

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Bristol, Connecticut
March 25, 2020 – Special Meeting Board Meeting

A Special Meeting of the Bristol Board of Education was held on Wednesday, March 25, 2020, at 6:30 p.m., via the WebEx meeting Platform.

PRESENT: Commissioners: Jennifer Dube, Eric Carlson, Kristen Giantonio, Thomas O'Brien, Shelby Pons, John Sklenka, Karen Vibert, Allison Wadowski and Christopher Wilson; **ALSO PRESENT:** Dr. Catherine Carbone, Jill Browne, Carly Fortin, Kim Culkin, Dr. Michael Dietter and Dr. Sam Galloway

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jennifer Dube called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. and explained that this is the first ever remote Board of Education meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Meeting attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Carbone wanted to publically thank members of the Board of Education staff and the City for all of their work during this transition.

REVISED BUDGET PRESENTATION

Commissioners were sent a copy of the PowerPoint that Mrs. Browne used to illustrate the revisions made to the Board of Education budget. Following her presentation, Mrs. Browne read the motion:

That the Board of Education accept and approve the Updated Recommended Budget for the 2020-2021 school year in the amount of \$121,797,183, which represents a 5.87% increase to the current operating budget. Approval of this motion will result in the budget as presented becoming the Board of Education's Recommended Budget, and as such will be presented to the City Board of Finance on March 26, 2020.

Following a motion by Karen Vibert, seconded by Kristen Giantonio, a Roll Call vote was called.

The motion **PASSED** with eight (8) Commissioners (Pons, O'Brien, Vibert, Wilson, Sklenka, Wadowski, Giantonio and Dube) voting YES; and one (1) Commissioner Carlson voting NO.

Revision to 2019-2020 School Year Calendar – June 2, 2020 Postponement of Presidential Primary Day

Dr. Carbone presented the Revision to 2019-2020 School Year Calendar – June 2, 2020 Postponement of Presidential Primary Day. Due to the current the situation, the Presidential Primary has been postponed to June 2, 2020. At the February meeting the Board had voted to close schools on Tuesday, April 28th to allow for voting to occur in our buildings. We will now reclaim April 28th as a full day and schools will not be in session on Tuesday, June 2, 2020. Dr. Carbone read the motion.

Revision to 2019-2020 School Year Calendar – June 2, 2020 Postponement of Presidential Primary Day – con't

That the Board of Education accept and approve the Updated 2019-2020 School Calendar that reflects the change in the Presidential Preference Primary from April 28, 2020 to June 2, 2020. Bristol Public Schools will not be in session on Tuesday, June 2, 2020.

Following a motion by Eric Carlson, seconded by John Sklenka, a Roll Call vote was called.

The motion **PASSED** unanimously with nine (9) Commissioners (Carlson, Pons, O'Brien, Vibert, Wilson, Sklenka, Wadowski, Giantonio and Dube) voting YES.

Temporary Suspension of Policy Due to Pandemic

Dr. Dietter presented the Temporary Suspension of Policy Due to Pandemic. Commissioners were provided with the recommended policy from CABE. Prior to the meeting, Policy Committee Chair Kristen Giantonio had requested that additional language be added to Section 2 - Suspension of Policies. (Added language has been underlined).

Suspension of Policies

“The Board hereby suspends provisions of its policies and/or whole policies, as identified by the Superintendent or designee, if such suspension is necessary to implement the written guidance from CSDE relating to containing COVID-19 for the duration identified in the Governor’s order of school closure or until which time the Board votes to terminate the aforementioned policy, whichever occurs first.”

Discussion followed regarding student data privacy. Dr. Dietter read the motion.

That the Board of Education accept and adopt Policy 6114.81 - Emergency Suspension of Policy during Pandemic.

Following a motion by Tom O'Brien, seconded by Eric Carlson, a Roll Call vote was called.

The motion **PASSED** unanimously with nine (9) Commissioners (Carlson, Pons, O'Brien, Vibert, Wilson, Sklenka, Wadowski, Giantonio and Dube) voting YES.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Karen Vibert, seconded by Eric Carlson, the Special Board of Education meeting was adjourned. (7:00 p.m.)

Respectfully Submitted

Susan P. Everett

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Executive Secretary to Board of Education