

**BRANFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY**

**6:00 PM**

**November 20, 2024**

**Walsh Intermediate School Cafeteria**

**185 Damascus Road, Branford, CT 06405**

**[Chair: Laura Troidle; Judith Barron, Adam Greenberg & Marie McNamara]**

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

**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. Public Comment**
- III. Approval of Minutes**
- IV. Discussion/Action Items**
  - A. Communication Updates**
  - B. 2025 BOE Meeting Schedule**
  - C. Cell Phone Use Discussion**
- V. Adjourn**

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

**1 (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.*

**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.**

**BRANFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**2025 MEETING SCHEDULE\***

DATE	TIME	MEETING	DATE	TIME	MEETING
January 2**	5:00 PM	BOE Committee Chairs Meeting	July 23	6:00 PM	Board Retreat
January 8	6:00 PM	Teaching & Learning Committee			
January 8	7:00 PM	Personnel & Finance Committee	August 13	6:00 PM	Board Retreat, Part II
January 8	7:30 PM	Policy Committee Meeting	August 20	6:00 PM	Regular Board Meeting
January 15	6:00 PM	Communication Committee Meeting			
January 15	6:30 PM	Regular Board Meeting	September 3**	5:00 PM	BOE Committee Chairs Meeting
January 22	6:30 PM	Supt. 's Budget Meeting	September 10	6:00 PM	Teaching & Learning Committee
January 24	8:00 AM	Legislative Breakfast	September 10	7:00 PM	Personnel & Finance Committee
January 27	6:00 PM	Budget Workshop (Monday)	September 10	7:30 PM	Policy Committee Meeting
			September 17	6:00 PM	Communication Committee Meeting
February 5**	5:00 PM	BOE Committee Chairs Meeting	September 17	6:30PM	Regular Board Meeting
February 5	6:00 PM	Budget Workshop			
February 12	6:00 PM	Policy Committee Meeting	October 2**	5:00 PM	BOE Committee Chairs Meeting
February 12	6:30 PM	Budget Workshop/Personnel & Finance Committee Meeting	October 8	6:00 PM	Teaching & Learning Committee
February 19	6:00 PM	BOE Budget Adoption	October 8	7:00 PM	Personnel & Finance Committee
February 26	6:00 PM	Communication Committee Meeting	October 8	7:30 PM	Policy Committee Meeting
February 26	6:30 PM	Regular Board Meeting	October 15	6:00 PM	Communication Committee Meeting
			October 15	6:30PM	Regular Board Meeting
March TBD	7:00 PM	BOE Budget Presentation to the Board of Finance			
March 5**	5:00 PM	BOE Committee Chairs Meeting	November 5**	5:00 PM	BOE Committee Chairs Meeting
March 12	6:00 PM	Teaching & Learning Committee	November 12	6:00 PM	Teaching & Learning Committee
March 12	7:00 PM	Personnel & Finance Committee	November 12	7:00 PM	Personnel & Finance Committee
March 12	7:30 PM	Policy Committee Meeting	November 12	7:30 PM	Policy Committee Meeting
March 19	6:00 PM	Communication Committee Meeting	November 19	6:00 PM	Communication Committee Meeting
March 19	6:30PM	Regular Board Meeting	November 19	6:30PM	Regular Board Meeting
April TBD	7:00 PM	BOE Budget Presentation to RTM	December 3**	5:00 PM	Committee Chairs Meeting
April 2**	5:00 PM	BOE Committee Chairs Meeting	December 10	6:00 PM	Teaching & Learning Committee
April 9	6:00 PM	Teaching & Learning Committee	December 10	7:00 PM	Personnel & Finance Committee
April 9	7:00 PM	Personnel & Finance Committee	December 10	7:30 PM	Policy Committee Meeting
April 9	7:30 PM	Policy Committee Meeting	December 17	6:00 PM	Communication Committee Meeting
April 23	6:00 PM	Communication Committee Meeting	December 17	6:30PM	Regular Board Meeting
April 23	6:30PM	Regular Board Meeting			
April 30**	5:00 PM	BOE Committee Chairs Meeting			
May TBD	8:00 PM	RTM Decision on BOE Budget			
May 7	6:00 PM	Teaching & Learning Committee			
May 7	7:00 PM	Personnel & Finance Committee			
May 7	7:30 PM	Policy Committee Meeting			
May 21	6:00 PM	Communication Committee Meeting			
May 21	6:30PM	Regular Board Meeting			
May 29	3:30 PM	End of Year Staff Reception			
June 4	6:30PM	Regular Board Meeting			

\*Held at Walsh Intermediate School Collaboration & Innovation Center - Room 112, unless posted otherwise \*\* Virtual

BOE Approved:

11.20.2024

## Memo

**To:**  
Board of Education  
Communication Committee

**CC:**  
Branford Board of Education

**From:**  
Christopher J. Tranberg, Ph.D.,  
Superintendent of Schools

**Re:**  
Community Education  
Regarding Cell Phone Use

During the September meeting of the Board of Education Communication Committee, we began a discussion regarding the role cell phones, technology and social media play in the lives of students and the potential impact on their education. That conversation continued into our October meeting ending with an agreement that the Superintendent would suggest a plan for community engagement moving forward.

For quick reference, linked below are the memos from our October and November Communication Committee Meetings.

[September 18, 2024](#)

[October 16, 2024](#)

Here is a proposed plan for consideration and discussion for the 11/20/24 meeting of the Board of Education Communication Committee.

- December:** Announce community read of *Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt. Virtual book club questions will be provided to participants as a reading guide.
- January:** Live book talk in partnership with BPS, Blackstone Library and the Willoughby Wallace Library. (Facilitator TBD)
- February:** Parent / Student / Staff Focus Groups
- March:** Community Presentation: *Social Media and the Dopamine Release* (Facilitator TBD)
- April:** Community Presentation: *The Rise of the Cell Phone and What We Can Do About It* (Facilitator TBD)
- May:** Presentation to BOE
- June:** Policy Considerations by BOE

## Branford Public Schools

Tel (203) 315-7816  
Fax (475) 338-3899

185 Damascus Road  
Branford, CT 06405

[www.branfordschools.org](http://www.branfordschools.org)  
[ctranberg@branfordschools.org](mailto:ctranberg@branfordschools.org)

