

Monday, May 19, 2025

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
BRIDGEPORT BOARD OF EDUCATION, held May  
19, 2025, at City Hall, 45 Lyon Terrace, Bridgeport,  
Connecticut.

The meeting was called to order at 5:36 p.m. Present were members Chair Jennifer Perez, Vice Chair Joseph Sokolovic, Secretary Albert Benejan Grajales, Robert Traber\*, Maritza Estremera Jimenez, Willie Medina, Andre Woodson, and Akisha Cassermere\*.

\*remote participation

Interim Supt. Dr. Royce Avery was present.

Ms. Perez said this was the fifth board training meeting, and the agenda item was on refining board performance goals and district visioning.

Nick Caruso and Jody Goeler of CABE were present.

Mr. Caruso said he wanted to start with a status check with the board. The board members responded how they felt about the training and progress.

Mr. Caruso described the course of board trainings and state oversight in other districts in the past.

There was a discussion of a survey to be conducted and community forums to be held in the summer to establish the board's vision.

There was a discussion of the district budget and potential timelines for the administration and the board.

Decorum standards, composition of board committees, the level of detail the board should scrutinize, the roles of the board and the superintendent, were discussed.

Mr. Caruso said he would rework language around the five goals based on the board's discussion.

A TED talk video by Simon Sinek was played.

Mr. Benejan Grajales moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sokolovic and unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John McLeod

*Approved by the board on June 9, 2025*