariello, and

Following a Roll Call Vote, the Board of Education (Commissioners Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello, and Chair Dube) voted unanimously to approve Playwriting as presented.

Astronomy (Second Reading)

Carly Fortin presented Astronomy for a Second Reading.

On a motion by Shelby Pons, seconded by Eric Carlson and

Following a Roll Call Vote, the Board of Education (Commissioners Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello, and Chair Dube) voted unanimously to approve Astronomy as presented.

Meteorology (Second Reading)

Carly Fortin presented Meteorology for a Second Reading.

On a motion by Jill Fitzsimons-Bula, seconded by Shelby Pons, and

Following a Roll Call Vote, the Board of Education (Commissioners Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello, and Chair Dube) voted unanimously to approve Meteorology as presented.

Introduction to Business II (Second Reading)

Carly Fortin presented Introduction to Business II for a Second Reading.

On a motion by Eric Carlson seconded by Dante Tagariello, and

Following a Roll Call Vote, the Board of Education (Commissioners Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello, and Chair Dube) voted unanimously to approve Introduction to Business II as presented.

10. POLICY REVISION

10.1. Policy 3453 - School Activity Funds

Dr. Dietter presented Policy 3453 - School Activity Funds. At a previous meeting of the Board of Education Policy 3453 was revised to eliminate student gate fees for sporting events. When that policy was revised the language included language of attendance fees or other school-sponsored events are we recognized that we needed to make some revisions to the policy that was passed. Dr. Dietter shared the revisions that were made to the policy. We have

10.1. Policy 3453 - School Activity Funds – cont'd

struck through the language that identifies or attendance fees for other school-sponsored events and we've added a revision to state that no Student Activity fund shall be set up to include gate fees for sporting events during the regularly scheduled season of play that would be fall, winter, or spring. We have added language that pre and post-season games or exhibits in the Annual Battle for the Bell may include gate fees for all spectators regardless of residency in Bristol. The rest of the language remains unchanged.

On a motion by Shelby Pons, seconded by Dante Tagariello and

*Following a Roll Call Vote, Chair Dube declared the motion **PASSED** with six (6) Commissioners (Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello, and Chair Dube) in favor of the motion and one (1) Commissioner (Anderson) Abstained.*

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business to come before the Board.

BUILDING REPORTS

Dr. Dietter provided the monthly building reports.

Northeast Middle School Building Committee did meet in June and July. We recently had an additional appropriation from the City of approximately \$1 million dollars this will allow for us to add full humidity control within the scope of the project which previously was not in the scope of the project. It will be an important feature as we move forward.

ESSR/ARP – This project is moving forward, however, you may recall from our previous meeting Mr. Callahan reported that we did not receive robust bids. It is going back out to bid and we are also hearing information that the original date of having to expand the **ESSR/ARP** funds may be pushed out which would be favorable for us.

Edgewood Project

That has been moving along. There is a lot that is happening there in preparation for the Pre-K Academy as our young scholars are coming at the end of August. Our staff have been hard at work.

INFORMATION/LIAISON REPORTS

No commissioner had information or a liaison report.

VOTE TO CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION *for the purpose of discussing:*

1. Discussion of the Superintendent's Evaluation

On a motion by Shelby Pons, seconded by Dante Tagariello and

Following a Roll Call Vote, the Board of Education (Commissioners Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello, and Chair Dube) voted unanimously to approve the revisions to Policy 3453 - School Activity Funds as presented (7:34 p.m.)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

PRESENT: Commissioners: Eric Carlson, Jennifer Dube, Jill Fitzsimons-Bula, Shelby Pons, Maria Simmons, and Dante Tagariello, and Dr. Catherine Carbone, Superintendent

Executive Session was called to order.

Dr. Carbone presented the Superintendent Evaluation and End of Year Goals.

Commissioners discussed the Superintendent's Goals.

RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board, the meeting should be adjourned. (9:30 p.m.).

Respectfully Submitted,



Susan Everett, Recording Secretary
Bristol Board of Education

DRAFT