



BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION – REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, October 13, 2022 at 7:00 P.M.

Bloomfield Board of Education, Board Room

1133 Blue Hills Avenue

Bloomfield, CT 06002

Attendance:	D. Harris, Chair	Present
	H. Frydman, Vice Chair	Absent
	J. Wilkerson, Secretary	Absent
	R. Ike	Present
	L. Easmon	Present
	T. Moore	Present
	F. Bogle-Assegai	Present

Also Present: W. Guzman, Chief Operations Officer
D. Nesmith, Assistant Superintendent for Accountability and Performance
D. Moleti, Human Resource Coordinator
A.M. Cullinan, Curriculum Consultant
E. Pierce, District Grants Specialist
S. Simpson, Director of Strategic Communication and Planning
W. Shepard-Bannish, Director of Student Support Services
L. Lamenzo, Director of School improvement
J. Titelbaum, District Data Systems Coordinator
J. White, Principal, Bloomfield High School

1. Establishment of a Quorum and Call to Order

D. Harris determined a quorum was present and the Bloomfield Board of Education Regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All rose to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Opening Statement

Robert Ike, Board member, welcomed all attendees. The purpose and process of the Board of Education meeting were stated.

4. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting – September 13, 2022

A motion was made by L. Easmon and seconded by R. Ike for the Bloomfield Board of Education to approve the minutes from the September 13, 2022 regular Board meeting, as presented.

The motion passed unanimously.



5. Presentations

A. Student Representative Report – Bloomfield High School

Two student representatives from Bloomfield High School were introduced by the Chairman. Students shared a Power Point providing updates from the high school. They reported that seven student were recognized for their academic achievements by The College Board. Six students were inducted into the Tri-M Music Honor Society. Students from the Donald F. Harris Sr. Agriscience Center participated in the Big E. Other recent events include a College Fair, Save a Life Tour, Spirit Week, and the Homecoming Football game and dance. The Bloomfield High School community honored Coach Moses with a vigil on September 29, 2022.

6. Public/PTO Comment

No public comment.

7. Superintendent's Report

A. Superintendent's Update

Dr. James Thompson, Jr. provided an update to the Board of Education members for the month of October. Dr. Thompson noted the upcoming honorary event with the University of Saint Joseph celebrating a two-year partnership with Bloomfield Public Schools.

Dr. Thompson shared that the district is working on expanding partnerships to support career pathways. The district hired a School to Career Specialist that will engage with the community to find internships to meet the interest of high school students.

B. Financial Report – September 2022

Mr. William Guzman, Chief Operations Office reported on the financials as of October 7, 2022. He noted that 17.27% of the adopted budget has yet to be expended or encumbered.

Mr. Guzman noted on the one-page summary report, major account 03 Employee Benefits has a balance as the funds have yet to be encumbered for health insurance, pension, and other post-employment benefits.

On the six-page detail report, page 1 sub account 1210 – Salaried Professional Staff is over budget as the district has yet to book receivables for out-of-district special education services or the Excess Cost Grant. Mr. Guzman further noted the district budgeted for 35 outplaced students and the district now has 37 outplaced students.

L. Easmon inquired if the district expects year-end adjustments to make the special education accounts whole. Mr. Guzman noted that it is too early to anticipate overages for year-end, but the district works to balance the budget throughout the year.



8. Old Business

A. Portrait of a Graduate

Anne Marie Cullinan, Curriculum Specialist and Jason Titelbaum, District Data Systems Coordinator shared an update on the Portrait of a Graduate (POG) Strategic Plan. Ms. Cullinan noted our POG strategic plan matches the national whole child initiative.

An overview of the Portrait of a Graduate timeline was provided.

The strategic plan will be implemented through four key priority areas. The objectives for each priority area were shared.

Under Priority Area 1: Holistic Accountability the objectives include a data dashboard to communicate student achievement and standardized process for sharing data.

Priority 2: Rigorous Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment objectives focuses on early childhood education, preparing students to be readers by grade 3, the 21st Century standards, Educational Technology and implementing the Talented and Gifted program.

Under Priority Area 3: Positive School Climate the objectives include a professional development and improving school culture. Each school has a climate specialist and they meet monthly. One initiative is district-wide climate events.

Enhancing the community engagement is the focus of Priority 4: Family and Community Engagement. The objectives included social and emotional professional development and the creation of Family and Community Engagement Committees in each school.

F. Bogle-Assegi asked how the objectives will be measured. Ms. Cullinan noted there are measurement tools in place. In addition, the district is giving benchmark assessments and the SBAC results will be an indicator.

T. Moore inquired about parent engagement and getting students into internships. Ms. Cullinan noted the district hired a Career Specialist to develop relationships for our students to participate in internships locally.

L. Easmon asked if students are prepared to take post-secondary exams such as those required to enter the medical field. Ms. Cullinan stated they are working with students throughout their K-12 experience to prepare them to have the stamina to complete these exams.

R. Ike would like to see Bloomfield student interns in Town Governmental positions to prepare them to enter the workforce.



It was further inquired by a Board member if students from the new Pre-K program would be tracked to determine if their early childhood experience positively impacted their learning.

9. New Business

A. Possible Action on the District Alliance Grant Application

Elisa Pierce, District Grants Specialist, gave an overview of the Alliance District grant application, which requires the approval of the Board of Education. The Alliance grant provides our school system with access to additional funding in order to support teaching and learning across the district. Ms. Pierce reviewed grant narrative and budget.

L. Easmon asked when the district would be removed from the Alliance category by the State. Mr. Nesmith noted that the CT State Department of Education reviews the Alliance district every four years.

It was further inquired what positions are funded through the Alliance Grant.

R. Ike requested an executive summary to be shared with the Board of Education.

A motion was made by L. Easmon and seconded by R. Ike for the Bloomfield Board of Education to approve the Alliance District Grant application, as presented.

The motion passed unanimously.

10. CABE Updates

Mr. Donald Harris, Jr. reminded Board of Education members interested in attending the CABE/CAPSS Convention, November 18-19, 2022, to reach out to Krista Cherry.

11. Board Comments

R. Ike shared his condolences for the tragic loss of Coach Moses and the two police officers from Bristol, CT. He reminded all that November 8th is Election Day and encouraged all to vote.

F. Bogle-Assegai expressed her happiness to be meeting in-person. She also shared she would like to see more parents in attendance at the Board meetings.

T. Moore thanked the presenters for their information.

L. Easmon noted the good discussion from tonight's meeting. She acknowledged those students who were honored with the musical induction ceremony. She also thanked the presenters for the Portrait of a Graduate update.

D. Harris shared that the district used to participate in a work-study program during the 1970's. Students had the ability to learn a trade, but the district has since let the trades go. He is pleased to see a reintroduction of internships for career pathways.



12. Adjournment

At 8:19 p.m. a motion to adjourn was made by R. Ike and seconded by L. Easmon.

The motion passed unanimously.

J. Wilkerson, Board Secretary

J. Thompson, Ed. D., Superintendent