

Minutes of the Bethel Board of Education Special Meeting - RETREAT held on Saturday, August 5, 2023, in Board of Education Conference Room E, 1 School Street, Bethel, CT 06801.

Attendance: None.

Administrative Attendance: C. Carver, K. Brooks

M. O'Brien, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

Board Members Attendance:

- Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman
- Mr. Scott Clayton
- Mrs. Kara DiBartolo
- Mr. Bill Foster
- Mrs. Jen Larsen
- Mrs. Courtney Martin
- Ms. Melanie O'Brien
- Mr. Daniel Nostin, *Absent*
- Mrs. Cathy Schaefer, *Absent*

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TOWN CLERK
BETHEL, CT.

1. Call to Order

- A. Roll Call for Quorum
- B. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Board Goals 2023-2024

Move to approve the Board of Education Goals for 2023-2024 which include Classroom Instruction, Emotional Intelligence, Community and Collective Purpose, and Civility and Inclusion. Passed with a motion by Ms. Melanie O'Brien and a second by Mr. Bill Foster.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman:	Yea
Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Mrs. Kara DiBartolo:	Yea
Mr. Bill Foster:	Yea
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Melanie O'Brien:	Yea

3. Engagement for Student Success

The Board discussed Board Goal #3 - **Community and Collective Purpose**. The Board discussed the many types of events, messaging, and groups providing interactions with parents. The Board discussed focusing on a theme for a district message. Discussed the message for this year being about literacy and ways to provide information in simple language

for understanding and engaging the ELL families. It was noted that the new reading program also includes opportunities to engage parents using the home-school connection.

The Community Outreach Committee will meet in September to review the teacher feedback survey. Board members are asked to send ideas/topics for communication to the committee chair.

4. Future Topics for Board of Education

The Board discussed future topics for the Board. The Board would like information on the Pathways program, Science of Reading, School Improvement Plans, Social-Emotional Update/DESSA, teacher evaluation changes, SRBI Process and how student progress is given to parents, Pay-to-Play, and Dues for student activities. At the October meeting, the Administration will provide information for BHS dues, BHS sports, intramural sports, etc. This will allow the Board time to discuss and be prepared for the budget process in January. The Board would also like data on who is participating in all the activities and does it reflect the district's demographics.

5. Policy Reflection & Review

Ms. O'Brien, Chair, spoke to the Board about the change in provider for monitoring student accounts to Lightspeed. Dr. Carver spoke to the Board about policies that need to be reviewed for technology, instructional use, student-responsible use, BYOT, and other technology resources.

6. Recording of Board Meetings

Ms. O'Brien, Chair, spoke to the Board about live-streaming Board meetings and the need to have a policy in place to do so. It was the consensus of the Board to pursue live-streaming for Board & Committee meetings. This item was referred to the Policy Committee.

7. Superintendent Evaluation Format

The Board discussed the evaluation format. Discussed the format needing some individualization each year based on the Board's focus, school improvement plans, etc. It was the consensus of the Board that Board members will include comments and the format to move to a summary at the end as met, didn't meet, or progressing as an overall goal.

8. Recommended Executive Session - CT General Statutes 1-200(6)

A. Interpersonal Board Relationships

Move to enter into Executive Session at 11:25 AM. Passed with a motion by Ms. Melanie O'Brien and a second by Mrs. Kara DiBartolo.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman:	Yea
Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Mrs. Kara DiBartolo:	Yea
Mr. Bill Foster:	Yea
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Yea

Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Melanie O'Brien:	Yea

Move to come out of Executive Session at 12:05 PM. Passed with a motion by Mr. Scott Clayton and a second by Mr. Bill Foster.

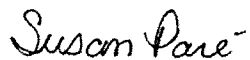
Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman:	Yea
Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Mrs. Kara DiBartolo:	Yea
Mr. Bill Foster:	Yea
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Melanie O'Brien:	Yea

9. Adjourn

Move to adjourn at 12:07 PM. Passed with a motion by Ms. Melanie O'Brien and a second by Mr. Scott Clayton.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman:	Yea
Mr. Scott Clayton:	Yea
Mrs. Kara DiBartolo:	Yea
Mr. Bill Foster:	Yea
Mrs. Jen Larsen:	Yea
Mrs. Courtney Martin:	Yea
Ms. Melanie O'Brien:	Yea

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Pare
Board Recorder