

**BETHANY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting**

AGENDA

Wednesday, June 10, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.

Board of Education Office Meeting Room

[Zoom](#)

Meeting ID: 859 0877 1853, Passcode: uZX495

MISSION STATEMENT

We inspire and empower children to thrive in the world of tomorrow.

1. Call to Order

- a. Pledge of Allegiance

2. PTO Report

3. Public Comment (Policy 1120 & Bylaw 9325)

The Board of Education welcomes public comment. Individuals or groups may address the Board concerning any subject which is within the Board's jurisdiction. Three minutes will be allotted to each speaker and a maximum of fifteen minutes to each subject matter. The speaker is requested to state their name and address. [Submit a public comment online](#) to be read at the next available opportunity.

4. Principal Recognition

5. Approval of Minutes (Bylaw 9326)

- a. May 13, 2026 Regular Meeting.....Action Item

6. Committee Reports (Bylaw 9132)

- a. Curriculum
- b. Policy
- c. Finance
 - i. Report of expenditures and adjustments to the 2025-2026 Operating Budget through May 31, 2026.....Action Item

7. Unfinished Business (Bylaw 9300)

- a. None

8. New Business (Bylaw 9300)

- a. None

9. Administrative Reports (Policy 2500)

- a. Superintendent Report
- b. Director Report
- c. Principal Report

10. Chairman Report (Bylaw 9121)

11. Correspondence (Bylaw 9300)

12. Public Comment (Policy 1120 & Bylaw 9325)

The Board of Education welcomes public comment. Individuals or groups may address the Board concerning any subject which is within the Board's jurisdiction. Three minutes will be allotted to each speaker and a maximum of fifteen minutes to each subject matter. The speaker is requested to state their name and address.

13. Executive Session

- a. Superintendent Evaluation
- b. Paraeducator Negotiations

14. Meeting Adjourned

Memorandum



To: Board of Education Members

From: Kai Byrd, Superintendent

Date: June 10, 2026

Re: Meeting Minutes

It is recommended under APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Recommended Motion:

- a. Move the Bethany Board of Education accept the May 13, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

**BETHANY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes
BOE Meeting Room and via Zoom
May 13, 2026**

Present

Angelo Amato, Chair
Susan Bradford
Joseph Cafasso
Johanna Fernandez
Matthew Erickson
Shannon Lane
Allyson Wuerth

Administration

Kai Byrd
Cheryl Kiesel
Tom Reed- Swale

Absent

Amy Lestinsky, Vice Chair
Melissa Zaldo

Call to Order

Mr. Amato called the meeting to order at 6.30 p.m.

PTO Report

Jeanette Savo provided a PTO update.

Public Comment

Brooke Hemperly, 422 Downs Road, Bethany, commented on the Town's use of the supplemental education aid to lower the mil rate. Her full statement is on file in the BOE office.

Minutes

Motion by Lane, seconded by Cafasso to accept the April 8, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes and the March 23, 2026 Special Meeting Minutes as presented. *The motion carries 6 yes (Amato, Cafasso, Erickson, Fernandez, Lane, Wuerth), 1 abstain (Bradford), 2 absent (Lestinsky, Zaldo).*

Committee Reports

Curriculum:

The committee met on May 6, 2026. Mr. Amato deferred to Ms. Kiesel's Director's report.

Facilities:

The committee met on May 12, 2026 and Mr. Cafasso provided an update.

Finance:

The committee met on May 12, 2026 and Mrs. Fernandez provided an update.

Motion by Cafasso, seconded by Lane to accept the report of expenditures and adjustments to the 2025-2026 operating budget through April 30, 2026. *The motion carries 7 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Erickson, Fernandez, Lane, Wuerth), 2 absent (Lestinsky, Zaldo).*

Transportation:

The committee met earlier on May 13, 2026 and Mrs. Wuerth provided an update.

Unfinished Business

Motion by Angelo, seconded by Erickson to adopt the 2026-2031 Strategic Plan as presented. *The motion carries 7 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Erickson, Fernandez, Lane, Wuerth), 2 absent (Lestinsky, Zaldo).*

New Business

Motion by Cafasso, seconded by Fernandez to approve No Changes to Bylaws 9010, 9020, and 9030 and Policies 5118 and 5118.11. *The motion carries 7 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Erickson, Fernandez, Lane, Wuerth), 2 absent (Lestinsky, Zaldo).*

Motion by Lane, seconded by Cafasso to approve the Recommended Revision to Policy 3542.22. *The motion carries 7 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Erickson, Fernandez, Lane, Wuerth), 2 absent (Lestinsky, Zaldo).*

Mrs. Byrd presented Jacqueline Nathman for appointment as the Principal of Bethany Community School.

Mrs. Byrd thanked the Principal Search Committee members for their participation and commitment to the process.

Motion by Amato, seconded by Wuerth, to approve the appointment of Jacqueline Nathman to the position of Principal at Bethany Community School effective July 1, 2026. *The motion carries 7 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Erickson, Fernandez, Lane, Wuerth), 2 absent (Lestinsky, Zaldo).*

Motion by Amato, seconded by Cafasso, to grant a Child Care Leave of Absence to Megan Banker through the 2026 holiday break following her maternity leave, with a return in January 2027. *The motion carries 7 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Erickson, Fernandez, Lane, Wuerth), 2 absent (Lestinsky, Zaldo).*

Superintendent Report

Mrs. Byrd reported that as of April 30, 2026, PK-6 enrollment was 435 students.

Mrs. Byrd provided a personnel update.

Director Report

Ms. Kiesel reported on Curriculum and Special Education updates.

Principal Report

Mr. Reed-Swale reported on BCS's recent events and said that the Board will be provided a list of events and dates through the end of school.

Chairman Report

Mr. Amato reiterated the timeline of the 26/27 budget process with the Board.

Mr. Amato reviewed the information he has received regarding the supplemental education aid.

Mr. Amato shared that the Town voted not to distribute the money to the school, but to keep it to lower the mil rate.

Mr. Amato also shared that the Town has consulted with an attorney on the proper use of these funds and the hope is to hear back soon.

Communications

None

Public Comment

Carol Goldberg, 5 North Humiston Drive, Bethany, CT, shared that the Town is using the supplemental education aid as it does ECS funds. It will be treated as revenue and must go toward education.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:22 pm

Visitors in Attendance

In Person: 6

On Zoom: 20

Donna Ricciardi
Recording Secretary

DRAFT

Memorandum



To: Board of Education Members

From: Kai Byrd, Superintendent

Date: June 10, 2026

Re: Finance Committee Report of Expenditures and Adjustments

It is recommended that under COMMITTEE REPORTS, (b) Finance:

The attached report presents the adopted 2025-2026 Operating Budget with encumbrances through May 31, 2026.

Recommended Motions:

- i. Move that the Board of Education accept the report of expenditures and adjustments to the 2025-2026 Operating Budget through May 31, 2026.

Bethany Board of Education								
Operating Budget 2025-2026 Summary - as of May 2026								
	Adopted Budget	Revised Budget	YTD July-June	Forecast	Var\$ April	Var% April	Var\$ May	Var% May
General Education								
Salaries								
Certified	\$2,600,343	\$2,485,174	\$1,988,389	\$2,525,244	\$ (40,070)	-1.61%	\$ (40,070)	-1.61%
Curriculum (Supplemental)	\$65,850	\$65,850	\$6,350	\$6,350	\$ 59,500	0.00%	\$ 59,500	0.00%
Non-Certified	\$292,034	\$295,809	\$314,817	\$365,746	\$ (63,937)	-21.61%	\$ (69,937)	-23.64%
Nurse	\$57,485	\$57,485	\$40,447	\$53,142	\$ 4,343	7.56%	\$ 4,343	7.56%
Total Salaries	\$3,015,712	\$2,904,318	\$2,350,002	\$2,950,482	\$ (40,164)	-1.38%	\$ (46,164)	-1.59%
Benefits	\$410,436	\$410,436	\$368,618	\$406,339	\$ 4,096	1.00%	\$ 4,096	1.00%
Services								
BCS	\$5,300	\$12,300	\$10,708	\$12,000	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 300	2.44%
Curriculum	\$83,722	\$120,922	\$89,878	\$92,702	\$ 17,000	14.06%	\$ 28,220	23.34%
IT	\$111,650	\$94,070	\$88,727	\$96,485	\$ (1,347)	-1.43%	\$ (2,415)	-2.57%
Total Services	\$200,672	\$227,292	\$189,314	\$201,187	\$ 15,653	6.89%	\$ 26,105	11.49%
Supplies								
BCS	\$74,455	\$79,455	\$73,719	\$80,413	\$ (633)	-0.80%	\$ (958)	-1.21%
Curriculum	\$5,100	\$5,100	\$4,202	\$5,373	\$ -	0.00%	\$ (273)	-5.35%
IT	\$101,970	\$101,970	\$142,205	\$142,295	\$ (40,208)	-39.43%	\$ (40,325)	-39.55%
Total Supplies	\$181,525	\$186,525	\$220,126	\$228,081	\$ (40,841)	-21.90%	\$ (41,556)	-22.28%
Other								
BCS	\$1,550	\$1,550	\$2,028	\$2,084	\$ (724)	-46.71%	\$ (534)	-34.45%
Curriculum	\$670	\$670	\$0	\$0	\$ 670	100.00%	\$ 670	100.00%
IT	\$91,830	\$31,830	\$27,772	\$36,341	\$ (4,511)	-14.17%	\$ (4,511)	-14.17%
Total Other	\$94,050	\$34,050	\$29,800	\$38,425	\$ (4,565)	-13.41%	\$ (4,375)	-12.85%
Subtotal	\$3,902,395	\$3,762,621	\$3,157,860	\$3,824,515	\$ (65,821)	-1.75%	\$ (61,894)	-1.64%
Special Education								
Salaries	\$1,593,562	\$1,626,455	\$1,343,039	\$1,636,756	\$ (8,301)	-0.51%	\$ (10,301)	-0.63%
Benefits	\$304,046	\$304,046	\$312,152	\$339,527	\$ (33,096)	-10.89%	\$ (35,481)	-11.67%
Services	\$131,282	\$182,367	\$136,376	\$194,106	\$ (11,739)	-6.44%	\$ (11,739)	-6.44%
Supplies	\$15,443	\$15,443	\$9,564	\$12,188	\$ 3,255	21.08%	\$ 3,255	21.08%
Other	\$1,610	\$1,610	\$605	\$805	\$ 805	50.00%	\$ 805	50.00%
Subtotal	\$2,045,943	\$2,129,921	\$1,801,736	\$2,183,382	\$ (49,076)	-2.30%	\$ (53,461)	-2.51%
Operations and Overhead								
Salaries	\$1,114,376	\$1,142,527	\$974,011	\$1,067,041	\$ 75,486	6.61%	\$ 75,486	6.61%
Benefits	\$255,543	\$255,543	\$210,993	\$216,751	\$ 33,200	12.99%	\$ 38,792	15.18%
Services	\$156,140	\$183,785	\$150,919	\$168,726	\$ 13,469	7.33%	\$ 15,059	8.19%
Supplies	\$43,000	\$43,000	\$34,480	\$36,178	\$ 6,822	15.87%	\$ 6,822	15.87%
Utilities (Electricity)	\$138,000	\$138,000	\$91,275	\$115,000	\$ 23,000	16.67%	\$ 23,000	16.67%
Facilities and Maintenance	\$212,500	\$212,500	\$218,784	\$232,889	\$ (20,346)	-9.57%	\$ (20,389)	-9.59%
Student Transportation	\$321,160	\$321,160	\$289,344	\$ 321,160.00	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
Other	\$18,545	\$18,545	\$19,144	\$ 19,144.07	\$ (1,338)	-7.21%	\$ (599)	-3.23%
Subtotal	\$2,259,264	\$2,315,059	\$1,988,949	\$ 2,176,889.06	\$ 130,293	5.63%	\$ 138,170	5.97%
Total	\$8,207,602	\$8,207,602	\$6,948,545	\$8,184,786	\$ 15,397	0.19%	\$ 22,816	0.28%
Prek Account								
as of 07/01/2025			Revenue	Expenditures	Balance			
Tuition Revenue for FY			\$21,944.48		\$57,050.68			
Total Expenditures for FY				\$26,501.22	\$78,995.16			
Estimated Balance at Month End					\$52,493.94			
10-248a								
as of 07/01/2025			Revenue	Expenditures	Balance			
Total Revenue for FY			\$64,329.43		\$411,820.54			
Total Expenditures for FY				\$356,142.79	\$476,149.97			
Estimated Balance at Month End					\$120,007.18			
excess cost =								
#1 rcv'd=								
#2 rcv'd =								
Total =								

Memorandum



To: Board of Education Members

From: Kai Byrd, Superintendent

Date: June 10 2026

Re: Superintendent Report

Under ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

- District Updates

BETHANY COMMUNITY SCHOOL

2025-2026 ENROLLMENT SUMMARY

2025-2026 ENROLLMENT SUMMARY

Grade (Sections)	Aug 2025	Sep 2025	Oct 2025	Nov 2025	Dec 2025	Jan 2026	Feb 2026	Mar 2026	Apr 2026	May 2026
PK	17	18	18	19	22	24	24	25	25	26
K (3)	47	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49
1 (3)	59	58	58	57	57	57	57	56	56	56
2 (3)	60	60	61	61	62	62	62	62	62	61
3 (3)	45	46	47	47	47	46	46	45	46	45
4 (3)	62	63	63	62	62	62	62	62	62	62
5 (3)	58	61	61	61	60	60	60	60	60	60
6 (4)	76	76	76	76	76	74	74	74	75	75
TOTAL (22)	424	431	433	432	435	434	434	433	435	434

*Four Open Choice students included.

2024-2025 ENROLLMENT SUMMARY

Grade (Sections)	Aug 2024	Sep 2024	Oct 2024	Nov 2024	Dec 2024	Jan 2025	Feb 2025	Mar 2025	Apr 2025	May 2025
PK	17	18	18	20	20	21	21	21	22	22
K (4)	53	53	54	54	54	54	54	54	54	54
1 (3)	56	56	57	58	58	59	59	59	59	59
2 (3)	46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46
3 (3)	62	62	62	62	61	61	61	61	61	61
4 (3)	57	57	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56
5 (4)	77	77	77	77	76	76	76	76	77	77
6 (3)	62	62	61	61	61	62	62	62	62	62
TOTAL (23)	430	431	431	434	432	435	435	435	437	437

*Four Open Choice students included.

2023-2024 ENROLLMENT SUMMARY

Grade (Sections)	Aug 2023	Sep 2023	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024	Mar 2024	Apr 2024	May 2024
PK	28	27	28	28	29	29	29	29	31	31
K (4)	54	55	55	56	56	56	56	56	56	56
1 (3)	44	44	44	44	44	43	43	43	43	43
2 (3)	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
3 (3)	53	53	53	53	53	53	53	53	53	53
4 (4)	76	76	76	77	77	78	78	78	78	78
5 (3)	64	64	64	64	64	64	64	63	63	63
6 (3)	66	66	66	67	67	67	67	66	66	66
TOTAL (23)	445	445	446	449	450	450	450	448	450	450

*Six Open Choice students included.

Memorandum



To: Board of Education Members

From: Cheryl Kiesel

Date: June 10, 2026

Re: Director of Special Services, Curriculum, and Instruction Report

Under ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

- **Curriculum**
 - Professional Development
 - Grant Update

- **Special Education**
 - Department Updates

Memorandum



To: Board of Education Members

From: Tom Reed-Swale

Date: June 10, 2026

Re: Principal's Report

Under ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

- BCS Happenings

Memorandum



To: Board of Education Members

From: Kai Byrd, Superintendent

Date: June 10, 2026

Re: Executive Session

It is recommended under EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Recommended Motion:

- a. Move the Bethany Board of Education enter into Executive Session to discuss the Superintendent's Evaluation and Paraeducator Negotiations. Kai Byrd is invited to attend.