

Thursday, July 31, 2025

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BRIDGEPORT BOARD OF EDUCATION, held July 31, 2025, at JFK Campus, 700 Palisade Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut.

Present were Chair Jennifer Perez, Willie Medina, Maritza Estremera Jimenez, Akisha Cassermere, Andre Woodson, and Robert Traber.

The meeting was called to order at 5:51 p.m.

Dr. Monet Ferguson, executive director of Alliance for Community Empowerment, which runs the Head Start program and other initiatives, was the meeting's facilitator.

Ms. Perez said the purpose of the forum was to gather community input for creating a vision for the district. She said board members would not be the first to talk.

Two parents were present at the meeting. The proceedings were translated into Spanish for one parent.

Dr. Ferguson posed questions. The first one was, what does a great school experience for students, family and staff look like, and how Bridgeport Public Schools can better support that experience.

One parent said she registered her child for school online.

Ms. Perez said the parents did not have to provide their names or could provide written answers.

The next question was what are the biggest strengths of our schools and community that we should build on.

The next question was, what do you think are the biggest challenges or barriers the district faces.

One parent indicated they just moved from New York.

Mr. Traber said normally the board would do a meeting where we explain something, but the meeting was held to have the community talk to us.

Ms. Perez said the board members would be available after the meeting to answer questions.

The next questions were, what changes or improvements would you most like to see in our schools over the next three to five years, and what is your vision for students of Bridgeport Public Schools.

Mr. Traber moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Woodson and unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John McLeod