



Board of Education Special Meeting
Tuesday, March 3, 2025 at 7:00 P.M. Hybrid Meeting

In person: Bloomfield Board of Education, Board
Room 1133 Blue Hills Avenue
Bloomfield, CT 06002

Virtual: Click below to join the Zoom meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83899360240?pwd=bswFy5HB2IrUXTz50lreXyVHtdYkpD.1>

Meeting ID: 838 9936 0240 Passcode: w0YzZj

Dial in by Phone: (929) 205-6099 Passcode (for dial-in only): 271921

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

Also Present: T. Youngberg, Acting Superintendent
D. Greco, Director of Accounting
G. Martinez, Executive Director of Talent Management & Community Partnerships
L. Lamenzo, Director of School Improvement
E. Pierce, District Grants Specialist
N. Jones, District Teaching & Learning Specialist

1. Establishment of a Quorum and Call to Order

L. Easmon 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. Public/PTO Comment

A. Public Comment on Superintendent's Proposed 2025-2026 Budget

L. Easmon, Chair reviewed the procedures for public comments in-person and virtually.

Rickford Kirton, 7 Hickory Lane, Bloomfield

Mr. Kirton thanked the Board members for providing a virtual session to ask questions. Tuition costs for out-of-district placements on Pages 51-52. Why are so many students leaving the district and what is being done to retain them? Dr. Youngberg responded regarding the continuum of care for special education services. She is unable to provide a direct answer why students are leaving but this is an area of focus. Mr. Kirton followed up with a need to communicate with families and find out why students are leaving. He also inquired about the per pupil expenditure, why it is so high and how it directly



benefits student achievement. He also noted our declining student population. Dr. Youngberg clarified the per pupil expenditure rate and noted it is high. She stated that the staffing structure will be reviewed and make adjustments that will benefit students.

Kate Keefe, 16 Breezy Knoll Drive, Bloomfield

She thanked the Superintendent for the thoughtfulness put into the proposed budget. She noted that her data 41% of Special Education students are classified as having an emotional disability. She inquired how the district is assessing for these needs and what is being implemented to address the interventions. She further inquired about Global Experience Magnet School (GEMS) status and Our Piece of the Pie (OPP) and the five-year contract. She further inquired if the district has community-based health clinics in the school system. She also encouraged getting magnet school families back. She noted that the Ed Sight data shows the performance of magnet schools is not much higher but they understand their data, safety precautions, intervention models and diversity.

Dr. Youngberg noted the district's intentional focus on Special Education including having a formal needs assessment for special education. In regards to GEMS a formal committee will be formed to provide information related to the operations of the building. The district is reviewing how to bring back an alternative program to Bloomfield but we are in a multi-year contract.

As a follow-up she encouraged the district to lean into the community for support as they are trying to improve quality of the educational system. Only other thing is the cost of contracted services and testing, especially in mental health field. Dr. Youngberg noted there will be family forums held in March and April and a Parent Advisory Group.

Rickford Kirton, 7 Hickory Lane, Bloomfield

Mr. Kirton wanted to follow-up on the per pupil expenditure formula. Mr. Greco noted the formula is calculated by the State of CT. Dr. Youngberg will follow-up and get the information from the state.

Online Comment: "Wright"

What is your plan to address behavioral issues in the district?

Dr. Youngberg noted it is a multi-faceted plan. The district will look at policies, how do operationalize those policies, how do we engage families and students in understanding expectations, having an intervention process with multi-tiers, having a true curriculum and having support at all levels for students in need.

Kerry Sisson, 48 Gabb Road, Bloomfield

Kerry stated she appreciates everything you are doing. The speaker addressed a concern that the in-district alternative program for students with behavioral needs is being dismantled. She also works in a school and knows the effectiveness of school-based program. Dr. Youngberg noted it is slowly being moved back to the schools. She noted it is important for the K-4 students to have time with non-disabled peers and numbers can be managed at the school-level. Some students were moved back to a school-based program and some were out-placed based on the best interest of the students and being in the least restrictive environment.



B. Board of Education Comments on the Superintendent's Proposed 2025-2026 Budget
The Board of Education did not have any comments.

4. Adjournment

At 7:24 p.m. a motion was made by H. Frydman and seconded by T. Moore.

The motion passed unanimously 7-0-0.

F. Bogle-Assegai, Secretary

T. Youngberg, Superintendent