



Board of Education Regular Meeting
Tuesday, February 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

[Click here](#) for the meeting link

Meeting ID: 891 2162 6300

Passcode: JM95Kt

Attendance:

L. Easmon, Chair	Present
H. Frydman, Vice Chair	Present (<i>arrived at 8:17 p.m.</i>)
F. Bogle-Assegai, Secretary	Present
T. Moore	Present
K. Dunbar	Present
T. Mack-Mohammed	Present
L. Simone	Absent

Also Present: T. Youngberg, Superintendent
D. Greco, Executive Director of Accounting
L. Lamenzo, Director of School Improvement
J. Titelbaum, District Data Systems Coordinator
M. Sutton, Director of Student Support Services
N. Jones, District Teaching and Learning Specialist

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 7:01 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 High School and Global Experience Magnet School Student Recognitions for PSAT and SAT Scores

Tracy A. Youngberg, Ed.D., Superintendent recognized students from Bloomfield High School and Global Experience Magnet School who earned National Recognition from College Board for their exceptional PSAT scores. A BHS student was also



recognized for achieving 99th percentile of all SAT test takers. Students were presented with a certificate.

5. Presentations

A. Student Showcase for Black History Month

A Bloomfield High School student read Maya Angelou's "Phenomenal Woman".

B. Student Presentation from Carmen Arace Middle School

Ms. Calabro from Carmen Arace Middle School welcomed grade 7 students to present on a special social studies project. She noted that use of place-based learning was an essential element of this project. Mr. Taylor, teacher, also presented on the establishment of a partnership with Wintonbury Historical Society. The students shared an overview of their project including research, plotting and taking a bus tour of historical locations in Bloomfield. The assignment concluded with project exhibitions.

C. Student Representative Report – Student from the SOAR Program

Student representatives from the SOAR program (Talented and Gifted program) provided program updates to the Board of Education. Students reported on field trips, Type II Passion Projects, History Day, Stock Market Game and creative thinking supplemental activities.

D. Introduction of Grace Martinez – Executive Director of Talent Management and Community Partnerships

Dr. Youngberg introduced Grace M. Martinez as the new Executive Director of Talent Management & Community Partnerships. Grace M. Martinez is an accomplished human resources executive with over 14 years of experience working within public schools, most especially Alliance districts. She will join Bloomfield Public Schools on February 24, 2025.

6. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting – January 14, 2025

B. Approval of Minutes – Special Meeting – January 30, 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
H. Frydman	Aye
F. Bogle-Assegai	Aye
K. Dunbar	Aye
T. Mack-Mohammed	Aye
T. Moore	Aye

The motion passed unanimously 6-0-0.



7. Superintendent's Report

A. District Budget Update

Dr. Tracy Youngberg, Superintendent provided a budget update. She celebrated her budget team and noted they are presenting the proposed budget to the February 25, 2025 and to the Town Council in March.

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 and meeting with CT State Department of Education. In addition, Dr. Youngberg will be conducting walkthroughs, observing data teams and researching staff attendance.

The Superintendent will soon be scheduling Parent Focus groups at each and will be creating a district Parent Advisory Group.

Department improvement plans will be created and the HR department will be ensuring a hiring workflow and moving to a digital platform.

C. Food Services Update

Dr. Youngberg shared an update on Food Services. She is meeting regularly with the Director and created a communication plan to showcase department improvements. A family and student survey has gone out and a Family Forum will be held on February 26, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the high school. In addition, the Food Services Director will be presenting to the Board of Education on March 11, 2025.

D. Library Resources/Access Update

Dr. Youngberg gave a summary of each school library. She discussed how the library is accessed, partnerships, updates required and staffing.

E. Attendance Update

Dr. Youngberg gave an update on the daily attendance rate chronic absenteeism rate.

F. Financial Report – January 2025

Mr. Domenic Greco, Director of Accounting reported on the financials as of February 7, 2025. He noted that 6.86% of the adopted budget has yet to be expended or encumbered.

Mr. Greco noted on the one-page summary report, major account 03 Employee Benefits with a balance of 1.7 million yet to be expended or encumbered. Of this, 1.5 million is allocated for the pension contribution payments, which was paid on February 11, 2025 and will be reflected in the next finance report. He also noted major account 08 Tuition, which has a balance of \$152,000. Mr. Greco noted out-of-district placement invoices were paid.



Salaries lines have funds available due to some vacancies and the retroactive pay for UPSEU since the contract is now finalized.

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 receivables for special education are booked.

On page 3 of the six-page report, sub account 3500 is currently over expended by approximately \$9,000.00. The district has yet to the receive all the revenue from e-Rate.

F. Bogle-Assegai inquired about library book and textbook expenses. Mr. Greco referred the Board to page 5 of the 6-page detail report. K. Dunbar noted the importance of libraries in the schools.

L. Easmon asked the Superintendent to elaborate on the 88% attendance rate at Global Experience Magnet School. Only 15 of the 189 students reside in Bloomfield and additional factors may impact the attendance for students who reside outside the community.

Dr. Youngberg addressed updates to the Food Services department and discussed the school meal survey.

T. Moore commented on the Superintendent transition plan, priority #3.

8. Board of Education Committee Reports

A. Finance Committee

The Finance Committee Chair, Kim Dunbar commented on the budget development process, and the team working to find potential savings while focusing on student outcomes. One of the items recently discussed is the 2% set aside account.

B. Curriculum Committee

Mr. Frydman is out.

C. Policy Committee

Policy Committee Chair, Femi Bogle-Assegai reviewed the policies that will be discussed this evening by the Superintendent.

9. Public/PTO Comment

Kate Keefe, 16 Breezy Knoll Drive

She is happy to know that the leadership is looking at food services. She commented on the plastic and Styrofoam and to consider the health and environmental impact. In the fall there was going to be a follow-up family forum on data updates. She hopes there will be efforts to reach out to Bloomfield families who attend CREC schools to return to Bloomfield schools.



10. Old Business

A. Policies for Adoption

1. Policy 5132 – Dress and Grooming – Students

Move past this policy as there is more discussion needed in committee for this policy.

2. Officers – 9120

Policy 9120 has a conflict with the Town Charter and needs to be updated.

3. Filling Vacancies on the Board – 9221

Policy 9221 is also before the Board of Education for adoption. These updates will also bring the policy into alignment with the Town Charter.

4. Time, Place, Notification for Meetings – 9321

Edits to Policy 9321 include changing the meeting dates to reflect the second and fourth Tuesday of the month and aligns with current practices. The hybrid option has also been added to the policy.

5. Agenda Construction and Posting – 9323

Policy 9323 was presented to the Board for adoption. This policy included changes to the posting of the agenda as it relates to new meeting practices.

A motion was made by T. Mack-Mohammed and seconded by F. Bogle-Assegai for the Bloomfield Board of Education to adopt the following policies as listed under item 10A of the agenda: Policy 9120 – Officers, Policy 9221 – Filling Vacancies on the Board, Policy 9321 – Time, Place, Notification for Meetings, and Policy 9323 – Agenda Construction and Posting.

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

The motion passed unanimously 5-0-0.

11. New Business

A. Discussion and Possible Action on Establishing a 2% Non-Lapsing Account for Bloomfield Public Schools

Dr. Youngberg, Superintendent, noted approximately five years ago, the state legislators permitted local Boards of Education to create a 2% non-lapsing account. Dr. Youngberg noted it allows the Board to move surplus monies to this account and permits the Board to use at its discretion.



A motion was made by T. Mack-Mohammed and seconded by F. Bogle-Assegai for the Bloomfield Board of Education to establish a 2% non-lapsing account for unexpended funds as permitted under Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-248a.

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

The motion passed unanimously 5-0-0.

B. Policies for an Initial Reading

1. Policy 3542.41 – Food Service Personnel Professional Standards

Dr. Tracy Youngberg presented an initial reading of Policy 3542.41. This is a model policy provided by the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE). The draft was reviewed by Nicholas Carambelas, Director of Food Services.

2. Policy 6141.323 – Internet Safety/Filtering – Children’s Internet Protection Act

Dr. Youngberg also presented Policy 6141.323 for an initial reading. This is a required policy and is also a model policy provided by CABE. Allan Miller, Director of Information Technology has reviewed the policy and made edits so it aligns with district policies and procedures.

12. Board Comments

T. Moore he congratulated the students on the recognitions this evening and presentations. He acknowledged the students who are learning about the history of Bloomfield and the SOAR program activities.

T. Mack-Mohammed she thanked the community and students for their participation this evening. She shouted out Black History Month. The social media pages are starting to highlight school events and recognitions.

K. Dunbar wished all a Happy Black History month and emphasized the importance of having meaningful conversations about Black History. She truly enjoyed the student presentations. The Board would like to stay informed of school events. She gave a special recognition to students who were recognized by the National College Board.

F. Bogle-Assegai she also thanked the students. She welcomed Ms. Martinez. She also thanked the many parents who attended the Board meeting. She welcomes seeing more families in attendance at student success requires the participation of parents. She noted the district needs to celebrate the successes more.



H. Frydman apologized for the late arrival. He was in attendance at another town event. Mr. Frydman shared the interest of updates to several buildings including the high school and Board of Education. He wished all a Happy Black History month.

L. Easmon recognized the artwork from the Metacomet students. She thanked the students for the presentations and being able to share information with our community. She welcomed Ms. Martinez to the Bloomfield team. She thanked the families and community members for attending. She thanked Dr. Youngberg for work in her first two months and her Board members for the contributions to the budget in the next month.

13. Adjournment

At 8:28 p.m. a motion to adjourn was made by H. Frydman and seconded by F. Bogle-Assegai.

The motion passed unanimously 6-0-0.

F. Bogle-Assegai, Secretary

T. Youngberg, Superintendent of Schools