

BRANFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

DATE: February 1, 2023

LOCATION: Walsh Intermediate School Cafeteria
185 Damascus Road, Branford, CT

SUBJECT: Superintendent's Budget Presentation

ATTENDANCE

HERE	ATTENDEE	AFFILIATION
Y	Peter Berdon, Chair	Board of Education
Y	Ellen Michaels, Vice-Chair	Board of Education
Y	Meredith Gaffney, Secretary	Board of Education
N	Cristina Cantu	Board of Education
Y	Meaghan DeLucia	Board of Education
Y	John R. Prins	Board of Education
N	Dr. Tim Raynor	Board of Education
Y	Laura Troidle	Board of Education
Y	Marie Watson	Board of Education
Y	Hamlet M. Hernandez, Superintendent	Central Office
Y	Rachel Sexton, Assistant Superintendent	Central Office
Y	Don Neel, Chief Operating Officer	Central Office

Others present:

BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM DESCRIPTION

CALL

01 Meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM by BOE Chair, Peter Berdon.

SUPERINTENDENT'S BUDGET PRESENTATION

02 Among the items Superintendent Hernandez discussed in his Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Presentation were:

- The theme of this year's presentation is "Safe Harbor."
- FY 24 Budget Survey results (parent/guardian responses – 256, community members responses – 7 and staff responses – 151).
- FY 24 Budget Survey Results.
- Budget Priorities (maintain current class size, maintain current extracurricular offerings, maintain K-12 academic intervention system, maintain K-12 social-emotional-behavioral support system and ensure competitive labor contracts).
- BPS enrollment numbers.
- BPS Critical Data (BPS enrollment, BPS teacher FTE's, BPS Free and Reduced and BPS high needs percentage).
- Critical Data Historical (2011-2012, 2021-2022, 2022-2023 and high needs including count and percentages).
- Superintendent's FY 24 Budget Priorities:
 - Maintains class size
 - Expands behavioral supports
 - Continues academic supports to address learning impact of the pandemic
 - Maintains current extracurricular offers; enrichment, interscholastic sports, clubs and summer programming
 - Meets all contractual obligations
 - Continues professional learning and growth for staff
 - Maintains and migrates grant funded supports into the LEA

Continued...

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SUPERINTENDENT'S BUDGET PRESENTATION (Continued)

- History of Major "Drivers" (salaries, benefits, utilities, tuition, migration from federal grants and transportation).
- Superintendent's Budget Requests Historical (fiscal year, percentage increase, average request 2.11%).
- Budget Pressures:
 - Benefits – 16.8% increase
 - Labor Cost – 5% increase (migration from the grant to LEA)
 - Utilities – 30.6% increase
- Addressing Budget Pressures:
 - SpEd
 - EL's
 - Behavioral Supports
- Superintendent's FY 24 Budget Drivers = \$4,327,507:
 - Benefits – 45%
 - Salaries and wages – 39%
 - Utilities – 8%
 - Transportation – 3%
 - Tuition – 3%
 - Migration from Grant – 2%
- The Superintendent's FY23 proposed budget (7.4%).
- Upcoming budget workshop dates.

ADJOURN

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 PM by Mr. Berdon.

Respectfully submitted,
Meredith Gaffney
Secretary

Prepared by
Kerry Eyrich