



**MEETING OF BOARD OF EDUCATION
June 17, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.**

Board of Education Goal:

Montville graduates will possess the skills and dispositions to navigate complex tasks. Our graduates are communicators, information consumers, problem solvers, and independent learners. They exhibit empathy, perseverance, inclusivity and self-awareness.

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Item 1. Call to order/ Pledge of Allegiance / Moment of Silence – 6:00 P.M.

Board Chair Wills Pike called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Board members attending were: Tina Grove, Bob Mitchell, Carol Burgess, Bonnie Bacon, Erika Striebel, Donna Funk, Timothy Shanahan, and Norman Sylvia.

Also participating were: Superintendent of Schools Dr. Dianne Vumback, Assistant Superintendent Andrea Flynn, Director of Finance and Operations, Deb Martin and Interim Business Manager John Spang.

Item 2. Alterations to the agenda

None

Item 3. Citizens' Comments (regarding agenda items only)

Joe W. Jaskiewicz 89 Park Ave., Uncasville – Speaking to 7a-g New Business Joe recognizes that the BOE has 4-5 items that he feels should be tabled and run by the Town Finance Committee prior to being reviewed and voted upon.

Item 4. Letters and Communications

Board Secretary Bob Mitchell presented [a letter from Montville Florist](#)

Item 5. Approval of the Consent Calendar

- May 20, 2025 Minutes
- March 2025, Financial Report
- April 2025 Financial Report

Motion: To approve the consent calendar

Moved by: Bob Mitchell
Seconded: Tim Shanahan
Carried: (8-0)

- a. Budget update: Deb Martin

As reported last month by Mr. Spang, who is your interim Finance Director of the budget this year, we are continuing to work through the purchase orders that are currently already encumbered, tightening up those that are no longer needed, closing what's not necessary, and working through the end of year contractual items that have not yet been billed. We have those that either are yet to be encumbered or expended. We are still looking to land in the black and are not far from where they were reported last month, and I do feel that there's really, at this time, nothing that brings any concern to us. I'm happy to entertain any questions you may have, though.

Item 6. Unfinished Business

- a. Discussion and possible action – HVAC Bid Proposals

Andy Whitehouse (JH Architects) and David Banks (Engineer-RZ Design) were introduced by Interim Business Manager, John Spang.

A lengthy conversation was held regarding the current status and plans to open bids for the HVAC project. The Board will reconvene in the coming weeks to meet with the Architect and Engineer to discuss next steps, pricing and the scope of the projects for bidding.

- b. Discussion and possible action on Capital Plan

A discussion was held regarding the impact of the approved capital projects and the proposed projects to be completed from the non-lapsing account; the discussion was tabled for the next board meeting.

- c. Review and possible revision of 2025-2026 Board of Education Budget.

Superintendent Vumback – We've had talks with the Town Council and Julie Chapman from the Mayor's office. I am confident we are set with the budget and will land with close to a rollover budget. As you know, we called all of our teachers back. Later on in this agenda, we will speak about how we will get around the shortfall until July. We continue to scrutinize the budget and continue to create efficiencies as we look at the budget as a new team. We have high expectations that we are going to be budget conscious and efficient, so that we are able to be innovative in our district by be very mindful and respectful of the budget. I'm truly grateful for the Town Council, the Mayor and of course this wonderful board for the work we did on the budget.

- d. Motion: To approve the proposed adjustment to the 2025-2026 Board of Education budget by \$397,495 bringing the budget to a new total of \$46,879,620.

Moved: Tim Shanahan
Seconded: Bob Mitchell
Carried: (8-0)

Director of Finance and Operations, Deborah Martin – explained the need for this adjustment to ensure that our starting budget matches what was approved in July.

Item 7. New Business

- a. Consideration and action to authorize the use of \$44,836 from the non-lapsing account for the purchase of two water heaters to replace the water heater at Dr. Charles E. Murphy.

Motion: To postpone the vote.
Moved: Bob Mitchell
Seconded: Tim Shanahan
Carried: (8-0)

- b. Consideration and action to request that the town increase the Board of Education 2025-2026 budget by \$405,211, representing the unanticipated state aid received in 2024-2025.

Motion: Moved to authorize the request that the town increase the Board of Education 2025-2026 budget by \$405,211, representing the unanticipated state aid received in 2024-2025.

Moved by: Bob Mitchell
Seconded: Tim Shanahan
Carried: (8-0)

- c. Consideration and action to transfer \$135,000 from Wages and Benefits to Special Education Tuition for out-of-district special education placements.

Approved at last months meeting

- d. Consideration and action to revise the 2025-2026 District Calendar.

Motion: To revise the 2025-26 School Calendar to reflect a ½ day for staff and students on 12/23/2025.

Moved: Wills Pike
Seconded: Bob Mitchell
Carried: (7-1) Funk Opposed

Superintendent Vumback – In materials you saw the proposed revision, a ½ day on 12/23/25 to align prior years and to allow families the additional time for travel.

- e. Consideration and action to Designate Director of Finance and Operations; Deborah Martin as authorized Signature 2 - ED-099 Agreement for Child Nutrition Program.

Motion: Moved to Designate Director of Finance and Operations; Deborah Martin as authorized Signature 2 - ED-099 Agreement for Child Nutrition Program.

Moved: Wills Pike

Seconded: Tim Shanahan
Carried: (8-0)

f. Discussion and Possible Action – CABE

Motion: To postpone decision on CABE membership to next meeting
Moved: Bob Mitchell
Seconded: Wills Pike
Carried: (8-0)

g. Discussion of LEARN HR Consultant.

Discussion took place earlier in the meeting

h. Discussion and possible action – Renaming of PBL Pathways Campus.

Motion: Moved to rename PBL Pathways Campus to The Palmer School

Moved: Wills Pike
Seconded: Tina grove
Carried: (8-0)

Assistant Superintendent Flynn discussed the required changes which were discussed at the Policy Committee Meeting as outlined below.

i. Repeal P5131.911 Bullying prevention and Intervention.

First Reading

j. Repeal Policy 1250 School Visitors.

First Reading

k. Repeal Policy 1250.1 Visits to the Schools Classroom Observations.

First Reading

l. First Reading of new or revised policies:

- New Policy 5131.911 Connecticut School Climate Policy
- New Policy 5126 Restorative Practice Response
- New Policy 1190 School Security and Safety Plan
- New Policy 1250 Visitors and Observations in Schools

m. Tentative Board Retreat Date - August 19, 2025

Motion: To set August 19, 2025 as the Board Retreat

Moved: Wills Pike

Seconded: Bob Mitchell

Carried: (8-0)

Item 8. Committee and Liaison reports:

- a. Policy- Tina – *Proposed Policies and Repeals were brought to the full Board this evening.*
- b. **Montville Education Foundation- Carol Burgess - Absent**
- c. **LEARN - Bob Mitchell-** *Received a report on the status of the agency, EOY, School of Choice, LEARN currently has 105 Montville Students enrolled. New London has the highest enrollments, Waterford, East Lyme, then Montville.*
- d. **NSBA Bob Mitchell – No report**
- e. **Montville Youth Services Bureau – Tim – Met last Thursday, next meeting is in September**
- f. **Principals’ Report –** Parent Involvement Reports included in June’s Board Materials.

9. Report on District Operating Plan

- a. Report from the Assistant Superintendent

We wrapped up a very successful year implementing our CKLA curriculum. We met with every teacher across the district to gather feedback about the program and we began to create a prioritized timeline of revisions we would like to make going forward.

At this time, we are working closely with principals and coaches to set up our SRBI structures for next year. This is our intervention program at both the middle and elementary school.

- b. Report from the Superintendent – Dr. Dianne Vumback

Provided an update on the Special Education Programs which are moving including, the Transition Program to Montville High School, and Oakdale and Murphy Transition Programs will be combined at Murphy. This will allow us to better allocate resources, provide true collaboration around these programs, allow for better staffing and the ability to develop the program to keep students in district.

Nic Gauthier secured funds to alleviate student meal debt. Because we are self-funded, we are not allowed to wipe debt. There is a stigma surrounding Free/Reduced application, we have offered help to obtain completed forms.

Promotion/Graduation/Retirement – All were spectacular, school ended on Monday. Pulled in today to a ghost town! This signals the end of the school year, thank you for all of your support, I am really proud of the work that we have done. Your support has set the conditions for success. I am really proud of the administrative team and staff. We are looking at data and making revisions accordingly.

10. Citizens' comments

Kate Southard, 89 Wildwood Lane. I attended two graduations, Palmer and Montville High School. Palmer was so special. Congratulation to you Dianne and Andrea, it has been a pleasure working with you and the Board.

11. Board remarks

Board Member Erika Striebel commented on Andrea's first year as Assistant Superintendent, Board Chair Wills Pike thanked the Board and Administrative Team for the work that they do.

12. Future agenda items

*Hot water
CABE
Capital
Murphy
Finance
Server
Ball Fields
HR
Architects*

13. Adjournment

Motion: To Adjourn

Moved by: Tim Shanahan
Seconded by: Bob Mitchell
Vote: Carried 8-0

The meeting adjourned at 8:07 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by,

Wills Pike, Chair
Montville Board of Education

Bob Mitchell, Secretary
Montville Board of Education Minutes

Approved: _____