

Bethel Board of Education Regular Meeting

Thursday, August 20, 2026 7:00 PM

Board of Education Conference Room E, Live Stream:

<http://devos2.bethel.k12.ct.us/show?video=763ff4de0370> Materials can be viewed at: <https://meetings.boardbook.org/Public/Organization/2425> The opportunity for members of the public wishing to make comments can attend and comment in-person or may send public comments to the Board via email or letter and it will be included as part of the record of the meeting., 1 School Street, PO Box 253, Bethel, CT 06801

1. Call to Order

Speaker(s) : Policy
9326

1.A. Roll Call for Quorum

1.B. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Board Recognition/A Salute to Excellence

2.A. Gifts, Grants, & Bequests

2.A.1. State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP) Subwards

2.A.2. High Quality Special Education Incentive Grant

3. Consent Calendar

Speaker(s) : Policy
9326

3.A. Approval of Minutes

3.A.1. May 28, 2026

3.A.2. August 15, 2026 - Special Meeting

3.B. Approval of CABE Board Leadership Application

4. Correspondence

Speaker(s) : Policy
9326

5. Public Comment

(Please note: The Board welcomes Public Comment and asks that speakers please limit their comments to 2 minutes. Speakers may offer objective comments of school operations and programs that concern them. The Board will not permit any expression of personal complaints or defamatory comments about Board of Education personnel and students, nor against any person connected with the Bethel Public School System.)

Speaker(s) : Policy
9326

6. Administrative/Board Member Update

Speaker(s) : Policy
9326

6.A. Board Chairperson Update

6.B. Administrative Update

6.B.1. Opening Update

6.B.2. 2026 CABE/CAPSS Convention

7. Reports to the Board

7.A. Resource Management & Business Operations

7.A.1. Update Authorized Signers of the ED-099

Speaker (s) : Jen
Variable

7.A.2. Personnel

Speaker (s) : Policy
9326

7.A.2.a. Appointment - Director of Special
Education and Pupil Services

7.A.2.b. Appointment - Supervisor of Special
Education 6-12 and Community Partnership

7.A.2.c. New Hires and Resignations 2026-2027

8. Adjourn

**Bethel Public Schools
Bethel, CT**

Notification of Receipt of Gifts, Grants, and Bequests Received

Please send a copy of this form to the Superintendent's Office as soon as your school has received a gift, grant, or bequest. The receipt will be announced at the Board of Education's regular meeting. Each school is responsible for sending the donor an acknowledgment for the gift.

Gift, Grant, or Bequest Received:

State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP) Subawards

How the Gift, Grant, or Bequest Will Be Used:

Bethel Public Schools will use grant funding from the SLCGP for costs related to Endpoint Detection and Response (EDR), Multifactor Authentication (MFA) projects, and to address vulnerabilities through a Cybersecurity Training Platform (CTP), in accordance with the State of Connecticut Cybersecurity Strategy and priorities identified by the Chartered Planning Subcommittee of the Connecticut Cybersecurity Committee. This program provides funding to state, local, tribal and territorial (SLTT) governments to address cybersecurity risks and cybersecurity threats to SLTT-owned or operation information systems.

Project Category	Description
EDR	This project deploys CrowdStrike EDR across all organizational endpoints to deliver continuous threat monitoring, real-time risk visibility, and automated incident remediation.
MFA	Continued rollout and implementation of district-wide ClassLink Endpoint Detection and Response (EDR) tools.
CTP	This project utilizes KnowBe4 cybersecurity training platform (CTP) and embedded simulated assessments to identify internal security vulnerabilities, empowering staff to proactively recognize and mitigate cyber threats.

Estimated Cash Value of the Gift, Grant, or Bequest: \$113,110

Round 2 of the SLCGP (Period of Award 12/1/2023 to 11/30/2027, with option to extend to 11/30/2028) is a 80/20 award. The total budget for the cybersecurity projects is \$141,375. The federal award is \$113,110 and the sub-recipient match (Bethel Public Schools) is \$28,275. The award includes reimbursement for services, as well as funding for service continuation projects, within the period of award in accordance with grant application. Reimbursements will fund cybersecurity related projects (infrastructure, hardware, software, etc.)

Grant No.	Project Title	Federal Share	Sub-recipient Match (BPS Responsibility)	Total Budget
23C009A	BPS EDR Implementation - Continuation	\$45,689.00	\$11,422.00	\$57,111.00
23C009B	BPS MFA Implementation - Continuation	\$32,484.00	\$8,121.00	\$40,605.00
23C009C	BPS Cybersecurity Training Platform	\$34,937.00	\$8,732.00	\$43,659.00

Donor's Name and Address:

State of Connecticut, Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection

Awarding Agency: US Department of Homeland Security

DESPP Commissioner or Designee
Division of Emergency Management & Homeland Security
1111 Country Club Road, 3rd Floor North
Middletown, CT 06457

(NOTE: No Goods or Services were provided by the Bethel Public Schools/Bethel Board of Education in exchange for your contribution.)

Receiving School:

Bethel Public Schools
1 School Street, PO Box 253
Bethel, CT 06801

Gift, Grant, or Bequest Received by (Print Name):

Bethel Public Schools

Applicants:

- Donna Burns, Director of Instructional Technology
- Ivelisse Velez, Supervisor of Technology Infrastructure and Operations

Date Received:

- Notified of award on 6/3/26
- Signature of Authorized Bethel Officials 6/23/26 and submission to DEMHS
- BPS has not received countersigned documentation yet from DEMHS—per their representative, *DEMHS is currently processing the subaward documentation for final execution following temporary leadership leave and administrative transitions, and will submit the countersigned agreement immediately upon completion of internal approvals.*

Copy to: **Donor**
 Principal
 Superintendent

(Ref: Board Policy 3280)
Rev: 6/2017

**Bethel Public Schools
Bethel, CT**

Notification of Receipt of Gifts, Grants, and Bequests Received

Please send a copy of this form to the Superintendent's Office as soon as your school has received a gift, grant, or bequest. The receipt will be announced at the Board of Education regular meeting. Each school is responsible for sending the donor an acknowledgement for the gift.

Gift, Grant, or Bequest Received:

High Quality Special Education Incentive Grant

How the Gift, Grant, or Bequest will Be Used:

To support the ground-up construction of a regional transition house in the heart of downtown Bethel, providing students ages 18–22 with full access to their local community and existing job sites. Developed as a collaborative partnership with Brookfield Public Schools, grant funds will cover facility construction, the procurement of a 12-passenger transit vehicle for student job placements, adaptive life-skills equipment, and specialized assistive technology hardware.

Estimated Cash Value of the Gift, Grant, or Bequest:

\$500,000

Donor's Name and Address

State of Connecticut Department of Education
450 Columbus Blvd.
Hartford CT 06103

(NOTE: No Goods or Services were provided by the Bethel Public Schools/Bethel Board of Education in exchange for your contribution.)

Receiving School:

Bethel Public Schools (Community Partnership Program-CPP)

Gift, Grant, or Bequest Received by (Print Name):

Meghan Stabile

Date Received:

8/17/26

**Copy to: Donor
Principal
Superintendent**

**(Ref: Board Policy 3280)
Rev: 6/2017**

Minutes of the Bethel Board of Education Regular Meeting held on Thursday, May 28, 2026,
in Board of Education Conference Room E, 1 School Street, PO Box 253
Bethel, CT 06801 and via Live Stream

Attendance: None

Administrative Attendance: C Carver, K Brooks, C Sipala, D Burns

S. Clayton, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Board Members Attendance:

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Present
Mr. Bill Foster:	Present
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Present
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Present
Dr. Rick Magee:	Absent
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Present (7:09 PM)
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Present
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Present
Ms. Lauren Shekari:	Present

1. Call to Order

1.A. Roll Call for Quorum

1.B. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Board Recognition/A Salute to Excellence

2.A. CABA Student Leadership Awards 2026

Dr. Carver recognized the CABA Student Leadership Award recipients. Dr. Carver gave the high school recipients — John Munroe-Ritter and Emily Barge their certificates at BHS before the grad walk. Mr. Watson spoke about Sharanya Mnakala and Brendan Famularo, the two BMS award recipients.

2.B. Gifts, Grants, & Bequests

2.B.1. Donation to Rockwell School - Game on! games and puzzles

3. BOARD REPORTS - PROGRESS TOWARDS DISTRICT INITIATIVES

3.A. Bethel High School - School Improvement Plan Update

Mr. Troetti presented on progress towards the BHS School Improvement Plan.

3.B. Bethel Middle School and Johnson School - School Improvement Plan Update

Dr. Salerno and Mr. Watson presented on progress towards the School Improvement Plans at Johnson School and BMS.

4. Consent Calendar

4.A. Approval of Minutes

4.A.1. April 23, 2026 - Regular Board Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes from the April 23, 2026 Board meeting. Passed with a motion by Mr. Scott Clayton and a second by Mr. Daniel Serencsics.

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Mr. Bill Foster:	Yea
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Yea
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Yea
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Yea
Ms. Lauren Shekari:	Yea

5. Correspondence

6. Public Comment

None.

7. Administrative/Board Member Update

7.A. Board Chairperson Update

Mr. Clayton and the Board recognized Dr. Carver as this was her last Board meeting. Mr. Clayton thanked Dr. Sackey for attending the Board meeting. Mr. Clayton said that he and Dr. Sackey have been in communication and are working on scheduling a date to meet. Mr. Clayton mentioned that grad walk that took place earlier on May 28th and noted what a great tradition it is. Mr. Clayton spoke about the Legislative Wrap Up on May 12th, which he, Ms. Hernandez, Dr. Carver, and Dr. Brooks attended. CABE sent out a link to everyone about the event. Mr. Clayton discussed the BHS roof project and the presentation that was shared at the earlier BOE Special Meeting. He said that while the Board does not approve the type of roof, the Board is still an important part of the process, noting that the Superintendent will be doing work with the Office of School Construction and stressed that it is important for the Board to know and understand all school operations. Mr. Clayton reminded the Board, and shared with the new Board members about the summer retreat. Dates will be discussed and voted on.

7.B. Administrative Update

Dr. Carver shared that this is a busy time of year in the schools with lots of end of year activities. She shared that the district is in a good place with hiring. Dr. Sackey shared that he has spent time visiting all the schools. He is going back to BHS and BMS in the next couple of weeks.

7.B.1. 2025-2026 BOE District Data Sheet

8. Reports to the Board

8.A. Curriculum, Assessment, & Professional Practices

8.A.1. AP Human Geography Textbook

Dr. Brooks shared information about the requested AP Human Geography Textbook. Dr. Galbraith is requesting 120 copies. Mrs. Martin asked about the use of textbooks and if this is something that we will continue to look at purchasing, or if we will be looking for digital options. Dr. Brooks shared that most of the time, the digital options are not that much cheaper. AP students report wanting the textbook.

Motion to approve the book, Human Geography for the AP Course (2nd edition), including digital access. Passed with a motion by Brenda Reed and a second by Mr. Scott Clayton.

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Mr. Bill Foster:	Yea
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Yea
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Yea
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Yea
Ms. Lauren Shekari:	Yea

8.A.2. Gods, Monsters, & Heroes Course

Dr. Brooks shared information on the new English class to be offered at BHS: Gods, Monsters, & Heroes. This course will be open to 11th and 12th grade students. Dr. Brooks stated that the curriculum will be worked on this summer, and will be forwarded to the Board once completed.

Motion to approve the new course, Gods, Monsters & Heroes. Passed with a motion by Brenda Reed and a second by Mrs. Jen Larsen.

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Mr. Bill Foster:	Yea
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Yea
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Yea

Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Yea
Ms. Lauren Shekari:	Yea

8.A.3. Practical English Course

Dr. Brooks shared information about a new English course at BHS — Practical English. This will be offered to students in grade 11 & 12. Curriculum will be worked on this summer and will be brought forward to the Board once completed.

Motion to approve the new course, Practical English. Passed with a motion by Brenda Reed and a second by Mrs. Jen Larsen.

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Mr. Bill Foster:	Yea
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Yea
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Yea
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Yea
Ms. Lauren Shekari:	Yea

8.A.4. CommonLit Pilot

Dr. Books shared information about CommonLit. CommonLit is a comprehensive 6-12 English program that we will fully pilot at BHS next year.

8.B. Policy

8.B.1. Second Reading/Approval

8.B.1.a. Policy 6142.101P Student Wellness and Nutrition

Motion to approve policy 6142.101 Student Wellness and Nutrition. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Jen Larsen and a second by Gabriela Hernandez.

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Mr. Bill Foster:	Yea
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Yea
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Yea
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Yea
Ms. Lauren Shekari:	Yea

8.B.1.b. Policy 6161.13 Regarding Library Collection Development and Maintenance

**8.B.1.c. Policy 6161.12 Regarding Library Material Review and
Reconsideration**

8.B.1.d. Policy 6161.14 Regarding Library Displays and Programs

Motion to approve Policies 6161.13 Regarding Library Collection Development and Maintenance, 6161.12 Regarding Library Material Review and Reconsideration, and 6161.14 Regarding Library Displays and Programs. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Jen Larsen and a second by Lauren Shekari.

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Mr. Bill Foster:	Yea
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Yea
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Yea
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Yea
Ms. Lauren Shekari:	Yea

8.B.1.e. Policy 5113.1 Working Papers

Motion to approve Policy 5113.1 Working Papers. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Jen Larsen and a second by Gabriela Hernandez.

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Mr. Bill Foster:	Yea
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Yea
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Yea
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Yea
Ms. Lauren Shekari:	Yea

8.B.1.f. Policy and regulation 3542.43 Food Service Charging

Motion to approve Policy 3542.43 Food Service Charging. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Jen Larsen and a second by Gabriela Hernandez.

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Mr. Bill Foster:	Yea
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Yea
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Yea
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Yea
Ms. Lauren Shekari:	Yea

8.B.1.g. Policy 1316 Conduct on School Property

Motion to approve Policy 1316 Conduct on School Property. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Jen Larsen and a second by Mrs. Courtney Martin.

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Mr. Bill Foster:	Yea
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Yea
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Yea
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Yea
Ms. Lauren Shekari:	Yea

8.B.1.h. Policy 5112 Age of Attendance

To approve policy 5112, Age of Attendance, allowing for any approved waivers to the date of this meeting, May 28, 2026, be accepted for entry. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Jen Larsen and a second by Brenda Reed.

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Mr. Bill Foster:	Yea
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Yea
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Yea
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Yea
Ms. Lauren Shekari:	Yea

8.C. Resource Management & Business Operations

8.C.1. Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act Annual Certification

Pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, the Bethel Board of Education certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, culinary programs, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or non-school organizations and groups. The Bethel Board of Education will allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards provided that the following conditions are

met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the food items are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An "event" is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The "regular school day" is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. "Location" means where the event is being held and must be the same place as the food sales. The Bethel Board of Education will allow the sale to students of beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the beverages are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An "event" is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. The "school day" is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. "Location" means where the event is being held and must be the same place as the beverage sales. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Courtney Martin and a second by Mr. Bill Foster.

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Mr. Bill Foster:	Yea
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Yea
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Yea
Ms. Lauren Shekari:	Yea

8.C.2. 2026-2027 Meal Prices

To approve breakfast and lunch charges for staff and students. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Courtney Martin and a second by Mr. Bill Foster.

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Nay
Mr. Bill Foster:	Yea
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Yea
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Yea
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Yea
Ms. Lauren Shekari:	Yea

8.C.3. 2026-2027 Tuition Rates

Motion to approved tuition rates for the 2026-2027 school year. Passed with a motion by Mr. Bill Foster and a second by Mrs. Courtney Martin.

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
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Mr. Bill Foster:	Yea
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Yea
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Yea
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Yea
Ms. Lauren Shekari:	Yea

8.C.4. Renew Food Service Management Contract with Whitsons

Motion to authorize Jennifer T. Variale, Director of Finance & Business Operations, to finalize all paperwork with the CSDE and sign a CSDE approved renewal contract with FSMC Whitsons for the year 2026-2027. Passed with a motion by Mr. Bill Foster and a second by Mrs. Jen Larsen.

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Mr. Bill Foster:	Yea
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Yea
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Yea
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Yea
Ms. Lauren Shekari:	Yea

8.C.5. Budget Update

8.C.5.a. End of Year Transfers

Move to recommend the Board of Education moves to direct the administration to first make accounting adjustments as needed to properly close the books and records and that remaining funds be directed towards the above goals and issues. Passed with a motion by Mr. Scott Clayton and a second by Mrs. Courtney Martin.

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Mr. Bill Foster:	Yea
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Yea
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Yea
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Yea
Ms. Lauren Shekari:	Yea

8.C.6. Personnel

8.C.6.a. Job description - School Security Advocate

Ms. Hernandez suggested one change - she requesting adding "and according to district protocols" to the 2nd page.

Motion to approve the job description with the amended change for the School Security Advocate. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Jen Larsen and a second by Mrs. Courtney Martin.

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Mr. Bill Foster:	Yea
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Yea
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Yea
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Yea
Ms. Lauren Shekari:	Yea

9. Recommended Executive Session

Attendance: A Sackey

Administrative Attendance: C Carver

Board Members Attendance:

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Present
Mr. Bill Foster:	Present
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Present
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Present
Dr. Rick Magee:	Absent
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Present
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Present
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Present
Ms. Lauren Shekari:	Present

Motion to enter into Executive Session at 8:41 PM. Passed with a motion by Mr. Scott Clayton and a second by Mrs. Courtney Martin.

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Mr. Bill Foster:	Yea
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Yea
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Yea
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Yea
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Yea
Ms. Lauren Shekari:	Yea

9.A. CT General Statues 1-210(b)(9) Personnel — Negotiations

9.A.1. School Nurses' Association Contract

9.A.2. Non-Union Salaries

Motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:59 PM. Passed with a motion by Mr. Scott Clayton and a second by Mrs. Courtney Martin.

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Mr. Bill Foster:	Yea
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Yea
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Yea
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Yea
Ms. Lauren Shekari:	Yea

Motion to approve the nurses contract. Passed with a motion by Mr. Scott Clayton and a second by Gabriela Hernandez.

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Mr. Bill Foster:	Yea
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Yea
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Yea
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Yea
Ms. Lauren Shekari:	Yea

Motion to approve non-union salaries. Passed with a motion by Mr. Scott Clayton and a second by Mrs. Courtney Martin.

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Mr. Bill Foster:	Yea
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Yea
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Yea
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Yea
Ms. Lauren Shekari:	Yea

10. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 9:00 PM. Passed with a motion by Mr. Scott Clayton and a second by Mrs. Courtney Martin.

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Mr. Bill Foster:	Yea

Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Yea
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Yea
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Yea
Ms. Lauren Shekari:	Yea

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kylie D'Arcangelo', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kylie D'Arcangelo
Board Recorder

Minutes of the Bethel Board of Education Special Meeting - Retreat held on Saturday, August 15, 2026, in Board of Education Conference Room E, 1 School Street, PO Box 253 Bethel, CT 06801 and via Live Stream.

Attendance: None

Administrative Attendance: A Sackey, K Brooks, J Variale

Guest of the Admin: Nick Caruso, CABA

S. Clayton, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM.

Board Members Attendance:

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Present
Mr. Bill Foster:	Absent
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Present
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Absent
Dr. Rick Magee:	Present
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Present
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Present
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Present
Ms. Lauren Shekari:	Absent

1. Call to Order

1.A. Roll Call for Quorum

1.B. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Future Topics for Board of Education

Dr. Sackey shared a list of possible discussion items for board consideration, including policy review, high school roof update, district dashboard, enrollment, and Edsight Accountability reports.

3. Superintendent Update

Dr. Sackey shared the progress he has made with his entry plan, which has included school/classroom visits, Chamber of Commerce lunch, BEF summer kick off, meetings with all board of education members, and the summer administrators retreat.

1. Bethel Middle School is an IXL Champion School (Monday, August 17th at 10:30am IXL will present them with a banner for one of the highest achieving schools in Connecticut)
2. Johnson School Reading Celebration (Monday, August 17th from 10am-11am)

3. Please complete the survey that Gabriella shared when you get the chance
4. CABA/CAPSS Convention Registration
5. Committee Meetings
6. CAPSS meeting with the Attorney General

4. Board Goals 2026-2027

Move to approve the Board of Education goals for 2026-2027. Passed with a motion by Mr. Scott Clayton and a second by Mrs. Courtney Martin.

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Yea
Dr. Rick Magee:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Yea
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Yea

5. Recommended Executive Session

Administrative Attendance: A Sackey, K Brooks, J Variale

Guest of the Admin: Nick Caruso, CABA

Board Members Attendance:

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Present
Mr. Bill Foster:	Absent
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Present
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Absent
Dr. Rick Magee:	Present
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Present
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Present
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Present
Ms. Lauren Shekari:	Absent

Move to enter into Executive Session at 10:58 AM Passed with a motion by Mr. Scott Clayton and a second by Mrs. Courtney Martin.

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Yea
Dr. Rick Magee:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Yea

Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Yea
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5.A. CT General Statutes 1-210(b)(9) Personnel - Negotiations

5.A.1. Bethel Administrators' Association Contract

5.B. CT-General Statutes 1-200(6) - Interpersonal Board Relationships

Motion to come out of Executive Session at 11:52 AM Passed with a motion by Mr. Scott Clayton and a second by Mrs. Courtney Martin.

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Yea
Dr. Rick Magee:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Yea
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Yea

Motion to approve the Bethel Administrators Association Contract. Passed with a motion by Mr. Scott Clayton and a second by Gabriela Hernandez.

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Yea
Dr. Rick Magee:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Yea
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Yea

6. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 11:54 AM Passed with a motion by Mr. Scott Clayton and a second by Mrs. Courtney Martin.

Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Ms. Gabriela Hernandez:	Yea
Dr. Rick Magee:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Brenda Reed:	Yea
Mr. Daniel Serencsics:	Yea

Respectfully submitted,



Kylie D'Arcangelo
Board Recorder



CABE Board Recognition Awards

Board Leadership Award and Board of Distinction Award

CABE believes that Boards of Education and Superintendents which exhibit the most effective leadership are characterized by their ability to work together as “teams.” The **CABE Board Recognition Awards** are designed to recognize Boards which work effectively in this manner. Boards which fulfill 22 of the following 34 Level One criteria, including a minimum of three in each area, will earn the Level One **CABE Board Leadership Award**.

In order to appropriately recognize those Boards which are truly exemplary, CABE has now established a second level of awards, the **Board of Distinction Award**. Only Boards which have achieved Level One distinction at least twice in the prior four years are eligible to receive the **Board of Distinction Award**.

Please respond to the criteria requested on this form and send your information, with supporting data, to CABE when you believe your Board has earned a Leadership Award or a Board of Distinction Award. If you have any questions, need further information, or require help in satisfying any of the criteria, please contact us for assistance.

Deadline for submission is: **Friday, October 6, 2023**

REQUIRED CRITERIA

1. Board Leadership/Student Achievement

Level One (minimum of three)

- ☐ A. The Board has developed district goals for this year. *(provide copy of goals)*
- ☐ B. The Board has conducted a self-evaluation and developed a plan for improvement in the past 12 months. *(provide copy of plan or descriptive narrative)*
- ☐ C. The Board has conducted a superintendent evaluation in past 12 months.
- ☐ D. The Board monitors its performance against a Board of Education code of conduct. *(provide copy of code)*
- ☐ E. The Board has conducted meetings pursuant to Board policy.
- ☐ F. The Board has established a calendar to ensure all responsibilities are conducted in timely manner. *(provide copy of meeting calendar)*
- ☐ G. The Board ensures that student voice is part of its decision-making process. *(provide bylaws that allow for student voice)*
- ☐ H. The Board models civil discourse while conducting Board business. *(provide examples)*
- ☐ I. The Board conducts orientation for new Board members. *(provide agenda or bylaws)*
- ☐ C. The Board supports the appropriate use of technology in educational programming. *(provide examples)*
- ☐ D. The Board uses data to make informed decisions regarding student achievement. *(provide examples)*
- ☐ E. The Board addresses issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion. *(provide examples)*

2. Board Member Professional Development

Level One (minimum of three)

- ☐ A. A majority of Board members have taken part in workshops or other in-service training during the last year. *(provide list of workshops and/or in-service training)*
- ☐ B. The Board provides adequate funds to permit Board members to take part in training. *(provide budget or listing for Board professional development)*
- ☐ C. A majority of the Board attended the CABE/CAPSS Convention in the last 12 months. *(provide list of Convention participants)*
- ☐ D. A majority of the Board participated in the CABE Board Member Academy in the last 12 months. *(provide list of programs and board members who attended)*
- ☐ E. The Board has used a CABE facilitator or other outside group for Board workshop/retreat in last 12 months. *(provide agenda)*
- ☐ F. New Board members are provided orientation, including attending CABE New Board Member Orientation. *(provide list of 2022-2023 participants)*
- ☐ A. The Board of Education works to improve student achievement. *(provide description)*
- ☐ B. The Board relates the mission statement and goals to agenda items. *(provide examples)*



CABE Board Recognition Awards

Board Leadership Award and Board of Distinction Award

- ☐ G. At least one Board member has participated in the CABE Leadership Institute (*provide names of participants*)
- ☐ H. The Board has participated in professional development about issues of diversity, equity and inclusion. (*provide a list of workshops and provider*)

Level Two (minimum of two)

- ☐ A. The Board has developed district goals and reviews them on a regular basis. (*provide examples*)
- ☐ B. At least 2 members of the Board have participated in the CABE Leadership Institute. (*provide names of participants*)
- ☐ C. The Board has incorporated Board professional development into policy. (*provide examples*)
- ☐ D. The Board holds a retreat outside of a regular meeting with a component offering professional development. (*provide copy of agendas*)

3. Policy

Level One (minimum of three)

- ☐ A. The Board has developed and adhered to procedure for policy review. (*provide procedure*)
- ☐ B. The Board has a regular process for reviewing policies every three years.
- ☐ C. The Board uses CABE or a similar policy update service to ensure that policies remain current.
- ☐ D. The Board has adopted all required policies.
- ☐ E. The Board has reviewed appropriate policies as law and regulations have changed.
- ☐ F. The Board relies on policies as "living documents," by referring to them at Board meetings or in Board agendas.
- ☐ G. The Board provides the district policy manual in a searchable online version. (*provide URL*)
- ☐ H. The Board has a Code of Ethics. (*provide Code of Ethics*)

Level Two (minimum of three)

- ☐ A. The Board relates applicable agenda items to appropriate policies. (*provide sample agendas that show this practice*)
- ☐ B. Policy discussions are a regular part of Board meetings. (*provide agendas where this takes place*)
- ☐ C. The Board has adopted a policy addressing diversity equity, and inclusion. (*provide policy*)
- ☐ D. The Board has adopted a policy on civility. (*provide policy*)

4. Community Relations

Level One (minimum of three)

- ☐ A. The Board has clear, written policies on Community-Board Relations. (*provide copy*)

- ☐ B. The Board provides opportunities for appropriate participation at meetings by members of the community. (*provide copies of two recent agendas*)
- ☐ C. The Board seeks active community involvement with the schools. (*provide examples*)
- ☐ D. The Board demonstrates cooperation with news media. (*describe*)
- ☐ E. The Board promotes the school system to the public. (*provide copies of information disseminated*)
- ☐ F. The Board disseminates information to the public on its decisions in a unified, timely manner. (*provide copy of information provided*)

Level Two (minimum of two)

- ☐ A. The Board sponsored a community-wide discussion of issues (courageous conversations, community conversations, CABE Equity Toolkit, etc.) during the past year. (*provide agenda and report the end results of the program*)
- ☐ B. The Board has successfully worked with other community leaders. (*provide description and/or supporting documentation*)
- ☐ C. The Board works with the community's local cable access channel. (*provide description*)
- ☐ D. The Board works with other Boards of Education. (*provide description*)

5. Related Organizational Leadership

Level One (minimum of three)

- ☐ A. A Board member serves on the CABE Board of Directors. (*provide name*)
- ☐ B. One or more Board members are active participants in the Convention Committee, CABE Government Relations Committee, Resolutions Committee or Federal Relations Network. (*provide name(s)*)
- ☐ C. One or more Board members actively serve on a RESC Board. (*provide name(s) and RESC*)
- ☐ D. One or more Board members participated in the NSBA Convention, CUBE or other NSBA-sponsored activity in the last 12 months. (*provide name(s)*)
- ☐ E. One or more Board members have participated in the CABE Delegate Assembly or Day-on-the-Hill in last 12 months. (*provide name(s)*)
- ☐ F. The Board has submitted a resolution to CABE for consideration by the CABE Delegate Assembly in last two years. (*provide resolution(s)*)
- ☐ G. The Board ensures that all collective bargaining agreements and the superintendent's contract are sent in a timely manner to CABE's Negotiations Service. (*provide date information sent*)



CABE Board Recognition Awards

Board Leadership Award and Board of Distinction Award

Level Two *(minimum of two)*

- ☐ A. Representatives of the Board presented a workshop related to a district initiative at the annual CABE/CAPSS Convention or NSBA Convention. *(provide a copy of any handouts and presentation materials)*
- ☐ B. The Board has sponsored a Legislative Breakfast or some other legislative event. *(provide invitation or agenda)*
- ☐ C. The Board works closely with its local legislative delegation to improve the schools. *(provide description)*
- ☐ D. The Board sponsors an annual area meeting. *(provide agenda)*

Optional Question:

Level One

Please tell us what, in your opinion, makes your Board's leadership especially effective.

Feel free to provide any information that other Boards would find beneficial in learning about your Board's leadership.

Level Two

Please tell us what, in your opinion, makes your Board's leadership especially effective in improving student achievement.



CABC Board Recognition Awards

Board of Distinction Award (Level Two)

To be eligible for the Board of Distinction Award, a motion must be made at a board meeting to approve the application. If the majority votes in favor, the Board Chair and Superintendent should sign below (*please attach minutes*).

_____	_____
Board Chair	Date
_____	_____
Superintendent	Date



Connecticut Association of Boards of Education
81 Wolcott Hill Road • Wethersfield, CT 06109
860-571-7446 • 860-571-7452 (fax) • www.cabe.org

Meg Scata

President
Portland

May 27, 2026

Lon Seidman

First Vice President
Essex

Kim Walker

Vice President
for Government Relations
Westbrook

Board Chair Scott Clayton
Bethel Public Schools
36 Linda Lane
Bethel, CT 06801

Jaime Barr Shelburn

Vice President
for Professional Development
East Lyme

Dear Mr. Clayton,

Francoise Deristel-Leger

Secretary/Treasurer
Hartford

Thank you for the Bethel Public Schools Board of Education's decision to continue its CABE membership. Our organization's viability and success in support of its individual members are especially important as we address challenges facing public education.

Leonard Lockhart

Immediate Past President
Windsor

CABE's primary mission is to support its individual member boards. We strive to offer timely and meaningful workshops and seminars, access to information, and personalized guidance on current issues at the local, state, and federal levels, and to make offerings tailored to facilitate district operations. We urge you, your fellow board members, and your superintendent to take full advantage of our services.

Marion Manzo

Member at Large
Region 15

We find that the Boards that are most active with us get the most value from their membership.

Patrice A. McCarthy

Executive Director
and General Counsel

CABE is uniquely a school board's organization. As we are led by volunteers, a warm welcome is extended to those who wish to serve CABE in whatever capacity and level they find comfortable. Participation is always welcome in governance and our advocacy efforts both in Hartford and with Congress in Washington.

Lisa M. Steimer

Deputy Executive Director

Please know that if you have questions regarding your service as a board member, the answer is a phone call or email away from one of your CABE staff members.

Nicholas D. Caruso, Jr.

Associate Executive Director
for Field Services and
Technology

Again, thank you for your commitment. The Board and staff stand ready to serve you.

Jody Goeler

Senior Staff Associate
for Policy Services

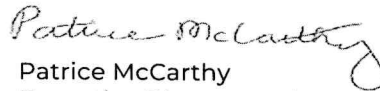
Sincerely,

Sheila McKay

Associate Executive Director
for Government Relations



Meg Scata
President



Patrice McCarthy
Executive Director and
General Counsel

Conrad Vahlsing

Deputy General Counsel

cc: Superintendent

Joanna Iannucci

Coordinator of Finance
and Administration



On science education

1 message

jane gangi <janegangi@snet.net>

Tue, Aug 18, 2026 at 9:38 AM

To: "boe@bethel.k12.ct.us" <boe@bethel.k12.ct.us>, "rutledgem@bethel.k12.ct.us" <rutledgem@bethel.k12.ct.us>, Kristen Brooks <brooksk@bethel.k12.ct.us>, "burnsd@bethel.k12.ct.us" <burnsd@bethel.k12.ct.us>, "sackeya@bethel.k12.ct.us" <sackeya@bethel.k12.ct.us>

Dear Bethel Board of Education, Dr. Sackey, and Administrative Council,

The letter I sent on Eid and Muslim literature on Monday, May 25th, was not recognized on Thursday, May 28th, so I am re-attaching and will bring print copies to this week's meeting.

I was not able to attend May 28th because I was presenting a paper at the Children's Literature Association annual conference in Pittsburgh: When the Neighborhood Is a Refugee Camp. If anyone would like a copy of that paper, please email me at janegangi@snet.net or janegangi@gmail.com.

The paper I co-presented last year might also be of interest: Science in Children's Literature in the Age of Trump. To prepare for that presentation I interviewed Bethel's own Karen Romano Young, a distinguished author of science books for children and Charlie Stokes, retired CEO of the CDC Foundation from whom I learned about the many accomplishments of the Center for Disease Control (CDC). Because the audience at the Children's Literature Association conference often includes both writers and educators, I suggested possible topics for authors who want to write for young people on science. I did not know these things myself until last year when I was 75 years old, and I am hoping there is a place in the science curriculum to help Bethel students learn about the CDC:

- Discovered the cause of the deadly toxic shock syndrome and tampon use
- Discovered the cause of the deadly legionnaire's disease in a hotel air conditioning cooling tower. All of us can stay more safely in hotels
- Collected data on automobile safety belts that save 15,000 lives a year
- Through solid data convinced Congress to ban lead in gasoline (which automobile lobbyists lobbied against) because it lowered all American children's IQ by 10 points
- For over 50 years Mobile CDC Health Clinics have traveled throughout the country giving free physicals to volunteers in exchange for blood samples that are disconnected from the volunteers' names. Charlie says, "This program has created a treasure trove of health data that is the envy of countries around the world. These samples give a clear picture of how the average American's health has been impacted by lifestyle choices, and environmental exposure"—both for ill or good. The CDC and university researchers can help us see when a new chemical has or has not been absorbed allowing the government to label substances either safe or unsafe for humans
- Developed a simple blood test to detect dioxin, which formerly required slicing adipose tissue from the hip
- Monitored food recalls. Doctors were required to send lab samples of diseases to the CDC who can track where outbreaks are throughout the country and identify the source. This service saved millions from suffering and death
- The CDC investigated what was killing American Indians in the Southwest—it was the hantavirus that killed Gene Hackman's wife. The CDC found it was from breathing in the fumes of rodent droppings while sweeping. Proper prevention has kept others from dying
- When patients kept dying after surgery despite thorough disinfecting practices, the CDC came in, placed petri dishes around the room and identified one nurse whose body "threw off antibiotic resistant disease"

Most impressively, in 2014 when one Ebola death was reported in Texas, the CDC director asked for volunteers to travel to Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone, the epicenter of the outbreak. To end the disease in those countries would reduce international spread. 2,000 CDC employees risked their lives to go to West Africa knowing that contact with one open wound could would kill them. Trump/DOGE has fired about 20% (or 2,000) of CDC's workforce often telling CDC employees who have consistently been highly rated that they are being let go for "performance reasons." Some of those

fired had volunteered to go to West Africa.

Health professionals around the world relied on the CDC to understand health problems they could not solve. One example: Children were getting sick and dying in a Panama hospital and Panamanians could not find the cause. They called the CDC who asked for lab samples. CDC identified the cause the same day the samples arrived. The hospital was using "a Chinese-manufactured generic form of liquid Tylenol to treat fevers in kids. The problem: the liquid had accidentally been sweetened with a poisonous form of anti-freeze."

Here are some of Bethel's own Karen Romano Young's websites:

Antarctic Log Gallery:

<https://www.karenromanoyoung.com/antarcticlog-gallery>

I Was a Kid: <https://www.iwasakid.com/>

Science Gallery: <https://www.karenromanoyoung.com/team-4>.

If anyone would like the powerpoint from our science presentation, please email me at one of the addresses above.

Sincerely,

Jane M. Gangi, PhD

2 attachments



2026 August.docx

19K



2026 May Eid and Muslim lit.docx

68K

Dear Bethel Board of Education, Christine, Kristen, Christine S., Mickie, Donna, principals, and librarians,

At the April 23rd meeting I was surprised to hear one of the Muslim public speakers (apparently now at Bethel H.S.) say that, in her experience, her fellow students in Bethel knew nothing about Eid. In the 1990s when my children attended Rockwell, the 3rd grade annually presented a musical performance celebrating Eid, the Hindu Diwali, Jewish Hannukah, and Christian Christmas. My children knew. Did that annual musical go away? If so, why?

There are many books on Eid for children. Here's one list from Chicago Public Library:

<https://chipublib.bibliocommons.com/v2/list/display/200049033/2073029179>

In our work in the Newburgh Schools, we at Mount Saint Mary College have used books children have loved:



Under My Hijab by Hena Khan

A girl in a third grade class wore a hijab. We shared the book with the class and all the students loved it, asking to reread it.



Wanting Mor by Rukhsana Khan. I assigned this in my Children's Lit class and one my students, a fourth grade teacher, made it a choice book in her class. One of her students, who hated to read, read the book and loved it, which led to her reading Deborah Ellis's books on Afghanistan, *The Breadwinner*, *Parvana's Journey*, and *Mud City*. (Ellis has written follow-up books as Parvana grows up, and donates all her royalties to the Canadian Women for Afghan Women fund). At the end of the year the girl's parents emailed the teacher, profusely thanking her for turning their nonreader daughter into a reader.

We've also used:

Fatima Sharafeddine's *The Amazing Discoveries of Ibn Sin* and *The Amazing Travels of Ibn Battutu*

Maha Addasi's *Time to Pray*

Karen Williams and Khadra Mohammed's *Four Feet, Two Sandals*

Bethel author, Karen Romano Young, shared with me: *In My Mosque* by M. O. Yuksel, illustrated by Hatem Aly, also an excellent book.

When I teach Young Adult Literature at MSMC, here are some of the Muslim authors and their books:

Rumi's poems

The Girl from Aleppo: Nujeen's Escape from War to Freedom by Nujeen Mustafa and Christina Lamb

What Have You Lost? poems selected by Naomi Shihab Nye

I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban by Malala Yousafzai and Christina Lamb

Home Is Not a Country by Safia Elhilo

Habibi by Naomi Shihab Nye (my daughter read twice this in 6th grade)

The Kite Runner and *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini

Thura's Diary: My Life in Wartime Iraq by Thura Al-Windawi

Persepolis by Marjane Satrapi

I recently finished reading *Homes* by Abu Bakr al Rabeeah and Winnie Yeung. It's written for young adults, although it would be a tough read for some (I found it a tough read as an adult—as a boy, Abu Bakr encountered body parts on the street after an explosion Syria). His thoughts on Ramadan, however, I found uplifting:

During Ramadan, our lives were turned upside down, but in a good way. Our whole daily routine flipped. We fasted from sunrise to sunset, so we slept during the day and stayed awake through the night. In this time, we were supposed to empty ourselves of all the little things that preoccupied our daily lives and redirect our hearts towards worship. And, by not eating or even drinking water, we were supposed to be reminded of the suffering of the less fortunate and develop more empathy for others. We emptied ourselves of immoral thoughts and bad behavior; we refocused on devotion and charity. (113-114)

His thoughts on radical Islamists: "Those people cannot really be Muslim because my God was about love, peace, charity" (p. 122).

At the children's and young adult literature website I curate at Mount Saint Mary College you can find:

Muslim/Muslim Americans

- Arab American National Museum Arab American Book Awards are given in November
- Crescent Moon Bookstore Muslim Book Awards are given in January
- Middle East Outreach Council Middle East Book Awards are given in December

(<https://www.msmc.edu/about/centers-institutes/the-collaborative-for-equity-in-literacy-learning/resources/children-s-and-young-adult-literature/>)

And my ongoing project that includes many Muslim authors:

<https://msmc.s3.amazonaws.com/files/resources/immigrants-and-refugees-in-children-s-and-young-ad.pdf>

An article I wrote that includes the Muslim-themed books I used with a ten-year-old girl from Yemen, "When the Rabbit Comes: A Yemeni Girl Attains Literacy through Literature and the Arts," is available online: <https://ed-ubiquity.gsu.edu/wordpress/research-volume-7-issue-2/>. When I first met her in March she was reading at a middle-of-first-grade level. She received bilingual services, eight hours with a Mount student, and when the semester was over, I tutored her for ten more

sessions. By fall she was reading at end-of-fourth grade, even reading aloud Adassi's *Time to Pray* to a first-grade class that had Muslim students in it.

I support our Muslim community's efforts to make Eid a school holiday.

I am sorry I cannot attend the Board meeting this month. See you next month!

Sincerely,
Jane M. Gangi, PhD

BETHEL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Briefing Summary

Date of Briefing to the Board: August 20, 2026

Presenter: Jennifer Variale, Director of Finance & Business Operations

Topic: Updating Authorized Signers of the ED-099

Importance of this topic to the Board: Important

Key Points of the Briefing:

Due to the retirement of Dr. Christine Carver as the Superintendent of Schools and the hiring of Dr. Albert Sackey, the following account requires board action to update authorized individuals:

- * The CSDE requires that we file an Authorized Signature Change Form whenever either one of the two authorized signers of the **ED-099 Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs** changes.

Action Requested of the Board of Education: Motion needed.

(State the motion if requested)

Recommended Motion:

- 1) Pursuant to the requirement of the CSDE, the Bethel Board of Education hereby revises the authorized signers of the ED-099 Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs as follows: Signature 1: Dr. Albert Sackey, Superintendent of Schools and Signature 2: Jennifer Variale, Director of Finance and Business Operations.