

Board of Education Regular Meeting  
Suffield High School Media Center  
November 21, 2022

Call to Order

Board Vice Chair Gazdik called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

Present: Board members Terry Antrum (via Zoom), Josh Barrows (via Zoom) left at 7:36 and returned at 7:56, Jamie Drzyzga, Melissa Finnigan, Brian Fry (via Zoom), Glenn Gazdik, James Mol (via Zoom), Maureen Sattan (via Zoom) from 6:35 to 7:34; and Superintendent Timothy Van Tassel

Absent: Tracy Cloyd

Board of Education Workshop: Suffield Middle School Social-Emotional Data and Support Programming

Dr. Ravit Stein, Director of Psychological and Behavioral Consultation Services at EASTCONN and Dianna Kolodziej, Assistant Principal at Suffield Middle School presented data about engaging students in learning. They began looking at the amount of time students were spending outside of the classroom specifically going to the nurse, guidance, or the main office. It was discovered that this is a systemic problem across all grade levels and amongst a variety of students. They found a correlation between this behavior and student engagement. Now that the problem has been identified as a tier 1 intervention, teachers and staff are working during professional development opportunities to learn how to reengage our students and decrease time outside of the classroom. This work began at the start of the school year and the middle school is currently prioritizing student engagement in learning as their focus for the year. Following the presentation, BOE members asked questions about why they chose to focus on this specific issue, how they would get teacher buy in and what could be done to inform and engage parents in the process as well.

Adjournment

Melissa Finnigan moved; Jamie Drzyzga seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 p.m. All members voted in favor.

*Minutes are subject to approval at the regular meeting of December 5, 2022.*

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Drzyzga  
Secretary