

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Bristol, Connecticut**  
**July 8, 2020 – Regular Meeting Minutes**

The regular meeting of the Bristol Board of Education was held on Wednesday, July 8, 2020, at 7:00 p.m., via the Cisco WebEx Meeting Platform and in-person at the Board of Education auditorium located at 129 Church Street, Bristol, Connecticut.

**PRESENT:** Commissioners: Eric Carlson, Kristen Giantonio, Thomas O'Brien, Shelby Pons, John Sklenka, Karen Vibert, Allison Wadowski and Christopher Wilson; Dr. Catherine Carbone, Superintendent, Dr. Michael Dietter, Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Sam Galloway, Director of Talent Management, Jill Browne, Business Director, Carly Fortin, Director of Teaching and Learning, and Peter Kelley, Council Liaison

**EXCUSED:** Commissioner Jennifer Dube

**CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Board Secretary Allison Wadowski called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and asked the attendees to recite the Pledge of Allegiance. An American Flag was displayed on-screen.

Commissioner Wadowski read the meeting norms.

**STAFF RECOGNITION**

Dr. Carbone introduced the following Staff members for recognition:

**Georgina Rivera - Elementary STEM Supervisor**

Mrs. Georgina Rivera co-authored a paper entitled: *Moving forward: Mathematics Learning in the Era of COVID-19* for the National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics. She also contributed to a story on culturally relevant practices entitled: *Framework for Leadership in Mathematics Education* that was published in April of 2020 for the National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics. Mrs. Rivera was present and shared with the board how and why she was selected to work on paper and its purpose.

**Kristen Peck - Director of BECC - Best Practices Recognition by the CSDE**

The Bristol Early Childhood Center was recognized by the CT State Department of Education for their best practices. Ms. Peck was present and recognized members of her staff Jasmin Autunno, Claire Consonni and Megan Nadeau for their work on the PowerPoint. The PowerPoint was created to allow parents and students the opportunity to see what their PreK experience would be like. Due to the COVID-19 closure, students were unable to visit their new school in person, so the video and PowerPoint allowed them to get acclimated to what their day would be like and some of the things they would be doing as they enter the public schools for the first time.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**June 3, 2020 – Regular Meeting Minutes**

Following a motion by Eric Carlson and a second by John Sklenka a roll call vote was called.

Approval of the **June 3, 2020, Regular Meeting Minutes PASSED** following a Roll Call Vote of eight (8) Commissioners (Carlson, Giantonio, O'Brien, Pons, Sklenka, Vibert, Wilson, and Wadowski) voting YES.

**June 10, 2020 – Special Meeting Minutes**

Following a motion by Christopher Wilson and a second by Karen Vibert a roll call vote was called.

Approval of the **June 10, 2020, Special Meeting Minutes PASSED** following a Roll Call Vote of eight (8) Commissioners (Carlson, Giantonio, O'Brien, Pons, Sklenka, Vibert, Wilson, and Wadowski) voting YES.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Finance**

Commissioner Vibert reported that the Finance committee met earlier this evening. Currently, there is a surplus of \$616,061 after revenue adjustments. There is the expectation that the surplus amount will increase as we continue to finalize the fiscal year with remaining PO closures and completed grant funded expenditure adjustments. The cafeteria will finish FY20 in deficit; the snapshot at the end of June depicts a \$450K total deficit amount, many school districts are facing the same situation. Summer Food Service has been operating successfully in several locations. The Summer Food Service Program will be self-sustaining, and offer an additional revenue opportunity that will help to offset the regular school year cafeteria budget. There was one appropriation transfer during the month of June within the music department for \$546.72.

### **Policy**

Commissioner Giantonio reported that the Policy Committee met on Wednesday, June 24<sup>th</sup> and the agenda consisted of the approval of minutes from the 4/22/20 committee meeting and they discussed policy changes in regards to 4000.1 – Title IX – Personnel and 5145.44 co-policy – Title IX – Students, there was also discussion around new language in Policy 6172.6 which has to do with distance learning online courses. Dr. Dietter can shared more detail into those changes later on in the agenda.

### **Student Achievement**

Commissioner Wilson reported that the committee met on June 17<sup>th</sup> and Jaime Rechenberg presented the AP Statistics curriculum revisions. The curriculum will appear on tonight's agenda as a Second Reading. Leszek Ward presented the ECE Italian curriculum. The new curriculum will appear on tonight's agenda for a first reading. in the intervening month commissioners can direct their questions to Mr. Ward. The committee also received a presentation on the middle school course selection process and a MBIAMS program update from Carly Fortin.

### **Operations**

Tim Callahan reported that we are currently moving ahead on the Northeast Ceiling Tile project. The Northeast Middle School gym floor replacement project is currently being worked on now, we jumped into the project a little early and working through the hazmat abatement process. We are currently doing abatement at South Side School and working through the construction phase. There was also a presentation from QA&M providing further detail into the four options for the feasibility study. There was more detail in regards to phasing and a broad overview of cost for each option and the operations committee is studying that, considering redistricting, costs and different options as phasing goes in and we should look for them to narrow that down to hopefully two options in the coming weeks.

Questions followed regarding if there were any unforeseen issues at the Northeast Middle School site. Mr. Callahan reported that the abatement contractor had to re-file some paperwork, and the project started a little later.

## **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Dr. Carbone presented the monthly Superintendent Report. Commissioners were provided information on the following topics: 20-21 Reopening Plans, and CARES Act Funding Update.

Questions followed the CARES Act Funding and the IT support for the district become a 1:1 district.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

## **PERSONNEL**

### **Administrator Hires**

Farrell, Latanya – STAF – Principal - Effective July 9, 2020

Madrugá, Matthew – WB – Dean - Effective July 9, 2020

Rivera, Georgina – GH – Dean - Effective July 9, 2020

Following a motion by Karen Vibert and a second by Shelby Pons a roll call vote was called.

Approval of the **Administrator Hires PASSED** following a Roll Call Vote of eight (8) Commissioners (Carlson, Giantonio, O'Brien, Pons, Sklenka, Vibert, Wilson, and Wadowski) voting YES.

### **Teacher Retirements – Effective June 30, 2020**

Ayotte, Lisa – EPH – Literacy Instructional Support

Marcil, Debra – BCHS – Special Education Teacher

Pratt, Diane – GH – Pre-K Teacher

Following a motion by Karen Vibert and a second by Shelby Pons a roll call vote was called.

Approval of the **Administrator Hires PASSED** following a Roll Call Vote of eight (8) Commissioners (Carlson, Giantonio, O'Brien, Pons, Sklenka, Vibert, Wilson, and Wadowski) voting YES.

### **Teacher Resignations - Effective June 30, 2020**

Overton, Kenya – CHMS – Gr. 7 Math Teacher (one-year position)

Peck, Susan – SSS – Kindergarten Teacher

Following a motion by Karen Vibert and a second by Shelby Pons a roll call vote was called.

Approval of the **Administrator Hires PASSED** following a Roll Call Vote of eight (8) Commissioners (Carlson, Giantonio, O'Brien, Pons, Sklenka, Vibert, Wilson, and Wadowski) voting YES.

### **New Teacher Hires**

Albert, Megan – WB – Grade 8 Math Teacher – effective August 25, 2020

Bisson, Brett – split BCHS & BEHS – 0.5 Business Teacher – effective August 25, 2020

Blancq, Shelly – CHMS – Grade 8 Science Teacher – effective August 25, 2020

Breen, Susan – STAF – Special Education Teacher – effective June 8, 2020

Holley, Christine – split BCHS & BEHS – 0.5 Health Occupations Teacher – effective Aug. 25, 2020

Lenihan, Zara – CHMS – Grade 7 Science Teacher – effective August 25, 2020

LePage, Taylor – CHMS – Art Teacher – effective August 25, 2020

Lindstrom, Sarah – BCHS – Spanish Teacher – effective August 25, 2020

Plourde, Samantha – WB – Special Education Teacher – effective August 25, 2020

Following a motion by Karen Vibert and a second by Shelby Pons a roll call vote was called.

Approval of the **Administrator Hires PASSED** following a Roll Call Vote of eight (8) Commissioners (Carlson, Giantonio, O'Brien, Pons, Sklenka, Vibert, Wilson and Wadowski) voting YES.

Dr. Carbone took a moment to introduce the newly appointed Administrator Hires.

**MEETING PAUSE** – Webex meeting shut down. (7:32 p.m.) A new meeting invite was sent out for the meeting to continue. The meeting resumed. (7:40 p.m.)

### **Administrator Hire Recognition**

Latanya Farrell, Stafford Principal, Matthew Madruga, Dean of Students at West Bristol, and Georgina Rivera, Dean of Students at Greene-Hills were present and briefly addressed the board regarding their new appointments.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Audrey Myers – 38 Sandy Drive – Addressed the board regarding needing more recess time at Mountain View School.

### **DELIBERATED ITEMS/DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS**

#### **MBIAMS Final Plans and Cost Estimate**

Dr. Dietter presented the MBIAMS Final Plans and Cost Estimate.

Following a motion by Christopher Wilson and a second by Karen Vibert a roll call vote was called.

Approval of the **MBIAMS Final Plans and Cost Estimate PASSED** following a Roll Call Vote of seven (7) Commissioners (Carlson, Giantonio, O'Brien, Pons, Vibert, Wilson, and Wadowski) voting YES and one (1) Commissioner (Sklenka) voting NO.

#### **CURRICULUM REVISION**

##### **AP Statistics Curriculum Revision**

Following a motion by Christopher Wilson and a second by Karen Vibert a roll call vote was called.

Approval of the **AP Statistics Curriculum Revision PASSED** following a Roll Call Vote of eight (8) Commissioners (Carlson, Giantonio, O'Brien, Pons, Sklenka, Vibert, Wilson, and Wadowski) voting YES.

##### **Italian ECE Curriculum Revision**

Leszek Ward, OTL Supervisor, presented the Italian ECE Curriculum Revision. This is the first reading of the Curriculum Revision, it will appear on the August agenda for a vote. In the intervening month, Commissioners may contact Mr. Ward with any questions.

#### **POLICY REVISIONS**

##### **4000.1 – Title IX – Personnel – New**

Following a motion by Christopher Wilson and a second by Karen Vibert a roll call vote was called.

Approval of **Policy 4000.1 – Title IX – Personnel PASSED** following a Roll Call Vote of eight (8) Commissioners (Carlson, Giantonio, O'Brien, Pons, Sklenka, Vibert, Wilson, and Wadowski) voting YES.

##### **5145.44 – Title IX –Students – New**

Following a motion by Christopher Wilson and a second by Karen Vibert a roll call vote was called.

Approval of **Policy 5145.44 – Title IX – Students PASSED** following a Roll Call Vote of eight (8) Commissioners (Carlson, Giantonio, O'Brien, Pons, Sklenka, Vibert, Wilson, and Wadowski) voting YES.

##### **6172.6 – Distance Education – Revised**

Following a motion by Christopher Wilson and a second by Karen Vibert a roll call vote was called.

Approval of revisions to **Policy 6172.6 – Distance Education PASSED** following a Roll Call Vote of eight (8) Commissioners (Carlson, Giantonio, O'Brien, Pons, Sklenka, Vibert, Wilson, and Wadowski) voting YES.

**BUILDING REPORTS**

Commissioners received an update on the following Building Reports

MBIAMS Update – Dr. Dietter

Stafford School – Roof Project – Tim Callahan

South Side – HVAC Project – Tim Callahan

Northeast Middle School – Tim Callahan

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no New Business to come before the board.

**INFORMATION/LIAISON REPORTS**

Commissioner Vibert shared a photo of the South Side School 5<sup>th</sup> grade good-bye mural.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business to come before the board, the meeting should be adjourned. (8:12 p.m.)

Respectfully Submitted

*Susan P. Everett*

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Executive Secretary to Board of Education