

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 go to the following: [July 12, 2023](#)

BRISTOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Bristol, Connecticut
Wednesday, July 12, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting Minutes

The Bristol Board of Education meeting was held on Wednesday, July 12, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Bristol Board of Education auditorium and via the Zoom Meeting Platform.

PRESENT: Commissioners: Russell Anderson, Eric Carlson, Jennifer Dube, Jill Fitzsimons-Bula, Shelby Pons, Maria Simmons, Todd Sturgeon, 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 Kristine Colby, Grade 4 Teacher at Ellen P. Hubbell from 9/7/73 to 6/17/08.

Chair Dube read the meeting norms into the record.

STAFF AND STUDENT RECOGNITION – The Board of Education recognized the following staff and students:

Seal of Biliteracy 2023 Recognition

Carly Fortin presented the Seal of Biliteracy 2023 Recognition. This spring, 109 students qualified for the Seal of Biliteracy, 32 students more than the year before. Students qualified for the Seal of Biliteracy based on their demonstrated proficiency in Albanian, Spanish, Polish, Ukrainian, Urdu, Arabic, Chinese, Italian, and Portuguese. Students demonstrated proficiency they have acquired through their coursework in Bristol or their lived experiences by taking a variety of different assessments, including the AAPPL, STAMP and OPI/WPT. Seniors who qualified were awarded the Seal this year, while other students who qualified will be awarded the Seal at graduation. Their success represents the rich cultural diversity of Bristol Public Schools and the hard work of students and teachers over the course of many years. (Student Listing Attached)

Student-Athlete Recognitions

Coaches and students from Bristol Central and Bristol Eastern were recognized for their spring season accomplishments and accolades.

Bristol Central Track Coach Tamara Stafford, and students Frankie Porrini, III and Treshawn Blair were present to be recognized.

Bristol Eastern Track Coach Paul Ryskowski, and students Rayshon Andrews, Jack Mulcunry, Justin Sanchez, Ryan Braccia, and Kaelyn Gonzalez were present to be recognized.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 7, 2023 Regular Meeting

On a motion by Dante Tagariello, seconded by Russell Anderson, and following a Roll Call Vote,

The Board of Education (Commissioners Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello and Dube) voted to approve the June 7, 2023 Regular Meeting minutes as written. Commissioner Giantonio Abstained

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Operations Committee

Commissioner Carlson reported that the committee met on June 14, 2023. The committee received a presentation involving the Energy Assistance Program from Eversource.

Student Achievement Committee

Commissioner Fitzsimons-Bula reported the committee met on June 21st and voted to approve four curriculum revisions that will be up for acceptance tonight these include Pre-K math, 6th Grade Exploratory Drumming at BAIMS, 7th Grade Exploratory Piano at BAIMS and Grade 6-8 Physical Education. There were two informational items presented for a first reading, Acting for Camera and Voice and Playwriting. The next Student Achievement meeting will be held on June 19, 2023.

CHAIR REPORT

Chair Dube provided the monthly Chair Report. Chair Dube reported that Commissioner Todd Sturgeon resigned effective July 5, 2023. Chair Dube and Mayor Caggiano are interviewing candidates and should have an appointment selected by the beginning of next week.

Chair Dube shared that she learned just yesterday that our city Charter does indicate that all appointments will have to run in the following election for the remaining half of their term. Therefore, the new appointment that should be voted on in August as well as any other appointments for the term ending in 2025 will be on the ballot for a two-year term.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr. Carbone presented the monthly Superintendent Report. Dr. Carbone shared information regarding Edgewood Pre-K Academy Update, NEMS Building Update, a Farm-to-School Update, the recent Climate Camp, the upcoming BAPS retreat and lastly, we currently have 427 Kindergarten enrollments, Dr. Carbone reminded parents to enroll their Kindergarten students.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Dube called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, which will include Items 7.A.1. through 7.B.1

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

The Board of Education (Commissioners Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Giantonio, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello and Dube) voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda as written.

PERSONNEL

Teacher Retirement - Effective June 30, 2023

Lombardo, Cynthia - BEHS – Guidance Counselor

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

The Board of Education (Commissioners Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Giantonio, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello and Dube) voted unanimously to accept the Teacher Retirement - Effective June 30, 2023 as written.

Teacher Resignations - Effective June 14, 2023

Carosella, Joseph - BAIMS/NEMS - Wellness Teacher

Hamed, Jennifer - BAIMS - Grade 6-8 Science Teacher

Friedman, Rebecca - SSS - Grade 2 Teacher

Marlak, Rachel - EDGE - Kindergarten Teacher

Teacher Resignations - Effective June 14, 2023 – cont'd

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

The Board of Education (Commissioners Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Giantonio, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello and Dube) voted unanimously to accept the Teacher Resignations - Effective June 14, 2023 as written.

New Teacher Hire - Effective August 28, 2023

Ward, Katt - BAIMS - Grade 6-8 Science Teacher

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

The Board of Education (Commissioners Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Giantonio, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello and Dube) voted unanimously to approve the New Teacher Hire - Effective August 28, 2023 as written.

A-1 Resignation - Effective June 14, 2023

Gworek, Gary - NEMS - Yellow Team Leader

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

The Board of Education (Commissioners Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Giantonio, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello and Dube) voted unanimously to accept the A-1 Resignation - Effective June 14, 2023 as written.

A-1 Hire - Effective August 28, 2023

Sheedy, Kara - NEMS - Yellow Team Leader

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

The Board of Education (Commissioners Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Giantonio, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello and Dube) voted unanimously to approve the A-1 Hire - Effective June 14, 2023 as written

A-2 Resignation - Effective June 14, 2023

Bourke, Logan - BEHS - Math League, Co-Advisor

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

The Board of Education (Commissioners Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Giantonio, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello and Dube) voted unanimously to accept the A-2 Resignation - Effective June 14, 2023 as written.

TEAM Mentor/Cooperating Teacher

Jessica Epps - Districtwide Special Education

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

The Board of Education (Commissioners Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Giantonio, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello and Dube) voted unanimously to approve the TEAM Mentors/Cooperating Teacher as written.

GRANTS

SDE FRC Grant - Renewal application approval for Family Resource Centers

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

The Board of Education (Commissioners Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Giantonio, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello and Dube) voted unanimously to approve the SDE FRC Grant - Renewal application approval for Family Resource Centers as written.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No other members of the public in-person or online wished to address the board.

DELIBERATED ITEMS/DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

Report on Dress Down

Dr. Dietter presented the Report on Dress Down Days for 2022-2023 School Year

The Board of Education agreed to waive the staff dress code for monthly dress-down days that would benefit students and/or staff. Staff donated a total of \$23,801.00 for the 2022-2023 school year

Special Services Report

Amy Martino, Director of Special Services presented the monthly Special Services Report. As of June 1, 2023, 1,822 of the 8,207 enrolled Bristol Public School students are identified as requiring Special Education programming. This enrollment reflects 22.2% of the total BPS student population. As of June 1, 2023, 117 students with disabilities require out-of-district placements at private special education school programs. There are 80 students requiring special education programming services at other public out-of-district schools, including magnet schools. During the month of May 2023, 17% of newly registered students were identified as students with special education programming needs at the time of registration. Zero students enrolled in Bristol Public Schools during the month of May 2023 received their programs and services at out-of-district special education school programs at the time of enrollment. During the month of May, there were (74) 211 and (13) 911 calls.

ESY (Extended School Year) Report

Mrs. Martino, shared information regarding the BPS ESY program. The Bristol Public Schools provides a robust extended school year program for students with IEPs who meet the eligibility criteria for extended school year instruction and related services. This summer, approximately 285 students began the extended school year program on July 5th. The program runs through August 9th and students attend Monday through Thursday each week from 9 am to 12 pm. Lunch and transportation are provided. We have approximately 110 staff supporting our program this summer.

Seal of Biliteracy 2023 Recognition

Students Mackenzie Starks and Yadi Ortiz Bilbraut from Bristol Central High School addressed the Board regarding receiving the Seal of Biliteracy.

CURRICULUM REVISION

Grade 6-8 Physical Education

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, Giantonio, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello and Dube) voted unanimously to approve the Grade 6-8 Physical Education Curriculum Revision.

6th Grade Exploratory – Percussion

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, Giantonio, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello and Dube) voted unanimously to approve 6th Grade Exploratory – Percussion Curriculum Revision.

7th Grade Exploratory – Piano

On a motion by Shelby Pons, seconded by Jill Fitzsimons-Bula, and following a Roll Call Vote,

The Board of Education (Commissioners Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Giantonio, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello and Dube) voted unanimously to approve 7th Grade Exploratory – Piano Curriculum Revision.

PreK Math Curriculum

On a motion by Shelby Pons, seconded by Maria Simmons, and following a Roll Call Vote,

The Board of Education (Commissioners Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Giantonio, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello and Dube) voted unanimously to approve PreK Math Curriculum Revision.

New Course - Introduction to Business Curriculum – Second Reading

On a motion by Dante Tagariello, seconded by Jill Fitzsimons-Bula, and following a Roll Call Vote,

The Board of Education (Commissioners Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Giantonio, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello and Dube) voted unanimously to approve New Course - Introduction to Business Curriculum.

TEXTBOOK ADOPTION

Textbook - Accounting I/II – Second Reading

On a motion by Dante Tagariello, seconded by Jill Fitzsimons-Bula, and following a Roll Call Vote,

The Board of Education (Commissioners Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Giantonio, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello and Dube) voted unanimously to approve the - Accounting I/II Textbook - Introduction to Business Textbook - Century 21 Accounting, 11th ed., General Journal.

Textbook - Introduction to Business – Second Reading

On a motion by Dante Tagariello, seconded by Jill Fitzsimons-Bula, and following a Roll Call Vote,

The Board of Education (Commissioners Anderson, Carlson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Giantonio, Pons, Simmons, Tagariello and Dube) voted unanimously to approve the BUSN-12: Introduction to Business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business to come before the Board.

BUILDING REPORTS

Tim Callahan, provided the monthly building reports.

Northeast Middle School

The Northeast Middle School project was approved. Of the \$89 million dollars needed for the project, we are receiving \$52 million from the State.

Chippens Hill, ESSER, ARP

We did not receive any bids back for the work. A lot of people walk through the building looked at the project but with all the money right now for ESSER, ARP companies are busy. We are at a standstill right now. We are looking at other ways to get the project done and hope that we can get an extension for the ESSER funds.

Edgewood Renovation

We have done a lot of work to get this ready for this year. We have a targeted alteration that we're going to get funded by the State. As we did with NEMS last year, we applied for the grant this year we will be hearing next June whether we are approved.

Athletic Fields and Site Upgrades

We are working on the batting cages and dugouts. We also have some analysis being done by Benesh Civil Engineering to help us improve the tracks. The next phase will be to do a full construction renovation of those tracks.

INFORMATION/LIAISON REPORTS

No commissioner had information or a liaison report.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board, and,

*On a motion by Dante Tagariello and a second by Eric Carlson the Board of Education meeting was adjourned.
(7:48 p.m.).*

Respectfully Submitted,



Susan Everett, Recording Secretary
Bristol Board of Education

DRAFT