

*The minutes presented within this document summarize the discussion of the Regular Finance and Operations Committee meeting. To view the meeting in its entirety and hear full reports, please click the following link: [1/14/26 Regular Finance & Operations Meeting](#) Passcode: j=M*8xG2*



**BRISTOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Bristol, Connecticut**
Wednesday, January 14, 2026 – 6:00pm
Regular Finance and Operations Committee Meeting Minutes

The Bristol Board of Education Regular Finance and Operations Committee Meeting was held on Wednesday, January 14, 2026 at 6:00pm in the Bristol Board of Education Auditorium located at 129 Church Street and via Zoom Meeting Platform

Present: Chair Maria Simmons, Commissioner Kara Ledger

Absent: Commissioner Russell Anderson

Also, Present: Director of Finance Jodi Bond, Director of Pupil Personnel Services Amy Martino Director of Talent & Management Joseph Grabowski, Superintendent Iris White, Commissioners Kristen Giantonio, Barbara Tedesco and Jennifer Van Gorder (Virtual).

1. Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Simmons called meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and asked the audience to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance

2. Approval of Minutes - 12/20/2025 Regular Finance & Operations Committee Meeting

Commissioner Simmons called for a motion to approve the 12/20/25 minutes. The motion was made by Kara Ledger and seconded by Maria Simmons.

The Finance and Operations Committee voted unanimously to approve the December 20, 2025, regular meeting minutes as written.

3. Public Comment

Commissioner Kristen Giantonio read a letter for supplement.

4. 2026 Budget update through 12/30/25

Jodi Bond, Director of Finance provided the 2026 Budget update through 12/31/25. Currently in a deficit of (\$6,585,575) as we await our budgeted revenue sources (Medicaid, Excess Cost, Tuition, Rentals). Special Education is driving the deficit, at (\$3,457,706)

We anticipate a budget deficit in our Substitute (teacher, para, secretary) lines of approximately (\$1m). Yesterday Iris, Shelby and Jodi had a conversation with Mayor

Zoppo-Sassu, David Maikowski, and Diane Waldron to discuss this probable deficit. The City will have to determine if they're giving us an additional appropriation now or at the end of the school year. It was a productive conversation and helpful to have prior to entering a full deficit.

Questions and discussion followed regarding the report.

5. Cafeteria Report

Jodi Bond provided the Cafeteria Report. Our cafeteria snapshot at 12/31/25 shows a deficit of (\$679,715) as we await Federal and State reimbursement. We served our scholars 38,119 breakfasts, 87,224 lunches, and 1,079 snacks in December.

No questions and discussions followed regarding the report.

6. Appropriation transfers over \$10,000

Jodi Bond provided the Appropriation Transfers over 10,000. Funds were reappropriated within the Athletics budget for athletic uniforms (specifically boys & girls soccer @ BC and BE, boys & girls basketball at BC, BC & BE volleyball, and comp cheer uniforms for BC/BE); and within the Facilities budget for equipment (vehicle leases).

Questions and discussions followed regarding the report.

7. Pupil Personnel Services Report

Dr. Amy Martino presented the monthly Pupil Personnel Services Report. Dr. Martino reported as of January 1, 2026 1,778 of the 7,874 enrolled Bristol students are identified as requiring Special Education programming. This enrollment reflects 22.59% of the total BPS student population. As of January 1st, 122 students with disabilities required out-of-district placements at private special education school programs. There were 87 students requiring special education programming services at other public out-of-district schools, including magnet schools. During the month of December 2025, 39% of newly enrolled students to Bristol Public Schools were receiving special education services; none of our newly registered students attended an out-of-district placement at the time of enrollment. During the month of December there were (30) 211 calls and (9) 911 calls.

As of January 1, 2026 all represented budget lines are trending as expected when comparing appropriations to year to date expenditures. Although the general budget overview from Mrs. Bonds show certain Special Education lines currently over budget due to the entry of all encumbrances; this does not yet reflect anticipated excess cost reimbursement, medicaid payments, or tuition revenue that the Board of Education expects to receive. At this time, we do anticipate being over budget if all encumbrances remain through the end of the year. Dr. Martino shared the need for funds for the increase of paraprofessionals across the district. Dr. Martino recognized this need fluctuates based on student enrollment and needs per IEP.

Questions and discussions followed regarding the report.

8. Student Activity Accounts through 12/30/2025

Jodi Bond provided the student activity accounts as of December 31, 2025

Bristol Central Athletics began this year with a balance of \$53,781.55. A total of \$43547.28 in expenses and \$54,161.69 in receipts left a balance of \$64,395.96. Please note: of this balance, \$26,648.63 is gate fee net income, and the remainder is fundraising proceeds for individual sports teams.

The BCHS Student Activity Fund began the year with \$155,105.57. They had \$34,993.04 in expenditures and \$59,140.27 in receipts, leaving a month-end balance of \$179,252.80.

Bristol Eastern Athletics began this year with a \$18,572.98 balance. A total of \$22,875.41 in expenses and \$19,245.18 in receipts left a balance of \$14,942.75. Please note, this entire balance is fundraising proceeds for individual sports teams.

The BEHS Student Activity Fund began the year with \$147,122.42. They had \$50,628.16 in expenditures and \$90,255.05 in receipts, leaving a month-end balance of \$186,749.31.

Jodi Bond noted that they are moving some funds from Dues & Fees within the Athletics general fund to the activity account. As there is a frequent need to write checks on demand for athletic tournaments/events. Often the hosting school or venue is not a vendor and we do not have enough notice to complete the vendor process and then the PO process. These fees are now budgeted within the general fund (in the absence of gate fees). At the end of the fiscal year, any remaining dues and fees funds in the activity account will be returned to the general fund.

Questions and discussions followed regarding the report.

9. Operations Committee

There was no report from Operations to come before the committee

10. Old Business

There was no Old Business to come before the committee

11. New Business

11.1 - Revision to 2026 Finance & Operations Committee Meeting Dates

Commissioner Maria Simmons presented the revised 2026 Regular Finance and Operations Committee Meeting Dates to the committee, noting the September date was changed due to conflict with the Regular Board of Education meeting dates. The revision was to have the new date as September 23, 2026.

Questions and discussion followed regarding concern of the September 23, 2026 date due to Mrs. Bonds presenting her Finance report the night prior to the City Board of Finance without presenting it to the Committee.

Motion Passed: Commissioner Ledger motioned and a second by Commissioner Simmons to approve and amend the September 9, 2026 to September 23, 2026 for the Regular Finance and Operations Committee Meeting dates.

12. Adjournment

There being no other business before the committee, the Finance and Operations Committee Meeting should be adjourned. (6:34 p.m.)

Respectfully Submitted,



Sydney Molina
Recording Secretary
Bristol Board of Education

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