

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: [May 4, 2022 Meeting Recording](#)

BRISTOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Bristol, Connecticut
Wednesday, May 4, 2022 – 7:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting Minutes

The regular meeting of the Bristol Board of Education was held on Wednesday, May 4, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at the Board of Education auditorium and via the Zoom Meeting Platform.

PRESENT: Commissioners: Eric Carlson, Jennifer Dube, Kristen Giantonio, Shelby Pons (Virtual), John Sklenka, Todd Sturgeon, Dante Tagariello, Karen Vibert, and Christopher Wilson; **ALSO PRESENT:** Dr. Catherine Carbone, Superintendent, Dr. Michael Dieter, Deputy Superintendent, and Jolene Lusitani, Council Liaison

I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Chair Dube called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and asked attendees to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was observed for Wilfredo "Vito" Hernandez – Community Outreach Worker – BEHS and BCHS – 1998– 2019 and Security Guard – Bristol Adult Education Program – 2001 – 2003 and Jean (King) Masotti – Teacher – Grades 1–3 – Greene–Hills, Bingham, O'Connell, Mountain View, and Jennings – 1959 – 1973

II. STAFF and STUDENT RECOGNITION

The Board of Education recognized the following staff and students:

1. Invention Convention Winners

Emerson Dell'Aera – Edgewood School
Elijah Simmons – South Side School

2. 100 Women of Color Award – Tamara Stafford–Kirk – P.E. Teacher – Bristol Central

3. CABE Student Leadership Awards

Carson Rivoira – Bristol Central
Sydney Rodriguez – Bristol Central
Zainab Hasan – Bristol Eastern
Logan Crowley – Bristol Eastern
Kobe Senethong – Chippens Hill
Adiba Hossain – Chippens Hill
Muktadhir Mahmud Chowdhury – Northeast
Ibrahim Hakan Nizam – Northeast
Donato Salzillo – Greene–Hills
Sasha Majancik – Greene–Hills
Harrison Riker – West Bristol
Alexis Waida – West Bristol

4. CTPTA Teacher of the Year – Julia Darcy – Grade 5 – Greene–Hills

5. Staff Achievement Award Winners

Danielle Autencio – LEAD Special Education Teacher – Hubbell Elementary School
Jennifer Broderick – Guidance Counselor – Chippens Hill Middle School
Kristine DeLeo – Elementary Principal – Hubbell Elementary School
Kevin Komanetsky – Math Interventionist – Greene–Hills K8 School
Lorraine Wright – EXCEL Paraprofessional – Mountain View Elementary School
Rosetta Mastroianni – EL/Spanish Teacher – Northeast Middle School
Ronald Sadecki – Electrician – Districtwide

STAFF and STUDENT RECOGNITION – cont'd

6. Teacher Appreciation Week
7. Administrative Assistants Day
8. Para-Professional Appreciation

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 6, 2022 – Regular Meeting

On a motion by Dante Tagariello and a second by Kristen Giantonio, the Board of Education voted to approve the April 6, 2022, Regular Minutes as written.

April 20, 2022 – Special Meeting

On a motion by Todd Sturgeon and a second by Dante Tagariello, the Board of Education voted to approve the April 20, 2022, Special Meeting minutes as written.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Board received a Finance Committee, Operations Committee, and Student Achievement Committee Report. Policy and Communications were canceled and a Booster Club Workshop was held in their place, a report about the workshop was also given by Commissioners in attendance.

V. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Sydney Rodriquez, Senior Representative from Bristol Central shared activities and happenings from Bristol Central High School.

Max Stavens, Junior Representative from Bristol Eastern shared activities and happenings from Bristol Eastern High School.

VI. CHAIR REPORT

Chair Dube shared a message recognizing Teacher Appreciation Week.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr. Carbone presented the Superintendent Report. Highlights from the report included kindergarten orientation on May 26, 2022; Bristol Central successfully held their Junior prom last Friday. Later in May the Senior prom at Bristol Central and the Junior and Senior prom will be held at Bristol Eastern. BEHS - home test kits available for all families both before and after each event to ensure we reduce the likelihood of an increase in COVID 19 cases within our schools; Upcoming vaccination clinics for staff and families - we are aiming for May 11 and May 25; more information will be sent to parents and staff as this plan is solidified; BAIMS project and school programming update; BAIMS mascot contest results are in. Mrs. McCabe introduced Junior Molly Daigle from Bristol Central as the winning mascot submission. The new mascot for the Bristol Arts and Innovation Magnet School was shared. The 5th lottery pull occurred on Monday, May 23, 2022 currently there are only 22 seats available for grease 6,7, and 8 at the conclusion of this lottery pull we will communicate with families and establish a waitlist for interested students. Open house and tour dates for our school community and the Bristol community will be scheduled as we get closer to knowing the Certificate of Occupancy.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

VIII.A. PERSONNEL

VIII.A.1. Administrative Retirement – Effective July 22, 2022

Fippinger, AnnMarie – BOE – Director of Student Transportation

On a motion by Dante Tagariello and a second by Kristen Giantonio, the Board of Education voted to approve the Administrative Retirement – Effective July 22, 2022.

VIII.A.2. Teacher Retirements – Effective June 30, 2022

Corcoran, Gerald – EDGE – Grade 1 Teacher
DelGobbo, Kelly – BCHS – Special Education Teacher
Lohr, Heather – SSS – Grade 4 Teacher
Nettis, Susan – GH – Instructional Support Teacher, Literacy
Ontko, Sherry – NEMS – Special Education Teacher, Grade 7
Pinette, Paul – BCHS – Library Media Specialist
Robillard, Angela – GH – Speech and Language Pathologist
Scheer, Betsy – STAF – Instructional Support Teacher, Math

On a motion by Dante Tagariello and a second by Kristen Giantonio, the Board of Education voted to accept the Teacher Retirements – Effective June 30, 2022.

VIII.A.3. Teacher Resignations

Diaz, Gregory – BEHS – Technology Education Teacher – effective April 26, 2022
Evanoski, Jessica – WB – Special Education Teacher – effective May 19, 2022
Hoag, Sarah – STAF – Grade 5 Teacher – effective June 15, 2022

On a motion by Dante Tagariello and a second by Kristen Giantonio, the Board of Education voted to accept the Teacher Resignations.

VIII.A.4. New Teacher Hires

Austin–Mathley, Nathaniel – BAIMS – Social Studies Teacher – effective August 23, 2022
Bouldin, Debra – ID – Grade 4 Teacher – effective August 23, 2022
Sullivan, Marianne – EPH – Grade 2 Teacher – effective TBD

On a motion by Dante Tagariello and a second by Kristen Giantonio, the Board of Education voted to approve the New Teacher Hires as listed.

VIII.A.5. A–1 Resignation

Silva, Alison – CHMS – Team Leader (Yellow Team) – effective June 15, 2022

On a motion by Dante Tagariello and a second by Kristen Giantonio, the Board of Education voted to accept the A–1 Resignation as listed.

VIII.A.6. A–2 Resignations

Bagley, Kenneth – BEHS – HS Instrumental Band and HS Instrumental Jazz Band – effective April 4, 2022
Carroll, Lisa – NEMS – Special MS Performing Groups and Instructional Technology Coordinator 6–8 – effective June 15, 2022
Diaz, Gregory – BEHS – Technology Student Association Advisor – effective April 26, 2022
Wininger, Erin – BEHS – Yearbook Advisor – effective June 15, 2022

On a motion by Dante Tagariello and a second by Kristen Giantonio, the Board of Education voted to accept the A–2 Resignations as listed.

VIII.A.7. A–3 Resignation

Carroll, Lisa – NEMS – Webmaster and Instructional Resource Manager effective June 15, 2022

On a motion by Dante Tagariello and a second by Kristen Giantonio, the Board of Education voted to accept the A–3 Resignation as listed.

VIII.A.8. Teacher Request for Unpaid Leave of Absences

Aliff, Jessica – EDGE – Grade 3 Teacher – effective 4/4/2022 through 6/15/2022

Cyr, Alicia – WB – Kindergarten – effective 3/25/2022 – 6/13/2022
Timreck, Kaitlyn – EDGE – Grade 4 Teacher – effective 4/29/2022 through 6/15/2022

On a motion by Dante Tagariello and a second by Kristen Giantonio, the Board of Education voted to approve the Teacher Request for Unpaid Leave of Absences as listed.

VIII.A.9. TEAM Mentors/Cooperating Teachers Applicants

Teacher	Assignment
Craig Bernier	Middle School Science
Logan Bourke	High School Mathematics
Rebecca McElwee	High School English
Lance Pepper	Grade 11 Health
Lindsay Gagnon	Elementary
Shelly Nocera	High School English
Danielle Autencio	Elementary LEAD
Jessica Lundquist	High School ELA

On a motion by Dante Tagariello and a second by Kristen Giantonio, the Board of Education voted to approve the TEAM Mentors/Cooperating Teachers Applicants as listed.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Tom Baril – 498 East Road – addressed the Board regarding R.G. I. (Radical Gender Ideology) gender issue.

Deborah Baril – 498 East Road – addressed the Board regarding R.G. I. (Radical Gender Ideology) gender issue.

X. DELIBERATED ITEMS/DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

X.A. NEMS New Building Conceptual Design Approval

Tim Callahan presented the NEMS New Building Conceptual Design Approval. After the conceptual estimate was complete, the total project cost estimate is \$89,068,092. This stays in line with the Reimagining BPS. This allows for a new building on the current location that will accommodate 748 students. The increase in the cost compared to what was originally presented is due mostly in part to significant escalation.

On a motion by Eric Carlson and a second by Chris Wilson the Board of Education voted to approve the conceptual design of the Northeast Middle School for new construction with a total gross square footage of 130,000 sf and a conceptual estimate of \$89,068,962 and to forward on to City Council to take any action necessary

Chair Dube declared the motion **PASSED**, following a roll call vote of eight (8) commissioners (Carlson, Giantonio, Pons, Sklenka, Tagariello, Vibert, Wilson, and Dube) in favor of the motion; and one (1) commissioner (Sturgeon), opposed.

X.B. Authorized Signatory Resolution for the Bristol Board of Education

Dr. Carbone presented the Authorized Signatory Resolution for the Bristol Board of Education. With the recent hiring of Lynn Boisvert, as the Director of Finance, we must add her on as an authorized signatory for the Bristol Board of Education.

On a motion by Dante Tagariello and a second by Eric Carlson, the Board of Education resolves that Lynn Boisvert, Director of Finance is hereby authorized to sign contracts, financial transmittals, and payments on behalf of the Board of Education effective May 23, 2022, or until otherwise ordered by the Board of Education Commissioners.

Chair Dube declared the motion **PASSED**, following a roll call vote of nine (9) commissioners (Carlson, Giantonio, Pons, Sklenka, Sturgeon, Tagariello, Vibert, Wilson, and Dube) in favor of the motion.

X.C. Peru Trip – April 2023

Leszek Ward and Andrea Schacht presented the Peru Trip – April 2023 by Bristol Eastern. Students at Bristol Eastern High School hope to expand their classroom by embarking on a nine day, educational adventure on an Explorica tour to Peru in April of 2023. The students will immerse themselves in the natural splendor and rich history of Peru, home to some of the world’s most ancient civilizations. Full details can be found in the attached itinerary.

In addition to gaining greater cultural sensitivity, global citizenship, environmentalism, and an international perspective on their studies, students return home feeling more confident and independent—qualities that stay with them throughout their academic, professional, and personal lives.

The dates of our proposed trip are from Thursday, April 6th - Saturday, April 15th, 2023. This allows students to settle back into their homes before returning to classes on Monday, April 17th. One school day will be taken in order to go on this trip. Plans have been made to account for COVID-19 travel restrictions and contingencies, such as the inclusion of the Travel Protection Plus Plan for all students, but we acknowledge that the situation is ongoing, and will continue to update our plans to account for updated guidance. This trip is being presented a year in advance in order to allow families to make affordable monthly payments and plan ahead.

On a motion by Kristen Giantonio and a second by Dante Tagariello, the Board of Education approves the April 2023 Trip to Peru, by Bristol Eastern High School pending submission of all required documentation to the principal and superintendent.

X.D. Special Services Leadership Team Report

Dr. Kim Culkin presented the Special Services Leadership Report. As of April 13, 2022, 21.09% of the total BPS student population, which is 1703 of 8074 Bristol students are identified as students requiring Special Education programming. During the month of March, 5 of the 41 (12.19%) of newly registered students were identified as students with special needs at the time of registration. During the month of March no students newly enrolled to BPS were receiving their programs and services through an out-of-district special education school program at the time of enrollment. As of April 1, 2022, 122 of our 1703 identified students require out-of-district placements at special education school programs and 71 students require special education programming services at other public out-of-district schools such as magnet schools. These numbers reflect no change in the number of students attending private out-of-district program placement and no change in the number of students attending and receiving special education services in public school placement as compared to overall out-of-district placements the previous month.

Amy Martino, Supervisor of Special Services provided commissioners with an overview of the district’s role in conducting risk assessments and how and when students receive a risk assessment.

XI. CURRICULUM REVISIONS

XI.A. K–2 Math Curriculum – Second Reading

The K-2 math curriculum was last updated in May of 2011. With the updates that were made this year, we transitioned K-2 to Illustrative Mathematics. This means that students will have consistent programming from kindergarten through Geometry at the high school level.

On a motion by Todd Sturgeon and a second by Karen Vibert the Board of Education voted to approve the K–2 Math Curriculum.

XI.B. Black and Latino Studies – First Reading

In June 2019, CT PA 19-12 was passed to develop an African American/Black and Puerto Rican/Latino Course of Studies at the high school level. Legislation identified the State Education Resource Center (SERC) as the coordinating entity to develop the curriculum for this course. State statutes require that local or regional boards of education offer this Black and Latino studies course in grades nine to twelve, inclusive, in the school year commencing on July 1, 2022. The course is an opportunity for students to explore accomplishments, struggles, intersections, perspectives, and collaborations of African American/Black and Puerto Rican/Latino people in the U.S. Students will examine how historical movements, legislation, and wars affected the citizenship rights of these groups and how they, both separately and together, worked to build U.S. cultural and economic wealth and create more just

XI.B. Black and Latino Studies – First Reading – cont'd

societies in local, national, and international contexts. Coursework will provide students with tools to identify historic and contemporary tensions around race and difference; map economic and racial disparities over time; strengthen their own identity development; and address bias in their communities. This is the first reading of the curriculum, please direct questions to Leszek Ward.

XI.C. Modern Band – Middle School – First Reading

Carly Fortin presented Modern Band – Middle School in Ken Bagley's absence. 6th grade Modern Band exploratory curriculum is broken down into 3 units which are the fundamental instruments in any modern band. As you can see, students will first learn Guitar, followed by keyboard, and end their semester learning body percussion as a tool to understand the drum set. Any one of these instruments on their own can take years to master, so the course is designed to teach the foundational skills of proper holding and playing technique with basic music literacy. An example of this is found in the Guitar unit where the learning targets range from I CAN: Hold my guitar in proper play position to I CAN: Identify the difference between a C and G chord and perform a two chord pattern song with those chords. As you can see, the curriculum is intentionally scaffolded so that in 7th grade, they are reviewing some instruments (such as guitar) to learn a greater proficiency standard. This can be seen in the learning target, I CAN: Read tablature music and perform a song using tablature on my guitar and bass. This is the next level up in terms of music literacy and performance. Additionally, each unit accumulates to the final unit of hip hop where students learn the basics of how to rhyme words in a comprehensive line. The learning target include I CAN: create a 4 verse composition and I CAN: collaborate with my peers to add beats, harmonies, and melodies to my piece. This final unit truly ties in the learning from 6th grade that is expanded upon here in 7th grade to create a composition that utilizes all of the instruments and skills in this culminating project. In the final year of 8th grade modern band, students again are learning at a higher proficiency level to perform the instruments they have been learning since 6th grade. To go off the same instrument of guitar, in 8th grade, some of the learning targets here read I CAN: Perform the e-minor, C, G, and D major chords using intro strumming patterns and I CAN: independently learn how to play a new chord. Additionally, there are 2 more units that go greater in depth and are scaffolded from previous years learning. For example, unit 4 is on song structure where students learn the components that make up a song (intro, verse, chorus and hook) and culminate this into a final project in Unit 5 where students collaborate with one another to create an original song using all the instruments and analyze and apply feedback to their performance as well as provide it to their peers. This is the first reading of the curriculum if you any questions, they can be sent Ken Bagley.

XI.D. Modern Band – High School – First Reading

Carly Fortin presented Modern Band – High School in Ken Bagley's absence. Along the same principles of modern band for middle school, high school students do not have to have any previous experience playing an instrument to take this course so there is no pre-requisite and students will earn .5 a credit. In thinking ahead to future years of students who will matriculate from BAIMS into this course, the first unit of Learning is an expedited unit for students to learn the basics of guitar, bass, keyboard, and drum set. The proficiency expectation is increased for this high school course as seen in the learning targets of I CAN: perform chord progressions on guitar, bass and keyboard, as well as I CAN: explain basic song structure. This is the first reading of the curriculum if you any questions, they can be sent Ken Bagley.

XI.E. 6th Ukulele, 7th Digital Music, 8th Song Writing, – First Reading

Carly Fortin presented 6th Ukulele, 7th Digital Music, 8th Song Writing in Ken Bagley's absence. 6th grade exploratory for vocal ensemble centers on ukulele. It is broken down into 4 units so that students can learn the basics of ukulele and accompany themselves while they sing. The learning targets found in Unit 1 are the very basics of ukulele including I CAN demonstrate how to properly hold, tune and play open string on a ukulele. Unit 2 introduces students to the music literacy aspect of playing the ukulele in performing the C Major scale and the skips associated within the C Major scale. Unit 3 culminates the two beginning units so that students are performing chords and finally scaffolds in the final unit of performing on the ukulele while singing simple melodies. In 7th grade, students experience digital music within the digital music mac lab at BAIMS. There are just 2 units as each unit is rather large and encompasses complex ideas. For example, learning targets found in unit 1 include I CAN select loops from a bank to demonstrate musical style, explain musical loops and how they can be extended in time, demonstrate how layering loops can affect the rhythm and harmony, and refine and present my project to the class. The second unit titled commercial project allows for students to explore the creation of a fictitious project that solves a problem a student is facing or sees someone in their life facing. This leads to the creation of a spoken advertisement to sell the

XI.E. 6th Ukulele, 7th Digital Music, 8th Song Writing, – First Reading – cont'd

product, use of microphones and recording live sound, creating musical backtracks to accompany the advertisement and refining and editing the work using music software to finalize and present their product. Finally, in 8th grade students experience songwriting which is broken down into 3 units. In the first unit they learn what standard notation is and chord basics of major and minor triads. This builds off of their knowledge from 7th grade and has a greater emphasis on music literacy proficiency. The second unit teaches students form of current song and students are expected to analyze example music for lyrics and lyrical structure which scaffolds into their own creation of lyrics regarding a topic they are passionate about. The final unit culminates the previous units where students will work directly within a notation or songwriting software to create their own piece with a verse, chorus and bridge as well as lyrics and 4-chord progressions that repeat to create the refrain in their music. This course is even more exciting as it serves as a taste of what the high school level of songwriting will bridge into. This is the first reading of the curriculum if you any questions, they can be sent Ken Bagley.

XI.F. Chorus/Vocal Ensemble – MS – Second Reading

The revision of the 6-12th grade chorus curriculum was intentional. The current curriculum was outdated with standards that were prior to the adoption of the national core arts standards of 2014. What you will see in this first reading is that the unit titles are exactly the same from middle school to high school. This was done intentionally and in a vertical team of our current 6-12th grade chorus teachers who I would like to thank for their work on this curriculum revision: Danielle Abucewicz, Michael Coderre, David Nelson, and Liza Siegel. The shift of this curriculum was powerful as we focused on skills which is applicable to any type of choral ensemble. This means that this same curriculum will be used at BAIMS because the focus is on skill rather than ensemble specific technique. The 15 units intentionally build upon one another and as students progress through the grade levels, the rigor is increased based on the music selection and complexity in each subsequent level and what is pedagogically appropriate.

On a motion by Todd Sturgeon and a second by Karen Vibert the Board of Education voted to approve the Chorus/Vocal Ensemble – MS curriculum revision.

XI.G. Chorus/Vocal Ensemble – HS – Second Reading

This revision was necessary and allowed us to shift our curriculum to focus on vocal skills rather than ensemble techniques. Because of this shift, this curriculum will also be used for BAIMS as the vocal ensemble curriculum. The difference between BAIMS and BC or BE is that students at BAIMS can take this course for just one semester as opposed to the full year creating the necessary flexibility for students to take a variety of courses at BAIMS. At BC and BE that is not an option, so students at our comprehensive high schools that sign up for chorus will take it for the full year. Again, you see the same titled 15 units of foundational vocal skills that are much more rigorous at the high school level as students are introduced to level 3 music and original pieces of Mozart for example that are not arranged which increases the complexity and understandings of music literacy and performance.

On a motion by Karen Vibert and a second by Todd Sturgeon the Board of Education voted to approve the Chorus/Vocal Ensemble – HS curriculum revision.

XI.H. Digital Media Production – Second Reading

Dr. Jaime Rechenberg presented Digital Media Production. The first level course focuses on using professional video and photo cameras, and the software used to edit them. Students make their own videos similar to what content creators post on YouTube and other video services.

On a motion by Todd Sturgeon and a second by John Sklenka the Board of Education voted to approve the Advanced Digital Media Production curriculum revision.

XI.I. Advanced Digital Media Production – Second Reading

Dr. Jaime Rechenberg presented Digital Media Production. The advanced digital production course stresses the importance of teamwork. Through a variety of production projects, students will experience the duties of key positions within a television studio. From pre-production to post-production, students will participate in a variety of production roles including: script writer, storyboard designer, performer, anchor, camera operator, floor manager, audio director, teleprompter, technical director, assistant technical director, graphic designer, editor, director, and

XI.I. Advanced Digital Media Production – Second Reading – cont’d

producer. This advanced course will focus on both studio and field production techniques. Students will have an opportunity to develop TV production skills and post-production techniques. Students will be expected to assist with the TV production of community and school events. Field assignments may require providing your own transportation. This class incorporates current technology used in Television Production Studios.

On a motion by Todd Sturgeon and a second by John Sklenka the Board of Education voted to approve the Advanced Digital Media Production curriculum revision.

XII. NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business to come before the Board.

XIII. BUILDING REPORTS

Commissioners received updates from the following building projects.

1. MBIAMS Committee Update
2. South Side Building Update
3. NEMS Building Committee Update
4. Edgewood Roof Project Update
5. High School Culinary Project Update
6. ESSER/ARP Building Committee Update

XIV. INFORMATION/LIAISON REPORTS

Commissioners representing Elementary Schools will give reports.

XV. ADJOURNMENT (9:16 p.m.)

There being no other business to come before the Board, the meeting should adjourn. (9:18 p.m.)