

Woodbridge Board of Education WBOE  
Ad Hoc Student Culture & Community  
Committee  
Thursday, August 19, 2021 4:00 PM

REMOTE via WebEx

## **Agenda**

- I. **Call to Order / WebEx Login Meeting link:**
- II. **<https://woodbridgeps.webex.com/woodbridgeps/j.php?MTID=m3a3c2c381f134d672248da73c56c3533>**
- III.
- IV. **Join by meeting number**
- V. **Meeting number (access code): 146 286 9959**
- VI. **Meeting password: XvFJ6saW7d6**
- VII.
- VIII. **Public Comment - The Board welcomes public participation. We ask that speakers please limit their comments to three minutes. Please be aware that the Board will not respond to any comments made during the public comment period, except to clarify issues, but we will take into consideration your comments, and when appropriate, district administration will follow-up with you at a later point in time.**
- IX. **Discussion of Students' Mental Health Needs & BRS Response**
- X. **Adjourn**

**MINUTES OF THE WBOE AD HOC STUDENT CULTURE &  
COMMUNITY COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, June 16, 2021

Conducted via Google Meet

**CALL TO ORDER:** Dr. Michael Strambler, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Jonathan S. Budd, Ph.D., Superintendent; Lynn Piascyk, BOE representative; Dr. Michael Strambler, BOE representative; Cheryl Kiesel, administrator representative; Analisa Sherman, administrator representative; Adeline Marzialo, parent representative; Erin Williamson, parent representative; Joseph DiPalma, teacher representative.

3 additional members of the BOE were in attendance: Daniel Cowan, Lor Ferrante Fernandes, and Joyce Shavers.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** There was no Public Comment.

**INTRODUCTION:** All Committee members introduced themselves and their interest and background related to this Committee.

**REVIEW OF COMMITTEE CHARGE:** Dr. Strambler reviewed the BOE-approved Committee Charge.

**DISCUSSION OF PRIOR WORK AND POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS:** Committee members discussed the importance of supporting students returning to Beecher in the fall during the ongoing pandemic. The prior Ad Hoc Safety Committee had been interested in topics such as patterns of disciplinary issues, data trends over time, and potential strategies and approaches to address student culture and community. The State Department of Education has indicated potential resources for use by local districts in the fall. Discussion ensued around the importance of community-building in the fall, with all students and staff returning to in-person learning. Committee members discussed potential professional development relevant to the Committee Charge.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Board members discussed the importance of connections, social norms, and the need for all students to feel safe, respected, and respectful in school.

Consensus was reached to reconvene in August to assess the reopening of school in relation to student culture and community, and to look in September at relevant data including from the June Panorama survey.

Meeting Adjourned: 5:54 p.m.



# WOODBIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

40 Beecher Road - South  
Woodbridge, Connecticut 06525

Jonathan S. Budd, Ph.D. - Superintendent

## MEMORANDUM

TO: ~~Woodbridge Board~~ of Education  
FROM: Jonathan S. Budd, Ph.D., Superintendent  
DATE: May 13, 2021  
RE: Establishment of Ad Hoc Student Culture & Community Committee

On January 21, 2020, the Board of Education established an Ad Hoc Safety Committee "with a committee charge that a report will be given to the full Board at their May 19, 2020 meeting regarding the staff and program resources necessary to address the changing and significant student behavioral needs at Beecher Road School." The Committee was subsequently formed and had three productive meetings, but its progress was interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Given the importance of the topic, I recommend, consistent with BOE Policies 1220 & 9123, that the Board of Education establish a successor Ad Hoc Committee via the following motion:

Move that we establish an Ad Hoc Student Culture & Community Committee to assess and evaluate student culture and community at Beecher Road School, including the identification of any resources necessary to address short-term and long-term goals to foster a supportive, respectful, and physically and emotionally safe learning environment. Committee membership will include the Superintendent, 2 Board of Education members, 2 administrators, 2 parents, 2 WEA representatives, and 2 CSEA representatives. The Committee will meet regularly and make a report to the full Board at its January 2022 meeting.