

BRANFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

DATE: January 22, 2025
SUBJECT: Superintendent's Budget Presentation
LOCATION: Walsh Intermediate School, Collaboration & Innovation Center, Room 112, Branford, CT 06405

ATTENDANCE

HERE	ATTENDEE	AFFILIATION
Y	Peter Berdon, Chair	Board of Education
Y	Ellen Michaels, Vice-Chair	Board of Education
Y	Meaghan DeLucia, Secretary	Board of Education
N	Judith Barron	Board of Education
Y	Adam Greenberg (Virtual)	Board of Education
Y	Marie McNamara (Virtual)	Board of Education
N	Ram Shrestha	Board of Education
Y	Shawn Tiernan	Board of Education
Y	Laura Troidle	Board of Education
Y	Dr. Christopher Tranberg, Superintendent	Central Office
Y	Allison Moran, Assistant Superintendent	Central Office
Y	Blaize Levitan, Chief Operating Officer	Central Office

Others present:

BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM DESCRIPTION

CALL

01 Meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by BOE Chair, Peter Berdon.

SUPERINTENDENT'S BUDGET PRESENTATION

02 Among the items discussed this evening were: a presentation overview (background information, demographics and enrollment information, budget overview, FY 26 major investments, financials summary, other funds and capital), the four stages of a wave, guiding principles (Mission, Vision, Core Values, Global Learning Competencies), the Budget Cycle, Rebuilt Budget (re-mapped all of MUNIS, created organized account structure, implemented new budget process, new budget book that matches MUNIS, Did not rollover any budget – needs-based review), Budget Preparation (evaluated staffing adjustments, identified reductions for budgetary enhancements, gathered Local/State/Federal funding information, prioritized academic needs, developed FTE staff verification process, analyzed enrollment projection data, reviewed Strategic Coherence Plan), Enrollment (2023-2024 to 2033-2034, enrollment projection, 10th year projection, difference from medium), Enrollment by School, Student Demographics, Student Performance (SBA and SAT), High Needs Population, Proposed 2025-2026 Operating Budget (\$69,886,398*) and Increase Over 2024-2025 Operating budget(4,458,288 or 6.8%), Revenue (Education Cost Share, Special Education – Excess Cost), Financial Summary by Major Object Code (75% salary and benefit), the Budget as a House (including FY 2026 proposed budget – \$70M) - Administrative Functions \$3M or 4%, Special Education \$14M or 20%, Elementary \$10M or 14% – grade K-4; Intermediate \$7 M or 11% – grade 5-8; High 9M or 10% – grade 9-12; System Wide \$7M – Technology; Athletics; Curriculum; Property Insurance; Health System; Magnet and Vocation/Pre-K/Continuing Education/Social Emotional Learning/Others, Transportation \$3M or 4%,

*Assumes \$600,000 in non-lapsing

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SUPERINTENDENT'S BUDGET PRESENTATION (Continued)

Facilities and Maintenance \$5M or 7% and Employee Benefits \$12M or 17%, Budget Pressures (transportation contract increase, electric rate increase, labor contracts general wage increase, special education out-of-district tuition and transportation), Budget Goals (Student Learning, Safety & Security and Student Support Services), Investments in Teaching & Learning, Leader In Me, Full Day Preschool, Investments in Teaching & Learning, Investments in Safety & Security, Investments in Student Support Services including the new management structure, 2025-2026 Operating Budget Year-to-Year (2025 budget, wage increase, benefits, SPED, catchup, reduction, investment, others, 2026 request, revenue increase and net impact to taxpayer), Reductions (-\$1,696,821) and Investments (\$1,709,805), Budget Drives & Increases (wage increases, benefits, special education & student services, catchup/match historical actual, reductions, budgetary enhancements and others, increase - \$4,458,288, % of increase 100%, Year-to-Year 6.8%), 10-Year Budget History), Budget & Inflation (pre-COVID, COVID, New BPS Leadership – catching up), Net Impact to Tax Payer, Pathways to Alternative Funding Level (6.8% Year-to-Year), Food Services (FY26 budget book includes the Food Service fund, assumes routine charging policy and no summer services and major decision points include meal pricing, credit card fees and program subsidy), Transition to BOE Control - School Aged Child Care (SACC, Town fund), Family Resource Center (FRC) and Shoreline Adult Education ((SAE)) Enrichment, Town fund, Capital Budget Overview, Sample Capital Project Sheet (CIP), Five-Year Capital Request (2025-2026 to 2029-2030), Capital Budget Highlights (Device Program - \$876,000, Indian Neck School Refurbishment - \$50,000, Playground Replacement - \$485,000), Schedule and Next Steps - BOE Workshops; January 27th at 6:00 PM, February 5th at 6:30 PM, February 12th at 6:30 PM this is a joint P&F Committee Meeting and Full BOE Meeting and Adoption – February 19th at 6:00 PM.

ADJOURN

03 MOTION (DeLucia/Michaels) to adjourn.
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 PM by Mr. Berdon.

Respectfully submitted,
Meaghan DeLucia
Secretary

Prepared by
Kerry Eyrich