

# BRANFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION

**\*\*This meeting will be live streamed\*\***

**WEDNESDAY**

**6:30 PM**

**August 14, 2024**

**Walsh Intermediate School Cafeteria**

**185 Damascus Road**

**Branford, CT 06405**

To locate agendas and to access/view meetings please go to [www.branfordschools.org](http://www.branfordschools.org)

## FULL REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AGENDA

### Community Agreement

The Board of Education is committed to supporting the mission, vision, core values and global learning competencies of the Branford Public Schools. We are here to provide access for all students in close collaboration with the Superintendent and in partnership with the larger community.

## AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Agenda Changes
- III. Communications
- IV. Public Comment
- V. Approve Minutes
- VI. Superintendent's Report
- VII. Standing Committee: Reports and Referrals to Full Board for Action
  - A. Teaching & Learning Committee (T&L)
  - B. Personnel & Finance Committee (P&F)
  - C. Policy and Board Governance Committee (P&G)
  - D. Communication Committee (CC)
- VIII. Discussion/Action Items
  - A. To consider and if appropriate, vote to approve the 2024-2025 Non-Resident Tuition Rates
  - B. To consider and if appropriate, vote to approve the 2024-2025 School Year BHS Senior Graduation Date
  - C. To consider and if appropriate, vote to approve the BHS Model Congress Field Trip Request to Harvard Model Congress in Boston, Massachusetts
  - D. To consider and if appropriate, vote to appoint Pullman & Comley LLC as the law firm whose attorneys will serve as an Impartial Hearing Officer for student disciplinary matters, expulsion expungement requests and for hearing school accommodations appeals, including transportation appeals as provided by Statute for the 2024-2025 school year, as they arise
  - E. Personnel & Finance Reports
- IX. Board Reports:
  - A. ACES
  - B. CABE
- X. Executive Session
  - A. To discuss Branford Administrators Organization (BAO) Bargaining Unit Negotiations
- XI. Adjourn

**TO PARTICIPATE IN PUBLIC COMMENTS PLEASE CALL:**

**(646) 558-8656 - Meeting ID: 815 6405 4671 - Passcode: 812124**

*When participating by telephone please mute your phone when joining the meeting and unmute your phone when you are ready to speak. This can be done by pressing \*6 on your phone's keypad.*

Continued...

**Rules Governing Public Comments:**

- Three minutes will be allotted to each speaker. The Board may modify this limitation at the beginning of a meeting if the number of persons wishing to speak makes it advisable to do so. (Board Bylaw 9325)
- Conduct intended primarily to be disruptive or verbally abusive shall not be permitted at the Board of Education meeting. Any speaker who engages in such conduct will be warned and allowed to correct such conduct. If the speaker continues to engage in the disruptive conduct such will be grounds for termination of the speaker's privilege to participate in public comment and may be deemed grounds for removal from the meeting site.
- All speakers must identify themselves by name and address.

**SEPTEMBER BOE MEETINGS**

(All meetings will take place in the WIS Cafeteria unless otherwise specified)

BOE Committee Chairs Meeting (Virtual)	September 5, 2024 at 5:00 PM
Teaching & Learning Committee Meeting	September 11, 2024 at 6:00 PM
Personnel & Finance Committee Meeting	September 11, 2024 at 7:00 PM
Policy Committee Meeting	September 11, 2024 at 7:30 PM
Communication Committee Meeting	September 18, 2024 at 6:00 PM
Full Regular BOE Meeting	September 18, 2024 at 6:30 PM

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS & MEMBERS**

Teaching & Learning

Ellen Michael, Chair; Meaghan DeLucia, Ram Shrestha, Shawn Tiernan

Personnel & Finance

Meaghan DeLucia, Chair; Ellen Michaels, Judith Barron, Adam Greenberg

Policy & Board Governance

Shawn Tiernan, Chair; Marie McNamara, Ram Shrestha, Laura Troidle

Communication

Laura Troidle, Chair; Judith Barron, Adam Greenberg, Marie McNamara

**BRANFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
TUITION RATES 2024-2025**

TUITION (Non-Resident) STUDENTS – excluding Special Education Students –  
WILL PAY A TUITION RATE OF:

**\$14,837**

**\$16,898**

SPECIAL EDUCATION TUITION (Non-Resident) STUDENTS WILL PAY A  
TUITION RATE OF A MINIMUM OF:

**\$19,269**

**\$22,848**

ALL OTHER CHARGES IN EXCESS OF ~~\$19,269~~ **\$22,848** MUST BE PAID BY  
THE NON-RESIDENT.

Board Approval:





# BRANFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2024-2025 SCHOOL CALENDAR

- School in Session
- Early Release Day

## KEY DATES

July 4	Independence Day Observance – District Closed
Aug. 26	Professional Development (PD) Day
Aug. 27	Convocation
Aug. 28	Certified Staff Work Day
Aug. 29	First Day of School
Sept. 2	Labor Day – District Closed
Sept. 25	PD – Early Release Day
Oct. 11 & 14	Fall Recess
Oct. 30	PD – Early Release Day
Nov. 5	Election Day – PD – No Students
Nov. 7+	<u>ELEMENTARY ONLY</u> Conferences – Early Release Day
Nov. 19*	<u>WIS ONLY</u> Conferences – Early Release Day
Nov. 27	November Recess – No School
Nov. 28-29	Thanksgiving Recess – District Closed
Dec. 11	PD - Early Release Day
Dec. 20	Early Release Day
Dec. 23-31	Winter Recess
Jan. 1	Winter Recess (Continued)
Jan. 20	Martin Luther King Jr. Day – District Closed
Jan. 29	PD – Early Release Day
Feb. 4+	<u>ELEMENTARY ONLY</u> Conferences – Early Release Day
Feb. 17	President’s Day – District Closed
Feb. 18	February Recess – No school
Feb. 25*	<u>WIS ONLY</u> Conferences – Early Release Day
March 14	PD – No School for Students
March 26	PD – Early Release Day
April 14-18	Spring Recess
April 30	PD – Early Release Day
May 21	PD - Early Release Day
May 26	Memorial Day – District Closed
June 11	Potential Last Day of School/Graduation – Early Release

Students: 180 days

Teachers: 185 days

Emergency/weather-related closing makeup days will be taken in June. In case of extraordinary circumstances other calendar adjustments may be considered and made (i.e. makeup days taken from Spring Recess).

July 2024				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

August 2024					2/2
M	T	W	T	F	
			1	2	
5	6	7	8	9	
12	13	14	15	16	
19	20	21	22	23	
26	27	28	29	30	

September 2024					20/22
M	T	W	T	F	
2	3	4	5	6	
9	10	11	12	13	
16	17	18	19	20	
23	24	25	26	27	
30					

October 2024					21/43
M	T	W	T	F	
	1	2	3	4	
7	8	9	10	11	
14	15	16	17	18	
21	22	23	24	25	
28	29	30	31		

November 2024					17/60
M	T	W	T	F	
				1	
4	5	6	7+	8	
11	12	13	14	15	
18	19*	20	21	22	
25	26	27	28	29	

December 2024					15/75
M	T	W	T	F	
2	3	4	5	6	
9	10	11	12	13	
16	17	18	19	20	
23	24	25	26	27	
30	31				

January 2025					21/96
M	T	W	T	F	
		1	2	3	
6	7	8	9	10	
13	14	15	16	17	
20	21	22	23	24	
27	28	29	30	31	

February 2025					18/114
M	T	W	T	F	
3	4+	5	6	7	
10	11	12	13	14	
17	18	19	20	21	
24	25*	26	27	28	

March 2025					20/134
M	T	W	T	F	
3	4	5	6	7	
10	11	12	13	14	
17	18	19	20	21	
24	25	26	27	28	
31					

April 2025					17/151
M	T	W	T	F	
	1	2	3	4	
7	8	9	10	11	
14	15	16	17	18	
21	22	23	24	25	
28	29	30			

May 2025					21/172
M	T	W	T	F	
			1	2	
5	6	7	8	9	
12	13	14	15	16	
19	20	21	22	23	
26	27	28	29	30	

June 2025					8/180
M	T	W	T	F	
2	3	4	5	6	
9	10	11	12	13	
16	17	18	19	20	
23	24	25	26	27	
30					

BRANFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS -- FIELD TRIP REQUEST FORM

To Superintendent of Schools

From David Gruendel

School BHS

RE: Field Trip

Date 12 June 2024

Approval is requested for an overnight field trip for 35 members of the BHS Model Model Congress Club to attend the Harvard Model Congress in Boston, MA.

Date(s) for the field trip 20-23 Feb 2025

Cost \$550

Time/Date leaving 9am 20 Feb

Time/Date returning 4:30pm 23 Feb

Students will travel by Coach Bus at no cost to the Board of Education.

Substitute coverage, if needed, will be arranged: Yes  No  for Thu & Fri 20-21 Feb

Chaperones: (K-4 = 5:1, 5-8 = 10:1, 9-12 = 15:1)

J.Petela, D.Gruendel, S.Vitelli

**Rationale for the trip (List how it correlates with curriculum; is it a culminating activity?):**

Students will actively engage with peers from across the country in a variety of debates on several topics connected to current affairs and events in a simulated governmental process. Solid connections with GLCs Implement Critical Thinking to Solve Problems, Collaborate and communicate to convey ideas/positions, Demonstrate appropriate and effective use of technology, Write effectively for a range of purposes and audiences, and Read actively for a variety of purposes and audiences.

**Follow-Up Activities: (What activities will students participate in after the trip?)**

Students will participate in "debrief" activities and share what they learned and can improve on for future conferences.

Fundraiser opportunities/scholarship/student contribution/fund-goal Assistance for students is available.

\* APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent or  
Assistant Superintendent

\* More than 150 miles or overnight.  
[BBOE Field Trip Policy No. 6153]

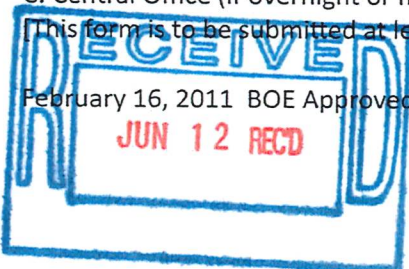
David Gruendel  
Name of Teacher  
Cell No. 203-215-3549

Approved [Signature]  
Principal

C: Central Office (if overnight or more than 150 miles); Principal; Teacher

[This form is to be submitted at least 10 working days prior to the field trip for in-state trips.]

February 16, 2011 BOE Approved; 8/1/12 Update.







## Stephen M. Sedor

Member

### Bridgeport Office

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ssedor@pullcom.com

### Practice Areas

Labor and Employment  
Counseling, Training and  
Litigation

School Law

Colleges, Universities and  
Independent Schools

Labor, Employment Law &  
Employee Benefits

Union Issues

Litigation

Internal Investigations

### Bar and Court Admissions

Connecticut

New York

Stephen M. Sedor focuses his practice in the areas of education law, employment litigation and labor disputes. He defends public and private sector employers in lawsuits involving wrongful discharge, employment discrimination, wage and hour disputes, First Amendment and retaliation claims, unfair labor practice charges, restrictive covenants and other disputes. Stephen provides general counseling and advice to public and private sector employers on a wide range of labor and employment matters.

Stephen also focuses his practice on representing boards of education and municipalities on a full range of collective bargaining matters. He represents clients during collective bargaining and binding interest arbitrations, prohibited practice charges and other labor disputes. He frequently appears before the Connecticut State Board of Labor Relations and the Connecticut State Board of Mediation and Arbitration.

Stephen's practice also involves representing local boards of education on general education matters, student discipline cases, teacher termination and employee discipline matters, residency issues and other matters involving boards of education. In addition to Stephen's litigation practice, he has argued before the Connecticut Supreme Court.

8/22/2019

Stephen Sedor, Pullman & Comley LLC

U.S. District Court Northern  
District of New York

U.S. District Court District of  
Connecticut

#### Education

Quinnipiac University School  
of Law, J.D., 1995

Clarkson University, B.A.,  
1992

#### News & Events

PRESS RELEASE: 33  
Pullman & Comley Attorneys  
Named to 2020 Best  
Lawyers® List

SEMINAR: Stephen Sedor  
and Meinda Kaufmann  
Presented at 2019 CABA  
Collective Bargaining and  
Labor Relations Seminar

SEMINAR: Developments in  
Labor & Employment Law -  
May 2, 2019

SEMINAR Please Join Us for  
Our Fifth Annual School Law  
Statewide Seminar

PRESS RELEASE: THIRTY  
THREE PULLMAN &  
COMLEY ATTORNEYS  
RECOGNIZED BY THE  
BEST LAWYERS IN  
AMERICA® 2019

PRESS RELEASE Thirty-  
four Pullman & Comley  
Attorneys Recognized by The  
Best Lawyers in America®  
2018; Six Named "Lawyer of  
the Year"

SEMINAR: Learning  
Together: Recent  
Developments In The Law  
And Practical Solutions For  
School Districts

WORKSHOP: Attorney  
Stephen M. Sedor To Present  
"Ensuring Safe School  
Climate in Your District.  
Protecting Students,  
Complying with Conflicting  
Legal Requirements, and  
Limiting District Liability"

PRESS RELEASE: Thirty  
One Pullman & Comley  
Attorneys Recognized by The

#### Professional Affiliations

Connecticut Bar Association

Greater Bridgeport Bar Association

#### Honors & Awards

Named Stamford Lawyer of the Year in the "Labor Law - Management" category in 2016  
and 2020 by *The Best Lawyers in America*

Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* in the areas of employment law - management  
and labor law - management since 2015; Listed in the area litigation - labor and  
employment since 2016