

**Present:** Tim Dutton, Rachel Smith, Michael Bologna, Jesse Toro, John Rodriguez, Kit Kaolian, Wendy Phillips, Celeste Markle, and Vince Musto.

**Absent:** Rachel Allison, Sandy Lefkowitz, Na'taya Riley, Dee Fuller, and Vik Muktavaram.

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm.

- **Public comment (Each guest is allowed 3 minutes)** No Public comment.
- **Approval of minutes from previous (November) meetings:** Meeting minutes were approved.
- **Old Business:** No old business: Jesse and John went to Board training next one is in New Haven

- **Status report and update on school, school climate, end of year events:**

Following Bridgeport we have had our 6th snow day. We now will be finishing school on the 22nd of June which is a Friday.

High School: is doing okay, trying to keep students focused on grades, pushing for consistency and effort on the 9th and 10th graders. 9th grade repeat average is looking higher than past year, trying to communicate with parents about grades. Juniors are taking SATs soon. Students are doing prep work on their own; multiple college visits have been scheduled. There have been two suspensions in the junior class; senior class has been moving a long sluggishly.

Middle School: The students are getting ready to have another round of testing. There are many events lined up for the month of March to break up the nonstop academic days. Movie trips, March Madness and second round of activity Wednesday will hopefully help the student's transition through this long month.

We are currently still using Fountas and Pinnell systems. Middle schoolers, are placed small groups of 5 for an hour a day every day. Then every 6 weeks the students are tested by reading a text and answering question based on criteria given. Levels run from A-Z; Z being the highest. In the eighth grade 29 out of 50 are at grade level. This is an area that the state has been pushing us the most in. Math is more positive across the board.

- **Personnel (Dutton), early retirement negotiation, part time SPED, new hires:**

Middle school teacher has received their permanent substitute certificate. Preliminary budget is in the works for next year; 80K surplus is a possibility. This surplus will be used on continuous academic improvements. We currently have a Middle school teacher looking to transition into an administrative position. It was asked of the board to start the advertising process for a new History teacher.

- **Special Education Memorandum of Understanding and building dispute:** Received second 50K from Bridgeport plus 10K from Stratford. We are in the middle of drafting a written agreement with Bridgeport in regards to SPED payments; we have increased in the amount of sped students being taught.

**7. Renewal application and visit, Corrective Action Plan submitted and approved:** Another Monthly report has been submitted; Still waiting for curriculum report. We are looking forward to seeing Spring scores.

**8. Financial report, Budget for next year (for now same as this year) Current 2 month financial report:** A 3K deficit is our current standing. We have underestimated income and will not be in the same position in the upcoming month.

**9. Building issues (Dutton) Approval of contractor for office renovation, asbestos removal:**

There are minor building issues; the roof has had minor leaks since the last storm, as a guarantee in our contract the roofers will come and make repairs accordingly. The water fountain has a backup issue; someone will be in to fix it.

**10. Governing Council:** Governing: Council has been reviewing and making adjustments to the uniform

requirements; a huge push in the new school year will be made. Graduation will be held at the University of Bridgeport; date is to be announced. Middle school will not be having a graduation; it will now be small event were awards will be handed out. Healthy food policy will be updated after the school nurse, Lunch Director and Health Coach met.

11. **Executive session:** No executive session.

12. **Other New Business:** There will be a nationwide walk out this month that our students will be participating in; students won't be disciplined if participating.

A motion was made that Bridge Academy will comply with the following Healthy Food Items:

“The board of education or governing authority will allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the food items are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The “regular school day” is the period from midnight before to 30 after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held.

The board of education will allow the sale to students of beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale at the location of the event; 3) the beverages are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting or extracurricular activity. The “school day” is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held, and must be the same place as the food sales.

Pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, the board of education or governing authority certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2019. This certification shall include all food offered for sale students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to, school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or by non-school organizations and groups.”

All three motions were approved unanimously by the Board of Directors.

13. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 pm

Board Member	Topic	Date of resolution
Kristina Montalvo	Terms will be updated on minutes	4/16/2018