The minutes presented within this document summarize the discussion of the Regular Board of Education meeting. To view the meeting in its entirety and hear full reports please click the following link:8/5/26-Regular Board of Education Meeting

Bristol Board of Education
Bristol, Connecticut
Wednesday, August 5, 2026 – 6:30 p.m.
Regular Meeting Minutes

The Bristol Board of Education regular meeting was held on Wednesday, August 5, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. in the Bristol Board of Education Auditorium located at 129 Church Street and via Zoom Meeting Platform.

**Present:** Vice Chair: Jennifer Tagariello, Commissioners: Jill Fitzsimons-Bula,Kara Ledger ,Lorianne Osenkowski (virtual), Robert Parenti, and Barbara Tedesco

**Absent:** Chair Shelby Pons, Commissioners: Kristen Giantonio and Jennifer Van Gorder; Peter Kelley, Board Liaison

**Also, Present:** Superintendent Iris White, Mary Hawk, Deputy Superintendent, Jodi Bond, Director of Finance, Dr. Amy Martino, Director of Pupil Services, Joseph Grabowski, Chief Talent Officer, Jeff Telke, Supervisor of IT and Carly Fortin Director of Curriculum and Instruction

## 1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence:

Chair Pons called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and asked the audience to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

## 2. Approval of Minutes

2.1 July 7, 2026 -Regular Meeting Minutes
The Board of Education voted to approve the July 7, 2026 -Regular Meeting Minutes as written.
***Motion made by Kara Ledger and second by Robert Parenti. The motion carried.***

2.2 June 10, 2026 -Special Meeting Minutes
The Board of Education voted to approve the June 10, 2026 -Special Meeting Minutes
***Motion made by Kara Ledger and second by Robert Parenti. The motion carried.***

## 3. Committee Reports

No committee reports provided.

## 4. Vice- Chair Report

Vice Chair Tagariello provided a report, located here.

APPROVED

## 5. Superintendent Report

Superintendent Iris White began her report by announcing that the Northeast Middle School Ribbon Cutting Ceremony will be held on Friday, August 7, 2026, celebrating the completion of the school's renovation project. She also announced that the Sgt. Alex Hamzy Gym Dedication at Northeast Middle School is scheduled for Saturday, August 15, 2026, honoring Sgt. Hamzy's legacy and service to the Bristol community.

Superintendent White shared that the Mayor's Pencil Hunt and Back-to-School Bash will take place on Wednesday, August 19, 2026, providing school supplies and community resources to Bristol students and families. She noted that the first 125 students in attendance will receive free backpacks. She also reminded the Board that the annual Back-to-School Convocation will be held on Monday, August 24, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. at Muzzy Field. This year's theme, "Better Together," reflects the District's commitment to collaboration and student success.

Superintendent White provided an update on the 2025-2026 Charitable Dress Down Program, expressing appreciation to Bristol Public Schools staff for their continued generosity and participation. She noted that the program raised funds to benefit numerous local charitable organizations and school-related initiatives throughout the school year. She also announced the charitable initiatives and opportunities planned for the 2026-2027 school year.

Superintendent White encouraged staff, families, and community members to participate in the Connecticut Blue Ribbon Commission on Education Funding and Accountability Survey, emphasizing the importance of stakeholder feedback in helping shape future recommendations for public education.

Superintendent White recognized the Bristol Junior All-Stars Team and the Bristol 12U Softball Team for their outstanding achievements and for representing the Bristol community with pride. She also congratulated the Bristol Splash Swim Team on its successful season, recognizing the dedication and accomplishments of its student-athletes. In addition, she announced that Mountain View Elementary School has been named a Red, White, and Blue School in recognition of its exemplary commitment to civic education and student engagement.

This concluded the Superintendent's Report.

## 6. Consent Agenda

Vice Chair Tagariello called for a motion to approve the consent agenda, which include items from 6.1.a to 6.1.f.

***Motion made by Robert Parenti and second by Kara Ledger. Motion passed unanimously.***

**8.1 PERSONNEL**

**6.1a A1 Hires effective August 24, 2026**

Archibald, Brian – BCHS – Special Education Department Head

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Croce, Jennifer – BEHS – Special Education Department Head
D'Agonstino, Silvio – CHMS – Purple Team Leader
Downes, Jason – CHMS - Silver Team Leader
Mariano, Klaudia – BEHS – World Language Department Head
Mullaney, Courtney – CHMS – Blue Team Lead
Russman, Christel – BCHS – K-12 Library Media Department Head

**6.1b A2 Resignations effective June 26, 2026**

Abucewicz, Danielle – CHMS – Special MS Performing Groups, Choral
Boudreau, Kenneth – WB - Robotics

**6.1c A3 Hires effective August 27, 2026**

Baldwin, Friecka – CHMS – Math Curriculum Coordinator
Baldwin, Friecka – CHMS - Co-Instructional Resource Coordinator
Baranski, Zara – BEHS – Science Team Leader
Behrendt, Sarah – CHMS – ELA Curriculum Coordinator
Croce, Megan – BEHS – Mathematics Team Leader
Guerrera, Joseph – CHMS – Social Studies Curriculum Coordinator
Nocera, Shelly – BEHS – ELA Team Leader
Rubbo, Cary – CHMS – Co-Instructional Resource Coordinator

**6.1d A3 Resign effective June 26, 2026**

Boudreau, Kenneth – WB – Gifted Coach

**6.1e Teacher Hire effective August 24, 2026**

Affainie, Jasiel – CHMS – Mathematics Teacher
Culpepper, Madison – CHMS – School Psychologist
Dadio, Brittany – WB – Special Education Teacher, LEAD
Gomez, Shannon – WB – Special Education Teacher, LEAD
Hill, Amanda – CW – PE/Health Teacher
Mangual, Mardelin – BEHS – Spanish Teacher

**6.1f Teacher Resignations effective June 30, 2026**

Mamuya, Lashay – BAIMS – Mathematics Teacher, Grades 6-8
Montague, Thomas – BEHS- Special Education Teacher
Wyskiel, Mikayla – STAF – Speech and Language Pathologist

## 7. Public Comments

Prior to public comment commencing, Vice Chair Tagariello read the rules to Public Comment. The following individuals addressed the Board via in-person:

- Scott Fields - 7 Southdown Dr. - Addressed the Board regarding Personnel

## 8. Deliberated Items/District Leadership Team Reports

### 8.1 Teacher Hiring Overview for School Year 2026-2027

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Joseph Grabowski, Chief Talent Officer, provided an update on the District's current hiring efforts, noting that the onboarding and recruitment of both certified and non-certified staff remain ongoing. He indicated that a more comprehensive staffing report will be presented to the Board over the next several months as hiring continues.

Commissioner Parenti inquired about the hiring committee process, specifically regarding expectations for committee members' participation throughout all phases of the interview and selection process. Mr. Grabowski responded to the questions and provided clarification on the District's hiring procedures.

**9. New Business**

No new business to report.

**10. Information/Liaison Reports**

**10.1 City Council Liaison Report**

No report provided.

**10.2 BOE Liaison Reports**

No report provided.

**11. Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Regular Board of Education Meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sydney Molina

Sydney Molina
Recording Secretary
Bristol Board of Education

APPROVED