



BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION – REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, December 10, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Bloomfield Board of Education

1133 Blue Hills Avenue

Board Room

Attendance: D. Harris, Chair	Present
D. Bolton, Vice Chair	Present
P. Davis, Secretary	Present
R. Ike	Present
H. Frydman	Absent
L. Easmon	Present
T. Moore	Absent

Also Present: J. Thompson, Superintendent
W. Guzman, Chief Operations Officer
S. McCann, Chief Academic Officer
B. Silver, Assistant Superintendent of Accountability and Performance
J. Robinson, Director of Technology/Human Resource Coordinator
E. Pierce, District Grants Specialist
D. Moleti, 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 7:01 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All rose to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Opening Statement

Patricia Davis, Secretary, welcomed all attendees. The purpose and process of the Board of Education meeting was stated.

4. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes – Special Meeting – November 12, 2019

A motion was made by D. Bolton and seconded by R. Ike for the Bloomfield Board of Education to approve the minutes from the November 12, 2019 special Board Meeting, as presented.

The motion was passed unanimously.

5. Recognitions

A. Students – Recognition of Student Volunteers for the Municipal Election

Mr. Ike and Ms. Dexler recognized the student volunteers from Bloomfield High School. With new legislation, students aged sixteen and older can volunteer at the



polls. A total of six Bloomfield High School students volunteered at the November municipal elections and the town offered their appreciation.

- B. Parents and Community – Donald F. Harris, Jr. elected President of CABA**
Dr. James Thompson, Jr., Superintendent announced that Mr. Donald Harris, Jr. Bloomfield’s Board Chair was recently elected as the President of the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education, also known as CABA. CABA’s mission is to assist local and regional Boards of Education in providing high-quality public education through effective leadership

6. Presentations

- A. Recognition of Bloomfield’s 2020 Teacher of the Year, Marcus Jennings**
Due to unexpected circumstances, Marcus Jennings was unable to attend. This items will be postponed to a future meeting.

- B. Student Representative Report – Bloomfield High School**
The student representatives from Bloomfield High School (BHS) shared a PowerPoint presentation with members of the Board with reports on fall athletic honors and recent events at the high school.

Some recent highlights include the National Honor Society Induction ceremony, the awarding of the Michaels Cup for sportsmanship and a visit from the National Guard Mobile kitchen. In addition, the school is actively involved in volunteering opportunities and collecting donations to local organizations.

Upcoming events include Parents Night on December 12, 2019, upcoming basketball games and a field trip to the Pequot Museum.

7. Public/PTO Comment

No comments.

8. Superintendent’s Report

A. Partners Breakfast on December 12, 2019

Dr. Thompson shared that on Thursday, December 12, 2019 Bloomfield Public Schools will be hosting a Partners Breakfast at the Alvin & Beatrice Wood Human Services Center building. The purpose of this event is to celebrate our current partners for their collaboration with the district and schools.

B. Grants Update

Elisa Pierce, District Grant Specialist provided a status report on district grants.

Bloomfield Public Schools is actively planning and applying for grant funds from the federal government, state government and private foundations. One of the major focus areas for Bloomfield, namely, extended learning time, has been realized through grant funding. This year, Bloomfield has been awarded 3 grants:

- 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant at Metacomet,
- After-school Grant at Carme Arace Intermediate School, and



- the After-school Grant at Carme Arace Middle School

The district has also applied for a 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant for Laurel Elementary School, which is still in pending status. The goal of the district has always been to provide a continuum of after-school additional learning opportunities from K-8.

The district has also put forth an application for additional resources from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. The grant application is focused on reducing chronic absenteeism and discipline referrals by addressing student engagement.

In an effort to sustain vital educational programs for students, the district is continuing to look for outside funding.

C. Financial Report – November 2019

Mr. William Guzman, Chief Operations Officer reported on the financials as of November 2019. He distributed the one-page and six-page financial reports. The district is six months into the fiscal year with about 2.5% of the budget remaining to be expended or encumbered.

Mr. Guzman noted the 02 Non-Certified and the 08 Tuition line items.

It was further noted that accounts 5600 Tuition Public and 5690 Tuition Magnet continue to have deficits. These deficits will be reduced with the anticipated revenues from the Excess Cost grant.

A Board member inquired about the deficit in account number 1230, Salaries Para. Mr. Guzman shared this account is counter balanced by the expense account that was previously used to subcontract paraprofessionals. Mr. Guzman noted it was previously shared the district decided to hire employees instead of outsourcing to an outside agency.

A board member inquired about costs associated with tuition line item 0141 on page 3. Mr. Guzman noted this tuition line is for the cost associated with students who are expelled. The district contracts with Our Piece of the Pie (OPP) for educational services.

A board members asked for clarification on account 2410 Severance. Mr. Guzman noted this was for the severance pay for a member of Bloomfield's United Public Service Employees union.

9. Old Business

No old business.

10. New Business

A. Portrait of a Graduate



Ms. Stacey McCann, Chief Academic Officer shared a presentation about the development of a Portrait of a Graduate. Ms. McCann shared that a “Portrait of a Graduate” is a collective vision that articulates the community’s aspirations for all students that:

- Supports the Whole Child
- Describes the skills and attributes needed for 21st century learning
- Engages in experiential learning
- Prepares students for College and Careers

The Portrait of a Graduate design process will involve a sustained community conversations leading to shared agreement about Bloomfield’s Portrait of a Graduate.

These are the 4 phases that will comprise the process:

1. Plan – define a timeline
2. Activate - study the implications for Bloomfield’s educational system
3. Create - Draft and reach a consensus regarding a prioritized set of competencies
4. Adopt - Submit recommendation to the school board for adoption

It was inquired when the work would start. Ms. McCann noted the work will start in January with a series of meetings. The Board members will be invited to participate along with other community stakeholders.

It was inquired by a Board member if this has already been completed by another district and the purpose. Farmington Public Schools can be used as a model as they have completed the process. The purpose is to look at the district’s future learners and determine how our educational system will align learning in a technology-based culture.

11. CABE Updates

Mr. Donald Harris, Jr. shared he was in attendance at the CABE New Board and Leadership conference on December 10, 2019. There were over 150 registrants and Lynette Easmon and Krista Cherry were in attendance.

12. Board Comments

R. Ike offered his congratulations to Don Harris on his recent appointment to President of CABE. He also recognized the football team for their quest of the Class “S” state championship.

L. Easmon commended the efforts of the district’s student athletes. She also shared positive accolades for Mr. Guzzo and Mr. McCarthy at Metacomet Elementary School.

P. Davis congratulated the high school football team and Mr. Harris for his recent election as President of CABE. Ms. Davis made a statement referencing the NCAA



requirements and her personal experience at the high school. She noted the Alliance for Bloomfield's Children (ABC) is hosting a Young Readers Literacy event on December 12, 2019 at Metacomet and one at Laurel on December 17, 2019. She shared her excitement for the partnership and stated the importance of planting seeds for future success.

D. Bolton attended the CABE/CAPSS Convention in November and shared there were a number of great workshops. There are 15 days until Christmas and extended the invitation to demonstrate kindness to others.

D. Harris attended the Solar Field Project ribbon cutting ceremony on December 6, 2019 at the Board of Education along with Ms. Easmon and Mr. Frydman. He noted there are a total of 6,000 panels in the field behind the Board of Education. He extended his congratulations to the athletic department for all their recent accomplishments including receiving the Michael's Cup sportsmanship award for the third consecutive year.

13. Adjournment

At 8:23 p.m. a motion to adjourn was made by R. Ike and seconded by D. Bolton.

The motion passed unanimously.

P. Davis, Secretary

J. Thompson, Ed. D., Superintendent