

Board of Education Meeting

Wednesday, December 6, 2023 7:00 PM

BOE Auditorium and via Zoom Meeting Platform, 129 Church Street, Bristol, CT 06010

1. **CALL TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE**

2. **STAFF AND STUDENT RECOGNITION**

2.1. BEHS - Environmental Learning Centers of Connecticut Club (ELCC) Tutoring and Student Opportunities

2.2. Loren Gonzales - CHMS - Grade 6 - Published Book titled: "Together Forever"

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

4. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

5. **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

6. **CHAIR REPORT**

7. **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

8. **CONSENT AGENDA**

8.1. PERSONNEL

8.1.a. Teacher Resignations

8.1.b. New Teacher Hire

8.1.c. A-2 Hires - Effective August 31, 2023

8.1.d. A-3 Hires *

8.1.e. Teacher Request for Unpaid Leave of Absence

8.2. GRANTS

8.2.a. Barnes Foundation Grant for RIF/FRC Traveling Storytime

8.2.b. FRC Grant award: School Readiness, QE grant

8.2.c. FRC Grant award: Girl Up! Leadership and Empowerment Skills for Girls

8.2.d. FRC Grant award: Multi-site expansion of WatchD.O.G.S. Program

8.2.e. FRC Grant award: Community Development Block Grant

8.2.f. FRC Grant award: SDE, Parent Trust Fund, Parent Leadership Training grant

8.2.g. FRC Grant award: SDE Primary Mental Health Grant, "BOOST"

8.2.h. FRC: WORKS Program Grant

8.2.i. Perkins Grant Allotment and Planned Use

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

10. DELIBERATED ITEMS/DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

10.1. Legal Obligations of the Board -
Presented by Attorney Jessica Ritter

10.2. Special Services Report

11. POLICY REVISION

11.1. Policy 6146.2 - Statewide Proficiency
Mastery Examinations

12. NEW BUSINESS

13. BUILDING REPORTS

14. INFORMATION/LIAISON REPORTS

15. ADJOURNMENT

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 click the following link: [November 1, 2023 Regular Meeting](#).

BRISTOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Bristol, Connecticut
Wednesday, November 1, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting Minutes

The Bristol Board of Education meeting was held on Wednesday, November 1, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Bristol Board of Education auditorium and via the Zoom Meeting Platform.

PRESENT: Commissioners: Russell Anderson, Eric Carlson, Jill Fitzsimons-Bula, Kristen Giantonio, Lorianne Osenkowski, Shelby Pons, Maria Simmons, Dante Tagariello, and Chair Jennifer Dube;

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Catherine Carbone, Superintendent and Dr. Michael Dietter, Deputy Superintendent

CALL TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Chair Dube called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and asked the audience to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Dube ask the audience to join her in a moment of silence for Gertrude Wedler a Teacher at Ellen P. Hubbell, Clara T. O'Connell, and Memorial Boulevard Middle School.

MEETING NORMS

Chair Dube read the meeting norms into the record.

STAFF AND STUDENT RECOGNITION

The Board of Education recognized the following staff and students:

Bristol Central High School Teachers – Gina Gallo, Sarah Lindstrom, and Steve Troche for their upcoming presentation at the ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) National Conference 2023. Sarah Lindstrom and Steve Troche were in the audience and Gina Gallo was virtual. They shared the topic of the presentation at the conference.

First Lego League After-School Programs – Jillian Roman shared information regarding the First Lego League After-School Programs being offered to 8 teams of students in grades K-5.

Newly Appointed Student Representatives – Bristol Central Junior – Abigail Wasta and Bristol Eastern Junior – Peyton Troth. Dr. Carbone introduced the two junior representatives Abigail and Peyton were both in the audience and addressed the Board briefly.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

October 4, 2023 – Regular Meeting

On a motion by Eric Carlson, seconded by Kristen Giantonio;

There was a brief discussion regarding a public comment topic listing.

The Board of Education voted unanimously to approve the October 4, 2023 Meeting Minutes as written.

October 24, 2023 – Special BoE Meeting – Executive Session Minutes

On a motion by Dante Tagariello, seconded by Eric Carlson;

The Board of Education voted unanimously to approve the October 24, 2023, Special BoE Meeting – Executive Session Minutes as written. Commissioner Simmons abstained.

October 25, 2023 – Special Meeting – Meet & Greet Minutes

On a motion by Dante Tagariello, seconded by Shelby Pons,

The Board of Education voted unanimously to approve the October 24, 2023, Special Meeting – Meet and Greet Minutes as written. Commissioner Carlson abstained.

October 25, 2023 – Special BoE Meeting Minutes

On a motion by Dante Tagariello, seconded by Shelby Pons,

The Board of Education voted unanimously to approve the October 24, 2023 Special BoE Meeting Minutes as written. Commissioner Carlson abstained.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Communication Meeting

Commissioner Simmons reported that the committee met and reviewed family engagement, and school activities for October. The committee reviewed the extracurricular activities that are offered districtwide to get an idea of what students have an opportunity to participate in. The committee discussed FOI rules regarding board member communications by email and text. The committee was unable to finish all the agenda items, they will be discussed at the next meeting.

Policy Committee

Commissioner Pons reported that the committee met and discussed Policy 1230 on Recess. The committee looked at the current legislation, the BPS policy, and the core policy from CAFE and did a comparison. The committee will continue the discussion at the next meeting. The committee also looked at all of the policies that would need to be changed in order to allow alcohol sales to happen at the BAIMS theater. There was a discussion about the City Charter needing to be changed in order for the policies to be changed. The board asked for more advice on how to best move forward with this, and those conversations will continue at the next meeting. The committee had to table the remainder of the items which we will continue at the next meeting.

Student Achievement

Commissioner Fitzsimons-Bula reported that the committee met on Wednesday, October 18th, and discussed two curriculum revisions, which the board will hear more about this evening. The first curriculum was Algebra 2 and the second curriculum revision was Middle School English Language Arts. The committee voted to move both items to the full board for approval.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Bristol Central High School

BCHS Senior Student Representative, Isabel Paolino reported on Bristol Central High School for the month of October. Highlights of her report included the girls' soccer and volleyball teams both qualified for the State tournament. In addition, the girls' volleyball team competed in the first round of the CCC's. Women's Dive won their home meet last week, and both girls' and boys' cross country have concluded their seasons. BC had Spirit Week leading up to homecoming, and students dressed in fun outfits in preparation for the dance. All grades attended the dance, and it was a great experience for everyone. This past month Bristol Central had an Italian Exchange program be part of Ramly. For a week the exchange students got to visit Boston, New York City, and they received a tour around Bristol. They had the chance to sit through a typical school day to see what schooling in America is truly like. The Italian students were able to experience our school homecoming, where they all had a blast. In March, students at Bristol Central, participating in the exchange program will fly to Italy to visit them. The Interact club members participated in the walk to end Alzheimer's, where \$88,000 was raised for research and treatment. They also participated in the Mum-a-thon and a dinner at the senior center. The Interact Powder Puff football teams have already started practicing, with the money raised to be donated to the Make a Wish Foundation. Bristol Central had a ceremony and dedication of Mia Giantonio's Healing Garden. The Voice for

Change program funded Mia's garden for our school. It is a nice addition to the school. This week, seniors have started submitting their college applications for the November 1st deadline. Seniors have the opportunity to take advantage of the free application submission to all Connecticut State schools.

Bristol Eastern High School

BEHS Senior Student Representative, Rita Gao shared that October was a busy month at Bristol Eastern. Highlights from the report included, homecoming was a blast for almost 400 students. They are now getting ready for the annual pep rally with Student Council working hand in hand with cheerleaders for this exciting day. The PSATs were hosted during the month for grades 9, 10, and 11 and the SATs were hosted as well. A few weeks ago, an author came to talk about his book "I Have Anxiety, So What". He talked about strategies that help battle anxiety and depression, and how to make healthy choices and build healthy relationships. Students really enjoyed his presentation in the way he delivered his message with sports. There are major fall sports updates as many sports are starting to come to an end. For the first time in 20 years, boys' cross country won the city championship, while, it is the first time in 6 to 7 years that girls won their city's championship. However, we can't even remember the last time both girls and boys won in the same year. Football has been going great with a current record of 5-2, needing only to win 3 more games to advance to the States. Volleyball has also been doing amazing; Girls' soccer lost to Central during their senior night. Boys soccer battled BC boys to a tie in an exciting game. The fall sports banquet will be held on November 13th. Clubs are now in full action, with DECCA already planning for competitions. Model UN has been fundraising like crazy for the conferences in New York in the spring, and the Diversity Club is already meeting to discuss the annual culture day.

CHAIR REPORT

Chair Dube gave her final Chair Report, as this evening will be her final Board of Education meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr. Carbone presented the monthly Superintendent Report. Highlights of her report include budget workshops scheduled for Tuesday, January 16th, and Tuesday, January 24th with snow dates on Thursday, January 18th, and Thursday, January 26th. Reminder to our 5th-grade families who may be interested in attending our arts and Innovation magnet school. Principal McCabe will be visiting grade 5 classrooms in the month of November, with the lottery beginning the first week of December. The Battle of the Bell is scheduled for Thanksgiving Day, November 23rd at 10:30 a.m. at Muzzy Field. Lastly, hot off the press, as this information was embargoed as of about 4 o'clock today. We have three schools of distinction, Dr. Carbone described the various distinctions that each school received and congratulated Ivy Drive, Mountain View, and South Side Schools for their well-deserved accomplishments. Dr. Carbone also recognized the Office of Teaching and Learning for their work in ensuring that our students are achieving at high levels.

Dr. Carbone recognized Chair Dube for her 5-year tenure on the Board of Education. Chair Dube was presented with the traditional Blue BoE glass apple, a book donation in her name to her liaison schools (West Bristol, Mountain View, and BAIMS), and a framed print of BAIMS.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Dube called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, which included Items 8.1.a through 8.2.a.

On a motion by Dante Tagariello, seconded by Shelby Pons

The Board of Education voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda as written.

PERSONNEL

8.1.a. Teacher Resignations

DiLonardo, Rachel - CHMS - Special Education Teacher effective October 16, 2023

Leonard, Brittany - EDGE PreK - PreK Special Education Teacher effective October 23, 2023

Welsh-Stephenson - Vanessa - CHMS - Special Education Teacher effective October 20, 2023

On a motion by Dante Tagariello, seconded by Shelby Pons;

The Board of Education voted unanimously to accept the Teacher Resignations as written.

8.1.b. New Teacher Hires

Alston, Kaitlin - STAF - Kindergarten Teacher effective October 3, 2023

Dixon, Sharon - WB - Library Media Specialist effective November 13, 2023

Latko, Eliza - WB - Physical Education and Health Teacher effective October 23, 2023

Leonard, Brittany - EDGE PK - PreK Special Education Teacher effective October 16, 2023

On a motion by Dante Tagariello, seconded by Shelby Pons;

The Board of Education voted unanimously to approve the New Teacher Hires as written.

8.1.c. A-1 Hire – Effective August 31, 2023

Costa, John - BAIMS - Grade 8 Team Leader

Germain, Eileen - CHMS - Purple Team Leader

On a motion by Dante Tagariello, seconded by Shelby Pons;

The Board of Education voted unanimously to approve the A-1 Hires as written.

8.1.d. Tenure Attainment – Effective September 1, 2022 to September 1, 2023

On a motion by Dante Tagariello, seconded by Shelby Pons;

The Board of Education voted unanimously to approve the Tenure Attainment [listing](#) as written.

8.2.a. ARPA - Summer Mental Health Supports Grant

On a motion by Dante Tagariello, seconded by Shelby Pons;

The Board of Education voted unanimously to approve the ARPA Summer Mental Health Supports Grant as written.

9.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Dube read the Public Comment Rules into the record.

Noreen Milbrandt – 197 King Street – Addressed the Board regarding Bus/School Transportation

Allison Wadowski – 111 Fleetwood Road – Addressed the Board regarding the Board Chair

10. DELIBERATED ITEMS/DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

10.1. October 1 Enrollment Report

Dr. Culkin presented the October 1 Enrollment Report. It was noted that where available the report includes a comparison, of student enrollment from October 1, 2023 to October 1, 2022. At the time the report was prepared there were 8,091 students enrolled in Bristol Public Schools, compared to last year's overall student enrollment of 8,188. Dr. Culkin walked Commissioners through a breakdown of student enrollment numbers on the newly formatted report. There were no questions following the presentation.

10.2. Special Services Report

Amy Martino, Special Services Director presented the monthly Special Services Report. As of October 1st, 780 of the 8,069 enrolled Bristol students are identified as requiring special education programming. This enrollment reflects 22.1% of the total BPS student population. As of October 1st, 121 students with disabilities require out-of-district placements at private special education school programs. There are 74 students requiring special

education, programming, and services at other public out-of-district schools, that would include magnet schools. During the month of September, 3% of the newly registered students were identified as students requiring special education programming. None of the newly enrolled students, during the month of September, received their services at out-of-district programs. During the month of September, there were nineteen (19) 211 calls and twelve (12) 911 calls.

11. CURRICULUM REVISION

11.1. Algebra 2 – Curriculum Revision (Second Reading)

Dr. Rechenberg presented the second reading of the Algebra 2 Curriculum Revision.

On a motion by Dante Tagariello, seconded by Kristen Giantonio.

The Board of Education voted unanimously to approve the Algebra 2 Curriculum Revision as presented.

11.2. Middle School ELA Curriculum (Second Reading)

Leszek Ward presented the second reading of the Middle School ELA Curriculum Revision.

On a motion by Dante Tagariello, seconded by Jill Fitzsimons-Bula;

The Board of Education voted unanimously to approve the Middle School ELA Curriculum Revision as presented.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business to come before the Board.

BUILDING REPORTS

Peter Fusco, Facilities Director provided the monthly building reports.

Chippens Underground Storage Tank – We received state approval to go out to bid on this project. Bids are due back on November 17th.

BAIMS Building Update – No change since last month. Continuing to work through the last few items on the punch list.

NEMS Building Committee Report – The Programming Commission met last month and approved moving the project to P&Z. The design team met with all departments for initial FF&E meetings. The next meeting is November 14th.

ESSER/ARP Building Committee Update – The purchase orders for engineering services have been created. EDM, Loureiro, and VanZelm are the three firms that we are engaging with to create the scope of work for the projects. Kickoff meetings are being scheduled over the next week.

Edgewood Project Update – No Changes – Still waiting for state approval

Culinary Arts Project Updates – No Changes - Still waiting for state approval

Athletic Fields and Site Improvements –The windscreens on the dugouts have arrived and will be installed prior to next season. We are still working with the engineers on potential track repairs

INFORMATION/LIAISON REPORTS

Commissioner Osenkowski reported on Ivy Drive School events.

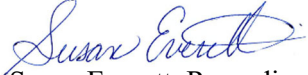
Commissioner Simmons reported on Bristol Eastern and South School events.

Chair Dube provided her final BAIMS liaison report.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board, the meeting should be adjourned. *(8:05 p.m.)*

Respectfully Submitted,



Susan Everett, Recording Secretary
Bristol Board of Education

DRAFT

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 click the following link: [November 14, 2023 - Special Meeting](#)

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Bristol, Connecticut
November 14, 2023 – Special Meeting Board Meeting

A Special Meeting of the Bristol Board of Education was held on Tuesday, November 14, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., in the auditorium of the Board of Education Administration Building, located at 129 Church Street, Bristol, Connecticut, and virtually via the Zoom meeting platform.

PRESENT: Commissioners: Russell Anderson, Eric Carlson (Virtual), Jill Fitzsimons-Bula, Kristen Giantonio, Lorianne Osenkowski, Shelby Pons, Maria Simmons, Dante Tagariello, and Jennifer Van Gorder

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Catherine Carbone, Superintendent, and Dr. Michael Dietter, Deputy Superintendent

1. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Carbone called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and that the audience stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. Dr. Carbone read the meeting norms into the record and explained the Election of Officers process. Since Commissioner Carlson, was attending virtually, Commissioner Carlson was asked to vote aloud and follow up his votes in writing.

2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairman of the Board of Education for a Two Year Period (Nov. 14, 2023 to Nov. 14, 2025)

Dr. Carbone called for nominations for the position of Chairman of the Board of Education.

Commissioner Pons nominated Dante Tagariello to the position of Chairman; Commissioner Carlson seconded the nomination.

Commissioner Osenkowski nominated Kristen Giantonio to the position of Chairman; Commissioner Anderson seconded the nomination.

For discussion purposes, commissioners were recognized once. Dr. Carbone called commissioners alphabetically.

Discussion followed regarding the nominations.

Dr. Carbone closed the discussion and asked that ballots be distributed to commissioners. Written ballots for the position of Chairman were returned to Dr. Carbone to be tallied. Dr. Carbone read the results alphabetically.

	Nominee		Nominee	
	TAGARIELLO		GIANTONIO	
	First	Second	First	Second
	SP	EC	LO	RA
Commissioner ANDERSON			X	
Commissioner CARLSON	X			
Commissioner FITZSIMONS-BULA	X			
Commissioner GIANTONIO			X	
Commissioner OSENKOWSKI			X	
Commissioner PONS	X			
Commissioner SIMMONS	X			
Commissioner TAGARIELLO	X			
Commissioner VAN GORDER			X	
Total:	5		4	

Dr. Carbone announced that Dante Tagariello was elected Chairman of the Board of Education for a two-year period (Nov. 14, 2023 to Nov. 14, 2025) and asked that Chair Tagariello come to sit to the right of her, to conduct the remainder of the Election of Officers.

Chair Tagariello addressed the Board regarding his appointment.

Vice Chairman of the Board of Education for a Two Year Period (Nov. 14, 2023 to Nov. 14, 2025)

Chair Tagariello called for nominations for the position of Vice Chairman of the Board of Education.

Commissioner Osenkowski nominated Kristen Giantonio to the position of Vice Chairman; Commissioner Anderson seconded the nomination.

Chair Tagariello nominated Shelby Pons to the position of Vice Chairman; Commissioner Fitzsimmons-Bula seconded the nomination.

For discussion purposes, commissioners were recognized once. Chair Tagariello called commissioners alphabetically.

Discussion followed regarding the nominations.

Chair Tagariello closed the discussion and asked that ballots be distributed to commissioners. Written ballots for the position of Vice Chairman were returned to Dr. Carbone to be tallied. Chair Tagariello read the results alphabetically.

Motions	Nominee		Nominee	
	GIANTONIO		PONS	
	First	Second	First	Second
	LO	RA	DT	JF
Commissioner ANDERSON	X			
Commissioner CARLSON			X	
Commissioner FITZSIMONS-BULA			X	
Commissioner GIANTONIO	X			
Commissioner OSENKOWSKI	X			
Commissioner PONS			X	
Commissioner SIMMONS			X	
Commissioner TAGARIELLO			X	
Commissioner VAN GORDER	X			
Total:	4		5	

Chair Tagariello announced that Shelby Pons was elected Chairman of the Board of Education for a two-year period (Nov. 14, 2023 to Nov. 14, 2025).

Secretary of the Board of Education for a Two Year Period (Nov. 14, 2023 to Nov. 14, 2025)

Chair Tagariello called for nominations for the position of Secretary of the Board of Education.

Commissioner Giantonio nominated Lori Osenkowski to the position of Secretary; Commissioner Anderson seconded the nomination.

Chair Tagariello nominated Maria Pirro Simmons to the position of Sectary; Commissioner Pons seconded the nomination.

For discussion purposes, commissioners were recognized once. Chair Tagariello called commissioners alphabetically.

Discussion followed regarding the nominations.

Chair Tagariello closed the discussion and asked that ballots be distributed to commissioners. Written ballots for the position of Secretary were returned to Dr. Carbone to be tallied. Chair Tagariello read the results alphabetically.

Motions	Nominee		Nominee	
	OSENKOWSKI		PIRRO SIMMONS	
	First	Second	First	Second
	KG	RA	DT	SP
Commissioner ANDERSON	X			
Commissioner CARLSON			X	
Commissioner FITZSIMONS-BULA			X	
Commissioner GIANTONIO	X			
Commissioner OSENKOWSKI	X			
Commissioner PONS			X	
Commissioner SIMMONS			X	
Commissioner TAGARIELLO			X	
Commissioner VAN GORDER	X			
Total:	4		5	

Chair Tagariello announced that Maria Simmons was elected Secretary of the Board of Education for a two-year period (Nov. 14, 2023 to Nov. 14, 2025).

3. Committee Assignments

Chair Tagariello addressed the Board regarding committee assignments.

Commissioner Giantonio called for a motion to table the committee assignments until collaborative discussion can take place, motion seconded by Commissioner Anderson.

Chair Tagariello opened discussion and called commissioners alphabetically. Discussion followed.

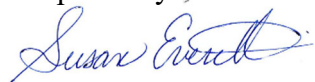
Chair Tagariello called for a roll call vote.

Following a roll call vote, the motion to table the Committee Assignments **PASSED** with six (6) Commissioners (Anderson, Fitzsimons-Bula, Giantonio, Osenkowski, Simmons and Van Gorder) **IN FAVOR** of the motion and three (3) Commissioners (Carlson, Pons and Tagariello) **OPPOSED**.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Special Board of Education meeting should adjourn. (6:34 p.m.)

Respectfully Submitted



Susan P. Everett

Executive Secretary to Board of Education

Cristalba Alcide

School Social Worker

Authorized to work in the US for any employer

Work Experience

School Social Worker

Achievement First Elementary School - Bridgeport, CT

Present

- Conducting bio-psychosocial assessments and social histories;
- Assessing students for support systems, physical and emotional functioning, barriers to academic performance, peer issues, suicidal/homicidal ideation, and similar issues;
- Developing and implementing treatment plans and discharge plans that support student self-determination;
- Providing direct therapeutic services such as individual or group therapy regarding specific issues;
- Providing crisis management services, including assessing for safety;
- Advocating for student services and students' best interests;
- Providing case management services including, but not limited to, referrals to community resources, collaboration with other professionals;
- Providing trainings and workshops to teachers, school staff and parents;
- Conducting home visits;
- Identifying and resolving ethical issues;
- Managing and supervising staff; and
- Contributing to a multidisciplinary treatment team.

Behavioral Specialist

achievement first elementary school - Bridgeport, CT

March 2014 to June 2016

Therapist

Connecticut junior republic - Danbury, CT

March 2013 to April 2014

Responsibilities

Provide immediate screening, intake and crisis intervention after referral is received

- Assess client needs, develop service plans, and Collaborate with families in developing an enduring social support network in their natural environment.
- Provide comprehensive MST treatment for up to five families in their homes, schools, and communities that are individualized and family-oriented.
- Maintain clear and concise clinical progress notes, weekly summaries, and weekly reports to referring probation officers.

Case Manager

Connecticut Junior Republic - Danbury, CT

March 2010 to March 2013

Family Support Center

- Provide immediate screening, intake and crisis intervention to referrals
- Assess client needs, develop service plans, make appropriate linkages to needed services
- Advocate for youth families
- Monitor client progress, make referrals, communicate closely with clients and families
- Facilitate evidenced-based group and individual interventions such as Motivational Interviewing, TARGET, VOICES, MET/CBT, ART, and Viewpoints

Education

MSW in Clinical Social Work

Fordham University - West Harrison, NY

September 2010 to Present

Bachelor of Science in Justice and Law Administration

Western Connecticut State University - Danbury, CT

August 2000 to May 2004

Skills

- Fluent in Spanish (writing,reading,verbal)
- Counseling
- Case Management
- Microsoft Office
- problem solving
- Therapy
- Documentation
- Management
- Individual / group counseling
- Group therapy
- Crisis intervention
- Crisis management
- Motivational interviewing
- Behavioral therapy
- Time management
- Social Work
- Meeting Facilitation
- Intake Experience
- Behavior Management
- Hospice Care

- Conflict Management
- Communication skills
- Organizational skills

Languages

- Spanish - Fluent

Certifications and Licenses

School social worker 071

July 2016 to June 2024

Certificate number: C062016000045

Social Work License

Certified Social Worker

Assessments

Customer focus & orientation — Expert

April 2022

Responding to customer situations with sensitivity

Full results: Expert

Indeed Assessments provides skills tests that are not indicative of a license or certification, or continued development in any professional field.

Additional Information

Motivation interviewing award 2013

Voices intervention championship 2013

Peter Pecora

Education

Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, CT, 2019-2023 M.S. School Counseling
Virginia State University, Petersburg, VA. 2007-2012 B.S. in Criminal Justice
Bloomfield High School, Bloomfield, CT. 2003-2007 Graduated

Career Focus

School Counseling

Skills

Crisis intervention training, PMT certified, group counseling experience, career counseling experience, suicide prevention training, NCAA clearinghouse, student financial aid training, DSM-5 training, restorative justice training and mental health first aid.

Work Experience

July 2019-June 2022

Student Management Assistant

CREC Academy of Aerospace and Engineering

A full time position. Duties included but are not limited to: responsible for providing academic support, behavioral redirection, and general collaboration with the classroom teachers to support the needs of the students.

April 2018-June 2019

Comprehensive Intervention Specialist

Metacomet Elementary School

A full time position. Duties included but are not limited to: implement a positive behavior management system in order to increase student behavior and academic skills. The management of the behavior system includes but is not limited to: collecting and tracking of data pertaining to student and school wide patterns, implementation of positive behavior plans and climate improvement.

May 2016- August 2018

Child Development Specialist

The Village for Families and Children

Assists staff to provide behavior management and activities programming to latency-aged, emotionally and behaviorally disordered children within a structured therapeutic milieu.

February 2012- Present

Assistant Football Coach(Wide Receivers/Special Teams)

Bloomfield High School

This position involves carrying out the objectives of the sports program as outlined by the head coach by instructing athletes in team and individual fundamentals, strategies, and physical

training necessary for them to realize individual and team success through effective leadership, coaching and communication. In addition, the position involves assisting the head coach in organizing and scheduling practice schedules, representing Bloomfield High School and the football program in a professional manner, possessing a strong commitment to the Student-Athlete concept and being a positive role model.

August 2013- April 2018

Campus Security Officer

Clover Street Elementary School

A full time position, the Campus Security Officer responsibilities include: Daily ground and building inspections, monitor and sign in all building guests, provide a safe and secure environment for all students, assist with troubled youth and completion of daily log books.

Internships

August 2022-June 2023

School Counseling Supervised Internship

Bloomfield High School

700 hours of supervised clinical experience in field setting. Included direct service with students including experience in individual counseling and group work. Experience in PowerSchool, Naviance and Common App. Served on the SRBI team. Served as a team member for SAT administration throughout the school. Developed a multi-tiered intervention system for FAFSA completion. Extensive work with college and career counseling. Facilitated the first HBCU fair field trip.

January 2021-June 2021

School Counseling Practicum Internship

CREC Academy of Aerospace and Engineering

100 hours of supervised clinical experience in field setting. Included direct service with students, including experience in individual counseling and group work. Also developed a school wide needs assessment for the school counseling department during this time.

Professional Organizations

American School Counseling Association (ASCA)

Connecticut School Counseling Association (CSCA)

Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC)

Activities

Virginia State Football Team – August 2007-December 2011

References

Adam Johnson, Principal, CREC Academy of Aerospace and Engineering, 860-305-0648

ajohnson@crec.org

Ty Outlaw, Head Football Coach, Bloomfield High School, 860-729-3107 toutlaw@blmflld.org

Kendra Venhorst, School Counselor, Bloomfield High School, 917-750-5183
kvenhorst@blmfld.org

Margaret Donohue, Associate Professor, Central Connecticut State University, 860-575-6285
peg.donohue@ccsu.edu

Cynthia M. Gilbert

Wescott

EDUCATOR

CERTIFICATIONS

STATE OF CONNECTICUT Certification 305

STATE OF CONNECTICUT Certification 165

EDUCATION

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE Charter Oak State College
New Britain, CT | December 2016

MASTERS OF EDUCATION Sacred Heart University
Fairfield, CT | May 2019

6th Year Special Education Sacred Heart University
Fairfield, CT | December 2021

Professional Development

LETRS Trained
Project Lead The Way Teacher
Wilson Foundations
Footsteps 2 Brilliance
Coaching on the science of reading and explicit
instruction (Hill for Literacy)
PBIS Trained
Fountas and Pinnell

Teacher | Farm Hill Elementary

August 2019 - present | Middletown, CT

Used formative and summative to drive instruction

Developed lesson plans and implemented differentiation for students in all academic areas

Facilitated small group instruction in guided reading and used district guided lesson plans to implement scientifically-research based reading instruction and intervention

Collaborated with special education services to develop modifications and accommodations for students with IEPs and 504s

Fostered a classroom environment of respect and high expectations

Teacher | Middletown ESY

Provide direct individual, small group and/or large group instruction to address students' IEP goals/objectives

Differentiate instruction

Establish a productive learning environment and classroom culture in which all students are respected

Supervise safe arrival and dismissal of all students assigned to their classroom.

Certified Maintain timely student attendance and progress records
Consult with related service providers to address student needs

Provide students, families, site coordinators and program staff with relevant and timely data, including monitoring and reporting students progress

Coordinator 21st Century After School Program August 2019-present Middletown, CT

Planned and recruited enrichment activities and vendors
Collaborated with grants facilitator

Continued the program online through our distance learning months

Teacher | Summer Literacy Academy

July 2019 - present | Middletown, CT

Implemented lesson plans and daily activities designed by Footsteps 2 Brilliance

Provided small group instruction for Tier 2 and 3 leveled students in grades 1,2, and 3

Plan and implement Project Based Learning themed units in the areas of science, math, and writing

Instruction

Statewide Proficiency/Mastery Examinations (Statewide Summative Assessments)

Annually, each student enrolled in grades three through eight inclusive shall take a mastery examination or examinations that measures essential and grade appropriate skills in reading, writing or mathematics during the time period specified by the State Department of Education. Students enrolled in grade eleven shall annually take a nationally recognized college readiness assessment approved by the State Board of Education that measures essential and grade appropriate skills in reading, writing and mathematics. (Connecticut SAT School Day in English language arts and math examination) Each student enrolled in grade five, eight, and eleven shall, annually, during the time period specified by the State Department of Education, take a state-wide mastery examination that measures essential and grade appropriate skills in science. (Next Generation Science Standards) The State Board of Education shall approve the provision and administration of all mastery examinations. All examinations shall take place during the regular school day.

Special education students shall participate in mastery testing except in the rare case when their Planning and Placement Team determines that participation would be inappropriate and recommends the use of an alternative assessment as specified by the State Board of Education.

All English learners (ELs) including recently arrived, defined as those students whose initial entry date in a U.S. school is less than two years (24 months) prior to test administration are required to participate in all content areas of the state summative assessment.

All students identified as English Learners (EL) school shall take the LAS Links Assessment. Scores on each component of the mastery examination for English learners who have been enrolled in school in this state or another state for fewer than twenty (20) school months shall not be used for the purposes of calculating the school accountability index as defined in C.G.S. [10-223e](#).

Scores from year 1 is ready to serve as a baseline for academic growth in Year 2. In year 3, the scores of recently arrived ELs will be included toward academic achievement and academic growth indicators in Connecticut's accountability system.

Any alternate assessment, including the Connecticut Alternate Assessment, of students enrolled in special education, shall be available only to those students with significant cognitive disabilities. Students with significant cognitive disabilities in grades three through eight and eleven shall be assessed with the Connecticut Alternative Assessment in English/language arts and mathematics. In science, eligible students with significant cognitive disabilities shall be assessed with the Connecticut Alternate Science Assessment in Grades five, eight and eleven.

In compliance with federal law, out-of-level testing is not an option for students enrolled in special education.

The Board of Education recognizes that federal law requires full participation of all students on the state summative assessments, with a minimum standard for the participation rate of at least 95 percent of all students and all student groups for each subject. Further, the Board realizes there are consequences for districts and schools not meeting this participation role threshold on these state summative assessments.

(cf. [5121](#) - Examination/Grading/Rating)

(cf. [5125](#) - Student Records; Confidentiality)

(cf. [6146](#) - Graduation Requirements)

(cf. [6162.31](#) - Test Exclusion)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[10-14n](#) Statewide mastery examination. Conditions for reexamination. Limitation on use of test results. (as amended by PA 03-174, PA 03-168, and PA 13-207, Section 115 of PA 14-217, PA 15-238 and PA 17-14)

[10-14o](#) Compensatory education grant. Financial statement of expenditures.

[10-14p](#) Reports by local and regional boards re instructional improvement and student progress.

[10-14q](#) Exceptions (as amended by PA 01-205)

[10-223e](#) Statewide education accountability plan.

PA 15-238 An Act Concerning Students Assessments

PL 107-110 - Title I, 34 CFR Part 200

34 CFR, Part 200 Regulations appearing in Federal Register, 9/13/06.

Policy adopted:

Instruction

Statewide Proficiency/Mastery Examinations (Statewide Summative Assessments)

Annually, each student enrolled in grades three through eight inclusive shall take a mastery examination or examinations that measures essential and grade appropriate skills in reading, writing or mathematics during any month of the school year. (Currently administered during the last 12 weeks of the school year). Students enrolled in grade eleven shall annually take a nationally recognized college readiness assessment approved by the State Board of Education that measures essential and grade appropriate skills in reading, writing and mathematics. (Connecticut SAT School Day in English language arts and math examination) Each student enrolled in grade five, eight, and ten (Grade 11, in lieu of Grade 10 beginning in the 2018-2019 school year) shall, annually, in March or April, take a state-wide mastery examination that measures essential and grade appropriate skills in science. (CMT Science - grades 5 + 8 and CAPT Science - grade 10) The State Board of Education shall approve the provision and administration of all mastery examinations. All examinations shall take place during the regular school day.

Note: *Students in Connecticut participate in the Smarter Balanced Assessments in English, language arts, literacy and mathematics in grades three through eight inclusive. In science, students participate in the Science CMT in grades five and eight and the science CAPT in grade ten.*

Student scores on each component of the statewide eleventh grade state assessment may/shall be included on the permanent record and transcripts for eleventh grade students. For each eleventh grade student who meets or exceeds the statewide mastery goal level on any component of the mastery examination, shall have a certification of such mastery made on the permanent record and transcript and be provided a certificate of mastery for each such component.

The school District (excludes endowed or incorporated high schools) may not require achievement of a satisfactory score on a mastery examination or any subsequent retest on a component of such examinations as the sole criterion of promotion or graduation.

Special education students shall participate in mastery testing except in the rare case when their Planning and Placement Team determines that participation would be inappropriate and recommends the use of an alternative assessment as specified by the State Board of Education.

All English learners (ELs) including recently arrived, defined as those students whose initial entry date in a U.S. school is less than two years (24 months) prior to test administration are required to participate in all content areas of the state summative assessment.

All students identified as English Learners (EL) regardless of how long they have been enrolled in school shall take the mastery examination in all content areas (reading/language arts, mathematics, science). Scores on each component of the mastery examination for English learners who have been enrolled in school in this state or another state for fewer than twenty (20)

school months shall not be used for the purposes of calculating the school accountability index as defined in C.G.S. [10-223e](#).

Scores from year 1 is ready to serve as a baseline for academic growth in Year 2. In year 3, the scores of recently arrived ELs will be included toward academic achievement and academic growth indicators in Connecticut's accountability system.

Limited English proficient students eligible for special education due to significant cognitive impairment must be tested on the CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist, regardless of the one school year exemption option.

Any alternate assessment, including the CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist and the Connecticut Alternate Assessment, of students enrolled in special education, shall be available only to those students with significant cognitive disabilities. Students with significant cognitive disabilities in grades three through eight and eleven shall be assessed with the Connecticut Alternative Assessment in English/language arts and mathematics. In science, eligible students with significant cognitive disabilities shall be assessed with the CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist/Science in grades five, eight and ten.

In compliance with federal law, out-of-level testing is not an option for students enrolled in special education.

The Board of Education recognizes that federal law requires full participation of all students on the state summative assessments, with a minimum standard for the participation rate of at least 95 percent of all students and all student groups for each subject. Further, the Board realizes there are consequences for districts and schools not meeting this participation role threshold on these state summative assessments.

(cf. [5121](#) - Examination/Grading/Rating)

(cf. [5125](#) - Student Records; Confidentiality)

(cf. [6146](#) - Graduation Requirements)

(cf. 6162.31 - Test Exclusion)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[10-14n](#) Statewide mastery examination. Conditions for reexamination. Limitation on use of test results. (as amended by PA 03-174, PA 03-168, and PA 13-207, Section 115 of PA 14-217, PA 15-238 and PA 17-14)

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PA 15-238 An Act Concerning Students Assessments

PL 107-110 - Title I, 34 CFR Part 200

34 CFR, Part 200 Regulations appearing in Federal Register, 9/13/06.

Policy Adopted: September 10, 2003

Policy Revised: September 13, 2017

BRISTOL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Bristol, Connecticut