

**FAIRFIELD
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**
12-13-2022, 7:30 PM

501 Kings Highway East, CO Board Room
Regular Meeting Agenda

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

This meeting will be conducted in-person only. There will be no opportunity to call-in with public comment.
Per CDC Guidelines, masks are optional for all attendees regardless of vaccination status.

The best way to listen or watch the meeting remotely is:

1. FairTV's cable channel (78 for Cablevision); or
2. Webex*: Call **408-418-9388**, and use Meeting Number (access code): **2335 554 6135**
(*Audio only. All callers will be automatically muted and will not be heard by the BoE.)
3. [FairTV's Livestream](#); or
4. [FairTV's YouTube](#) Education Channel (not live)
To view all agendas, minutes and enclosures, please click [here](#).

Please Note: Guidance on public comment (per [BoE Bylaws](#), Article V, Section 6):

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

"As a means of encouraging public participation during Board meetings, the Chair shall solicit comments from the public with regard to agenda items, as proposed or amended, that the Board will be discussing and/or will be acting upon by vote. The Chair may limit Public Comment in any manner appropriate to the orderly and efficient conduct of Board meetings. The following parameters will pertain to Public Comment:

1. *Up to three (3) minutes may be allotted to each speaker. The Chair may modify this limitation at the beginning of a meeting, or at the start of public comment within a meeting, if the number of persons wishing to speak makes it advisable to do so.*
2. *A member of the public can only speak to a topic once at a meeting. Public Comment on agenda items will take place at the beginning and end of the meeting. Public Comment on Old Business will also take place following Board discussion of those items and prior to when any vote is taken."*

Board of Education Regular Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, December 13, 2022, 7:30 PM

1. Call to Order of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education and Roll Call
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Student Reports
 - Fairfield Ludlowe High School: Mr. Aniket Martins and Ms. Agatha Freitas
 - Fairfield Warde High School: Ms. Ida Moczerniuk and Ms. Mary Ryan
4. Public Comment
5. Presentations
 - A. Special Programming Updates and Facilities, Mr. Mancusi
 - Walter Fitzgerald Campus and Community Partnership Program
 - Early Childhood Center/PreK, CLC's/TLC, Early Literacy Academy
6. Old Business
 - A. Approval of Business Curriculum and Business Curriculum Resources
 - Recommended Motion:** "that the Board of Education approve the Business Curriculum and Business Curriculum Resources as presented on 11-29-2022"

(Enclosure No. 1)

B. Approval of 2023-2024 Student Calendar, Dr. Parrish

Recommended Motion: “that the Board of Education approve the 2023-2024 Student Calendar”

(Enclosure No. 2)

C. Approval of the 2023 Fairfield Cares Survey, Ms. Hazlett

Recommended Motion: “that the Board of Education approve the 2023 Fairfield Cares Survey”

D. Approval of Facilities Planning Document

Recommended Motion: “that the Board of Education approve the Facilities Planning document”

7. New Business

A. Approval of Mill Hill Construction Project

Recommended Motion: “that the Board of Education approve Mill Hill Project # 051-0149”

B. Review of 2019 Charge to Milone and MacBroom and Discussion of Updates, Timeline and Associated Budget

(Enclosure No. 3)

8. Approval of Minutes

Recommended Motion: “that the Board of Education approves the following meeting minutes:

- 11-21-2022 BoE Special meeting minutes;
- 11-29-2022 BoE Organizational meeting minutes; and the
- 11-29-2022 BoE Regular meeting minutes”

(Enclosure Nos. 4,5,6)

9. Superintendent’s Report

10. Committee/Liaison Reports

11. Open Board Comment

12. Public Comment

13. Adjournment

Recommended Motion: “that this Regular Meeting of the Board of Education adjourn”

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 10, 2023	7:30 PM Regular Meeting	501 Kings Highway East CO Board Room, Fairfield 06825
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RELOCATION POLICY NOTICE

The Fairfield Public Schools System provides services to ensure students, parents and other persons have access to meetings, programs and activities. The School System will relocate programs in order to ensure accessibility of programs and activities to disabled persons. To make arrangements, please contact the office of Special Education, 501 Kings Highway East, Fairfield, CT 06825, Telephone: (203) 255-8379.

**FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
AGENDA ITEM**

Enclosure No. 1
December 13, 2022

For Consideration by the Board of Education at the Meeting of: December 13, 2022

Prepared By: Dr. James Zavodjancik, Chief Academic Officer

Presented By: N/A

Attachments: Recommendations for Textbook Adoptions

Subject: Business Curriculum Review

Relation to District Improvement Plan:

Background:

During the regular Fairfield Board of Education (BoE) meeting on November 29, 2022 Mrs. Terwilliger presented and proposed the Business Education Curriculum. Included were course curriculum updates, new course proposals, sequences, and course specific basic and supplemental textbooks.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of the Business Education Curriculum for inclusion in the 23-24 High School Program of Studies

Approval of the Business Education Course Textbooks including:

Course	Text	Author(s)	Publisher
Accounting I	Century 21 Accounting Multicolumn Journal (10th ed.)	Gilbertson, Lehman, & Gentene	Cengage
Accounting II	Century 21 Accounting Advanced (11th ed.)	Gilbertson & Lehman	Cengage
Business Fraud, Property, and Employment Law; Foundations of Business Law	Law for Business and Personal Use (19th ed.)	Adamson & Morrison	Cengage
Business Management	Management - Leading and Collaborating in a Competitive World (13th ed.)	Bateman, Snell, & Konopaske	McGraw Hill

Marketing	Marketing Essentials (2016)	Farese, Kimbree, and Woloszyk	McGraw Hill
Advertising	Advertising and Sales Promotion (1st ed.)	Kaser	Cengage
AP Microeconomics AP Macroeconomics	Economics AP Edition (20th ed.)	McConnell, Brue, & Flynn	McGraw Hill
Introduction to Business	Introduction to Business	Brown & Clow	McGraw Hill

Recommended by the Superintendent: Michael J. Testani

Agenda Item # 6A

2023-2024 Fairfield Public Schools Student Calendar

182 Instructional Days / 187 Teacher Days

Enclosure No. 2
December 13, 2022

DRAFT

July 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

July 4—Independence Day

August 2023 (3)						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August 24-25, 28—PD Days

August 28—6th & 9th grade orientation

August 29—First Day of School

September 2023 (19)						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

September 4—Labor Day

September 19—Early Dismissal PK-12 (PD)

September 25—Yom Kippur

October 2023 (22)						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

October 11—Early Dismissal PSAT (HS only)

October 25—Early Dismissal, PK-8 Day Conferences (Not HS)

October 26—Early Dismissal, PK-8 Evening Conferences (Not HS)

November 2023 (18)						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

November 7—Election Day All Day PD HS only, 1/2 PD-1/2 Day Conferences PK-8

November 10—Veterans Day

November 22—Early Dismissal PK-12

November 23-24—Thanksgiving

December 2023 (16)						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

December 5—Early Dismissal, PK-12 (PD)

December 22—Early Dismissal PK-12

December 25-29—Winter Break

January 2024 (21)						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

January 1—New Year's Day (Observed)

January 9—Early Dismissal PK-12 (PD)

January 15—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

February 2024 (19)						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

February 13—Early Dismissal PK-12 (PD)

February 16—February Break

February 19—Washington's Birthday

March 2024 (20)						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

March 5—Early Dismissal PK-12 (PD)

March 20, 21—Early Dismissal PK-5 Elementary Only (Conference Days, PM Conf on Mar 21)

March 29—Good Friday

April 2024 (17)						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

April 2—Early Dismissal PK-12 (PD)

April 15-19—Spring Break

May 2024 (21)						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

May 27—Memorial Day






May 28—All Day PD

June 2024 (6)						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

June 7—Early Dismissal PK-12

June 10—Early Dismissal PK-12 and Last Day of School

The first 6 snow days will extend the length of the school year. Additional snow days will reduce the April Break beginning with the last day, April 19th. The date of high school graduation will be set by the Board of Education in April 2024.

No School 
 No School and Professional Development for Staff 
 Early Dismissal 
 Early Dismissal and Professional Development or Conferences 
 The last 2 days are Early Dismissal days for students only 

2023-2024 Fairfield Public Schools Student Calendar

182 Instructional Days / 187 Teacher Days

DRAFT

Elementary Letter Days

July 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
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July 4—Independence Day

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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	A	B	C		

August 24-25, 28—PD Days

August 28—6th & 9th grade orientation

August 29—First Day of School

September 2023 (19)						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					D	2
3	4	E	F	A	B	9
10	C	D	E	F	A	16
17	B	C	D	E	F	23
24	25	A	B	C	D	30

September 4—Labor Day

September 19—Early Dismissal PK-12 (PD)

September 25—Yom Kippur

October 2023 (22)						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	E	F	A	B	C	7
8	D	E	F	A	B	14
15	C	D	E	F	A	21
22	B	C	D	E	F	28
29	A	B				

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			C	D	E	4
5	F	7	A	B	10	11
12	C	D	E	F	A	18
19	B	C	D	23	24	25
26	E	F	A	B		

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November 23-24—Thanksgiving

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					C	2
3	D	E	F	A	B	9
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17	B	C	D	E	F	23
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January 2024 (21)						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	A	B	C	D	6
7	E	F	A	B	C	13
14	15	D	E	F	A	20
21	B	C	D	E	F	27
28	A	B	C			

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7	F	A	B	C	D	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	E	F	A	B	C	27
28	D	E				

April 2—Early Dismissal PK-12 (PD)

April 15-19—Spring Break

May 2024 (21)						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			F	A	B	4
5	C	D	E	F	A	11
12	B	C	D	E	F	18
19	A	B	C	D	E	25
26	27	28	F	A	B	

May 27—Memorial Day

May 28—All Day PD

June 2024 (6)						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	C	D	E	F	A	8
9	B	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

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- No School
- No School and Professional Development for Staff
- Early Dismissal
- Early Dismissal and Professional Development or Conferences
- The last 2 days are Early Dismissal days for students only

2023-2024 Fairfield Public Schools Student Calendar

182 Instructional Days / 187 Teacher Days

DRAFT

Middle School Letter Days

July 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

July 4—Independence Day

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27	28	A	B	C		

August 24-25, 28—PD Days

August 28—6th & 9th grade orientation

August 29—First Day of School

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Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					D	2
3	4	E	F	G	A	9
10	B	C	D	E	F	16
17	G	A	B	C	D	23
24	25	E	F	G	A	30

September 4—Labor Day

September 19—Early Dismissal PK-12 (PD)

September 25—Yom Kippur

October 2023 (22)						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	B	C	D	E	F	7
8	G	A	B	C	D	14
15	E	F	G	A	B	21
22	C	D	E	F	G	28
29	A	B				

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12	B	C	D	E	F	18
19	G	A	B	23	24	25
26	C	D	E	F		

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November 10—Veterans Day

November 22—Early Dismissal PK-12

November 23-24—Thanksgiving

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	1	B	C	D	E	6
7	F	G	A	B	C	13
14	15	D	E	F	G	20
21	A	B	C	D	E	27
28	F	G	A			

January 1—New Year's Day (Observed)

January 9—Early Dismissal PK-12 (PD)

January 15—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

February 2024 (19)						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				B	C	3
4	D	E	F	G	A	10
11	B	C	D	E	16	17
18	19	F	G	A	B	24
25	C	D	E	F		

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28	G	A				

April 2—Early Dismissal PK-12 (PD)

April 15-19—Spring Break

May 2024 (21)						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			B	C	D	4
5	E	F	G	A	B	11
12	C	D	E	F	G	18
19	A	B	C	D	E	25
26	27	28	F	G	A	

May 27—Memorial Day






May 28—All Day PD

June 2024 (6)						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	B	C	D	E	F	8
9	G	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
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June 10—Early Dismissal PK-12 and Last Day of School

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182 Instructional Days / 187 Teacher Days

DRAFT

High School Letter Days

July 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
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Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					B	2
3	4	A	B	A	B	9
10	A	B	A	B	A	16
17	B	A	B	A	B	23
24	25	A	B	A	B	30

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Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	A	B	A	B	A	7
8	B	A	B	A	B	14
15	A	B	A	B	A	21
22	B	A	B	A	B	28

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			A	B	A	4
5	B	7	A	B	10	11
12	A	B	A	B	A	18
19	B	A	B	23	24	25

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Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					A	2
3	B	A	B	A	B	9
10	A	B	A	B	A	16
17	B	A	B	A	B	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

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Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	A	B	A	B	6
7	A	B	A	B	A	13
14	15	B	A	B	A	20
21	A	B	A	B	A	27

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Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				A	B	3
4	A	B	A	B	A	10
11	B	A	B	A	16	17
18	19	B	A	B	A	24

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March 2024 (20)						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					B	2
3	A	B	A	B	A	9
10	B	A	B	A	B	16
17	A	B	A	B	A	23
24	B	A	B	A	29	30

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March 29—Good Friday

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Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	B	A	B	A	B	6
7	A	B	A	B	A	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	B	A	B	A	B	27

April 2—Early Dismissal PK-12 (PD)

April 15-19—Spring Break

May 2024 (21)						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			A	B	A	4
5	B	A	B	A	B	11
12	A	B	A	B	A	18
19	B	A	B	A	B	25
26	27	28	A	B	A	

May 27—Memorial Day






May 28—All Day PD

June 2024 (6)						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					B	1
2	B	A	B	A	B	8
9	A	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

June 7—Early Dismissal PK-12

June 10—Early Dismissal PK-12 and Last Day of School

The first 6 snow days will extend the length of the school year. Additional snow days will reduce the April Break beginning with the last day, April 19th. The date of high school graduation will be set by the Board of Education in April 2024.

No School 
 No School and Professional Development for Staff 
 Early Dismissal 
 Early Dismissal and Professional Development or Conferences 
 The last 2 days are Early Dismissal days for students only 



Fairfield Board of Education
June 25, 2019

Charge to Milone and MacBroom *(revised June 25, 2019)*

The Fairfield Board of Education will retain Milone and MacBroom to assist in identifying *“The desired comprehensive redistricting model to be utilized to resolve overcrowding and racial imbalance.”*

Milone and MacBroom should:

1. Target 90% operational utilization rate for elementary schools and 85% operational utilization at secondary schools, including possibly reconsidering secondary school feeder plans. The impact to secondary school utilization rate should be included with each elementary school scenario provided. Specialized programming and deficiencies of existing facilities should be considered
2. Consider impact of four possible scenarios for the ECC:
 - 1) Repurposing an elementary school or other facility
 - 2) Using Warde ECC and one elementary school
 - 3) Vacating Warde ECC and using two elementary schools – Holland Hill and North Stratfield
 - 4) Using Warde ECC and two elementary schools – Holland Hill and North Stratfield
3. Plan to implement for the 2022-2023 School Year
4. Provide updated 10-year enrollment projections and school utilizations

Existing Redistricting Guidelines and Facilities Planning Principles should be considered and aspired to in developing redistricting models.

Approved by BoE June 25, 2019

**Special Meeting Minutes
Fairfield BoE, November 21, 2022, 6:30 PM**

NOTICE: A full meeting recording can be obtained from Fairfield Public Schools. Please call 203-255-8371 for more information and/or see the FPS website (under Board Meeting Minutes) for a link to FAIRTV and FPS YouTube.

Call to order of the Special Meeting of the Board of Education and Roll Call

Chairman Christine Vitale called the special meeting to order at 6:32PM. Present were members Bonnie Rotelli, Jennifer Jacobsen (arrived 6:38PM), Carol Guernsey, Jessica Gerber, Christine Vitale, Nick Aysseh, Jennifer Maxon-Kennelly (arrived 6:34PM), Jeff Peterson and Crissy Kelly. Others present were Superintendent Mike Testani, Deputy Superintendent Dr. Zakia Parrish, Chief Academic Officer Dr. James Zavodjancik and Executive Director of Human Resources Kanicka Ingram.

Mrs. Vitale noted that no one signed up for virtual public comment.

Business Items

Approval of Pre-2022 Algebra I, Algebra II and Geometry Curricula

Mr. Aysseh moved/Ms. Guernsey seconded the recommended motion “that the Board of Education approve the pre-2022 Algebra I, Algebra II and Geometry curricula for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year.”

Ms. Kelly wanted to ensure that the vote is for this school year only and does not involve a commitment for next year; Mr. Testani responded yes.

Dr. Zavodjancik said there is a common assessment that will be updated.

Ms. Kelly asked about a contingency plan or summer work for those students who spent time on statistics or who aren't ready for the next level. Mr. Testani said an opt-in summer program could be explored for those students willing to participate. Supplemental online resources could also be offered for the remainder of the school year.

Ms. Guernsey and Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly said students will need some form of guidance or measure to help determine and address possible deficits.

Motion Passed: 9-0

Adjournment

Mrs. Jacobsen moved/Mr. Peterson seconded the recommended motion “that this Special Meeting of the Board of Education adjourn.”

Motion Passed: 9-0

Meeting adjourned at 6:41PM.

*Respectfully submitted by
Carol Guernsey
Board of Education, Secretary*

**Organizational Meeting Minutes
Fairfield BoE, November 29, 2022, 7:15 PM**

Enclosure No. 5
December 13, 2022

NOTICE: A full meeting recording can be obtained from Fairfield Public Schools. Please call 203-255-8371 for more information and/or see the FPS website (under Board Meeting Minutes) for a link to FAIRTV and FPS YouTube.

[Call to order of the Organizational Meeting of the Board of Education and Roll Call](#)

Chairman Christine Vitale called the Organizational meeting to order at 7:17PM. Present were members Jennifer Jacobsen, Carol Guernsey, Jessica Gerber, Christine Vitale, Nick Aysseh, Jennifer Maxon-Kennelly, Jeff Peterson and Crissy Kelly. Bonnie Rotelli was not present. Others present were Superintendent Mike Testani, members of the central office leadership team, and approximately 70 members of the public.

[Election of Temporary Chairman/Secretary](#)

Mrs. Jacobsen moved/Mrs. Gerber seconded the recommended motion “that in accordance with the By-Laws, Superintendent Michael J. Testani will serve as Temporary Chairman/Secretary during the election of Board Officers.” Motion passed 8-0.

[Election of Board Officers](#)

Election of Board of Education Chair

Mrs. Gerber nominated Mrs. Jacobsen for Chair

Votes for Mrs. Jacobsen – 8 (Ms. Guernsey, Mrs. Gerber, Mrs. Vitale, Mr. Aysseh, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Peterson, Ms. Kelly, Mrs. Jacobsen)

Mrs. Jacobsen is voted in as Chair

Election of Board of Education Vice Chair

Mrs. Jacobsen nominated Mr. Aysseh for Vice Chair

Votes for Mr. Aysseh – 8 (Ms. Guernsey, Mrs. Gerber, Mrs. Vitale, Mr. Aysseh, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Peterson, Ms. Kelly, Mrs. Jacobsen)

Mr. Aysseh is voted in as Vice Chair

Election of Board of Education Secretary

Mrs. Vitale nominated Ms. Guernsey for Secretary.

Votes for Ms. Guernsey – 8 (Ms. Guernsey, Mrs. Gerber, Mrs. Vitale, Mr. Aysseh, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Peterson, Ms. Kelly, Mrs. Jacobsen)

Ms. Guernsey is voted in as Secretary

Mr. Aysseh took a moment of personal privilege and read a prepared statement to thank Mrs. Vitale and Mrs. Gerber for their tireless commitment to the Board as leaders. Mrs. Gerber has served on numerous committees and has been the Board historian thanks to her many years of service. Mrs. Vitale has served as Chair during arguably the most difficult years of the district and put in countless hours of dedicated service. The Board and audience gave them a standing ovation.

Mrs. Vitale thanked the Board members, staff, teachers and administrators for their support and dedication over the years.

Mrs. Jacobsen asked Board members to consider bylaw amendments, liaison assignments and the 2023 Board meeting calendar.

Adjournment

Mr. Aysseh moved/ Mr. Peterson seconded to adjourn the Organizational Meeting. Motion passed 8-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:28PM

*Respectfully submitted by
Carol Guernsey
Fairfield Board of Education, Secretary*

**Regular Meeting Minutes
Fairfield BoE, November 29, 2022, 7:30 PM**

NOTICE: A full meeting recording can be obtained from Fairfield Public Schools. Please call 203-255-8371 for more information and/or see the FPS website (under Board Meeting Minutes) for a link to FAIRTV and FPS YouTube.

Voting Summary

Call to order of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education and Roll Call

Chairman Christine Vitale called the Organizational meeting to order at 7:29PM. Present were members Jennifer Jacobsen, Carol Guernsey, Jessica Gerber, Christine Vitale, Nick Aysseh, Jennifer Maxon-Kennelly, Jeff Peterson and Crissy Kelly. Bonnie Rotelli was not present. Others present were Superintendent Mike Testani, members of the central office leadership team, and approximately 70 members of the public.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Gerber moved/Mrs. Guernsey seconded the recommended motion “that the Board of Education approve the 11-15-2022 BoE Regular Meeting Minutes.”

Motion passed 8-0.

At 10:55PM Mrs. Jacobsen asked the Board for unanimous consent to extend the meeting to 11:30PM; the Board agreed.

Adjournment

Mrs. Vitale moved/Mr. Peterson seconded the recommended motion “that this Regular Meeting of the Board of Education adjourn.”

Motion passed 8-0.

Meeting adjourned at 11:22PM.

Detailed Minutes

Public Comment

Sunila Fadi, FPS Parent: Urged recognition of Eid al Fitr as a school holiday.

Muhammad-Ali Seyal, FPS student: Requests inclusion for students. Muslim students should have the right to follow their religion.

Zain Seyal, former FPS student: Requests support of solemn Muslim holiday on the school calendar.

Amina Seyal, former FPS student: Requests support of Eid al Fitr as a school holiday.

Reem Shahin, FPS parent: Urged recognition of Eid al Fitr as a school holiday.

Habiba Moussa, former FPS student: Requested recognition of Eid al Fitr as a school holiday to encourage more Muslims to work in district and promote acceptance among students and staff.

Stacy Kamisar, Program Director for Jewish Federation of Greater Fairfield County: Encourages inclusion of Eid al Fitr as a school holiday in 23-24 and going forward.

Jeffrey Schwarz, former FPS parent: Recognizing Eid al Fitr as a school holiday would be a sign of respect.

Reverend Peggy Hodgkins, Pequot Avenue: Stands in support with Muslim brothers and sisters to recognize Eid al Fitr as an official religious holiday on the school calendar.

Yousef Seyal, FPS Parent: Requested to have faith and culture respected by recognizing Eid al Fitr as a school holiday.

Catherine Steiner, FPS parent: Happy to hear of the positive changes in ELA; requested consideration of training for reading specialists to meet the needs of all students.

Student Reports

Ms. Moczerniuk and Ms. Ryan reported for Fairfield Warde: the music department is busy preparing for Carillon; the football program will hold a toy drive on December 3rd; the powder puff football game was a huge success; the Warde/Ludlowe Thanksgiving football game was a great opportunity to come together as a town; and alumni were welcomed back for a visit to classrooms to share their experiences.

Presentation: Business Curriculum

Ms. Terwilliger and members of the Business Department presented the Business Education Curriculum Review. A list of business courses was presented inclusive of AP Computer Science and AP Macro and Microeconomics. New course proposals include Foundations in Business Law and Business Fraud, Property and Employment Law. Courses are grouped into pathways for marketing, management, finance and computer science. School groups encourage business learning including Business Honor Society, Future Business Leaders of America, Distributive Education Clubs of America, and Junior Achievement. Next steps include continuous quality education, a reinforcement of workplace competencies and successive learning experiences.

Dr. Zavodjancik and the presenters responded to Board questions:

- The Business Department texts are embedded in the curriculum, have been used in the past as resources and are available for review; some have been updated over time with new versions. Books will be ordered and replaced as needed; there is no plan to order bulk or whole classroom sets of texts as they are already in the high schools.
- Courses run on demand; adding an additional course provides more options.
- The Business Law course was split to meet student needs for an additional semester course.
- Mr. Peterson requested a red-lined curriculum to easily compare and see curriculum changes. Dr. Zavodjancik noted that the district has moved to a new format; many of the pages would be fully red-lined. Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly requested explicit commentary on the changes so the Board has a better understanding of significant changes vs. minor tweaks.
- The Warde Entrepreneurship course runs under Junior Achievement as its sponsor; the course cannot run without a sponsor.
- At the middle school level, business-type courses fall under tech ed or library science. Enhancing middle school business course offerings has been discussed over the past few years.
- Students aren't required to follow the course pathways.
- AP Computer Science Principles is a freshman level course.
- FPS has a Linked-In account for FPS business course alumni; students report they have been better prepared.
- Work is underway to provide college level courses.
- Enrollment in business courses varies due to scheduling.
- FPS recently received a College Board inclusion award for females and minority students in the Principles class.

Draft

Mr. Testani congratulated the team for the extensive business course offerings and noted the difficulty in scheduling when competing against graduation requirements. A brief narrative of curriculum changes will be provided.

Old Business

First Reading of Revised Draft 2023-2024 Student Calendar

Mr. Testani said the revised draft has a Tuesday start and 2 conference days in October. Staff has advised that having 2 conference days is doable and he hopes to also add virtual conferencing as an option.

Ms. Guernsey said she will make a motion to add Eid as a school holiday at the next meeting.

Mr. Aysseh thanked the public for their calendar input and added that school is generally closed for operational purposes. He expressed his discomfort with adding a no-school day to build awareness of a holiday and suggested bringing this to the attention of the state board.

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly said she appreciated the very courteous public comment and was uncomfortable making a calendar change with no standard process in place. There are several demographic shifts occurring in Fairfield and there may be additional requests for calendar changes.

Mrs. Gerber said she is interested in a Thursday start and supports adding April 10 as a school holiday for Eid al Fitr. To avoid an extension beyond the 3rd Friday in June, the number of snow days added to the last day could be reduced to 5.

Mrs. Vitale said she is interested in having Juneteenth as a school holiday, if school should be extended to that date or beyond.

Mrs. Jacobsen suggested a future review of the calendar policy by the policy committee.

Discussion of Accelerated Elementary Math

Mr. Testani reported that the accelerated math program, assisted by MST's, will be offered at each elementary school.

Ms. Guernsey said she was not in favor of the summer programming, hadn't seen any changes to the pacing of the program and felt the plan was reactionary. Mr. Testani added that the summer program is optional and not a requirement.

Ms. Kelly said she supports doing what is necessary for the current 5th graders and agrees with opening the course up to more kids, but doesn't see a long-term solution with the current plan. The only acceptable solution is a dedicated teacher and rotating sections.

Mrs. Vitale shared the concerns of Ms. Kelly and Ms. Guernsey and noted the accelerated math program is not intended to replicate the immersive Math Academy.

Mr. Aysseh said this program may present a good opportunity to review MST roles.

Mr. Testani said FPS is currently underserving accelerated math students and he would like the opportunity to give this program a chance without adding FTE. Staff has advised that it possible and doable.

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly said she would like to better understand the consequences of the new MST responsibility within the accelerated program and very much appreciates opening the program up to more students. What can be done in the spring to avoid summer programming?

Draft

Dr. Zavodjancik said the typical math block is 60 minutes.

Mrs. Jacobsen said there are a few questions to wrap up before moving forward with the program.

First Reading of Fairfield Cares Survey

Ms. Hazlett and Mr. Dwyer presented the Fairfield Cares survey. In accordance with the Drug Free Communities Grant, the Fairfield Cares Community Coalition is required to survey students every two years. Fairfield Cares has been partnering with FPS for several years to assess youth substance use and wellness issues. The collected data is useful to educators and community partners. The 20-minute 2023 Youth Survey is more expansive in topics but has fewer questions than in previous years; it includes questions related to substance abuse, connection to school and community, gambling/gaming, social media and physical activity. The survey is randomly assigned to students in grades 7-12, students may opt-out entirely or skip questions. Research has shown a higher correlation of substance abuse and suicide for those who identify as LGBTQ+. A letter will be sent to all parents informing them of the survey and the process to opt-out.

Mr. Aysseh said he understands that there is a population that is suffering and it is critical to meet the needs of those students. Having a blanket question on gender identity goes against recently distributed guidance.

Mrs. Jacobsen said she has worked a long time with the survey and feels strongly about maintaining student data security. One of the best results from the survey is determining students' insights into their own strengths.

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly said she is not so sure the survey doesn't run afoul of recent guidance. Staff was told not to ask questions on gender identity; an outside agency should not be allowed to do what staff has been told not to do. It is already a known fact that this demographic needs support. Mr. Peterson agreed. Mr. Aysseh added that the DEI position was hired to address this population.

Ms. Guernsey said she draws a line when thinking about staff guidelines; the survey is anonymous and different from a classroom teacher asking questions. Mrs. Vitale agreed and said the gender identity questions are important especially when comparing to surveys from previous years.

Ms. Hazlett said the survey would be less informative without the gender identity questions. The percentage of parents that have opted out in the past has been minimal.

First Reading of Facilities Planning Document

Mr. Aysseh said the facilities document was reviewed by the Facilities Committee; it is a general planning document and not specifically geared towards redistricting. Mrs. Vitale said the committee landed on 85% capacity to allow a buffer for specialized programming; student services should not be delivered in hallways.

The Board discussed functional vs. operational capacity and the effect of specialized spaces and programs on renovated vs. non-renovated schools.

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly said teacher load is contractual; class size is not.

Mr. Mancusi said he was comfortable with the specialized curriculum language. Each CLC is in a specific feeder pattern.

Draft

Mr. Peterson said he would be interested to know how the change from 90% to 85% capacity could affect redistricting.

Mrs. Gerber said the document should be used as rules to aspire to, rather than hard and fast rules.

Mr. Aysseh said outstanding facility issues for the Board to tackle are ECC and the two schools on the waterfall for renovations. Staff provided input for paragraphs 8 and 9.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Gerber moved, Mrs. Guernsey seconded that the Board of Education approve the 11-15-2022 BoE Regular Meeting Minutes.

Motion Passed: 8-0

Superintendent Report

Mr. Testani recognized FPS staff, athletes, dance team, band, and all who attended the Thanksgiving football game between Ludlowe and Warde. A good time was had by all.

ELA Update

Mr. Testani recognized the hard work that staff has put forward and noted the 10-year ELA curriculum review coincides with recent changes in legislation. Two informal opportunities to learn more about the changes will be held in the coming weeks for staff and parents. Approximately 50 elementary staff reviewed all 5 state-approved programs as part of the curriculum revision, using a rubric developed by staff. Once the curriculum is approved, an extensive professional development plan will be implemented to ensure a successful rollout. Ms. Goss said the curriculum review process continues to evolve as guided by the District Improvement Plan. The committee plans to have further discussion and site visits before making a final decision before December 7. The American Reading Company, ARC Core has ranked in first place, followed by EL Learning Imagine Learning. The final decision will be made by the team.

Mrs. Gerber asked for clarification on districts that have requested a waiver. Mr. Testani said while there has been much speculation, the state waiver has not yet been released, therefore no waivers have been submitted.

Mrs. Gerber said she has heard concerns regarding the amount of work necessary to implement a new curriculum by the start of the next school year – is it a realistic timeline? Mr. Testani said yes; PD will occur over the next 8 months and will be ongoing. It is important for teachers to implement the curriculum within a reasonable amount of time after PD, but not too long after PD. Support will continue once teachers implement and have additional questions. In addition, the idea is to incorporate what the district already does well, and improve upon and fill the gaps where necessary.

At 10:55PM Mrs. Jacobsen asked the Board for unanimous consent to extend the meeting to 11:30PM; the Board agreed.

Ms. Goss said communication with staff and PD will be critical. The goal is to provide Unit 1 and the resource by the end of the year. Getting to know the resource, learning the new curriculum and how to lesson plan from that framework, will be supported.

Mr. Testani said the 16-point rubric used in the selection process will be shared in a Friday packet. The Board will receive a presentation once the final selection is made. Ms. Goss added that the ARC Core scored the highest, is focused

Draft

heavily on PD, values independent reading, small group instruction and student choice; it was lacking in the social/emotional learning support.

Review of Capital Waterfall

Mr. Papageorge said the waterfall has been updated per the Board's request and it will be presented at tomorrow's town facilities group meeting. A 26% reimbursement rate was assumed.

Mr. Papageorge said the FLHS scoreboard bids came in and are \$85K over the original number. A budget transfer will be requested from the paving/painting account in an upcoming meeting. While \$140K was budgeted, the new number is over \$200K due to re-digging, reconfiguration and electrical work. The contractors have estimated between 16 and 22 weeks to complete the job.

Public Comment

David Krasnoff, Burr Street: Requested to strike 'strive' from the facilities planning document in item numbers 5, 7 and 9. Concerned with the morale at Dwight.

Katie Flynn, PTAC President: Concerned with 'strive' in the facilities planning document; it shifts Fairfield away from a neighborhood school model.

Kathleen Rupert, Warwick Ave: 3 parent conference days should be retained in the calendar for working parents and parents with multiple children.

Adjournment

Mrs. Vitale moved, Mr. Peterson seconded that this Regular Meeting of the Board of Education adjourn.

Motion Passed: 8-0

Meeting adjourned at 11:22PM.

Respectfully submitted by

Carol Guernsey

Fairfield Board of Education, Secretary