

January 2026  
BEA Bits and Briefs

[bloomfielddedicationassociation@gmail.com](mailto:bloomfielddedicationassociation@gmail.com)  
[www.blmfldea.org](http://www.blmfldea.org)



Select each image to join us on Facebook or Instagram.

Visit our website at:

[www.blmfldea.org](http://www.blmfldea.org)



Email us at : [bloomfieldeducationassociation@gmail.com](mailto:bloomfieldeducationassociation@gmail.com)

# BEA Monthly Spotlight

Nominate a co-worker [here](#) to share with us all of the phenomenal work they are doing!



# BEA Monthly Spotlight



Carolina Evans, of Carmen Arace Middle School, is being recognized by her colleagues for doing an immense amount of work with bringing Building Thinking Classrooms to our district. Her students grow, as seen by their test scores, year after year. She demonstrates for other teachers in the district regularly. She leads many professional development sessions and informal think tank meetings to help teachers bring BTC into their classrooms. Thank you Carolina for all of the support you provide!

# BEA Monthly Spotlight



Rose Rose and Melanie Gabel, of Laurel Literacy Academy, are being recognized by their coworkers for being a great resource for all things “Unionie”! They are great listeners and always have our backs! Keep up the great work Rose and Mel!

Stay in the  
know!

Monthly Rep Council Meeting Schedule:

February's Meeting has been canceled

3/5 Arace

4/2 Laurel

5/14 BHS Ag Center

All meetings are 4:00-5:15 pm and all members are encouraged to attend!

Signed MOA's for 2025-2026

Please click [here](#) to see the Memorandums of Agreement that have been signed thus far for this year.

Stay in the know!

Just a few reminders:

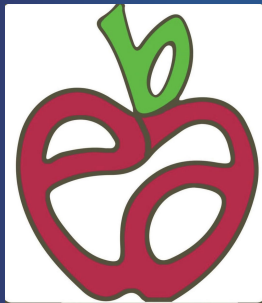
- If you hold a stipend position that pays in January, you should have received your stipend in your January 3rd paycheck. Please reach out via email ASAP if you were not compensated.
- If you are asked to attend a meeting with an administrator and you are unsure what it will be about, you are allowed to ask what the meeting is about so that you can determine whether or not you believe it will lead to discipline. You are also always allowed and encouraged to request union representation attend any meetings with you.

Stay in the know!

Just a few reminders:

- Review pages 21-26 of the [2025-2026 Bloomfield Teacher Evaluation Handbook](#) to ensure you understand the tiered levels of support that should be provided to you by administration before discussions of placing you on any kind of Corrective Action/Support Plan. Refer to the [2024-2025 Bloomfield Teacher Evaluation Handbook](#) to access the links to the documents that administrators must fill out. Always reach out to your Building Rep and ask for assistance if there are conversations between you and your admin of putting you on a Professional Improvement Plan or Corrective Action Plan.
- If you enter in sick time ahead of the date and then don't end up taking it for one reason or another, you have the right to getting the time back. Reach out to the HR benefits email at [hinfo@blmfld.org](mailto:hinfo@blmfld.org) for assistance.

# Bloomfield BOE Updates



## Bloomfield Board of Education Meeting Schedule 2025

Updated on 9/15/2025

Date	Type of Meeting	Time	Location
January 14, 2025	Regular Meeting	7:00 PM	Hybrid Meeting*
January 28, 2025	Committee Meetings	6:00 PM	Board Room, BOE
February 11, 2025	Regular Meeting	7:00 PM	Hybrid Meeting*
February 27, 2025	Special Budget Meeting	7:00 PM	Hybrid Meeting*
March 11, 2025	Regular Meeting	7:00 PM	Hybrid Meeting*
March 25, 2025	Committee Meetings	6:00 PM	Board Room, BOE
April 8, 2025	Regular Meeting	7:00 PM	Hybrid Meeting*
April 22, 2025	Committee Meetings	6:00 PM	Board Room, BOE
May 13, 2025	Regular Meeting	7:00 PM	Hybrid Meeting*
May 27, 2025	Committee Meetings	6:00 PM	Board Room, BOE
June 3, 2025 <sup>1</sup>	Regular Meeting	7:00 PM	Hybrid Meeting*
September 9, 2025	Regular Meeting	7:00 PM	Hybrid Meeting*
September 30, 2025 <sup>2</sup>	Committee Meetings	6:00 PM	Board Room, BOE
October 9, 2025 <sup>3</sup>	Special Meeting	7:00 PM	Hybrid Meeting*
October 28, 2025	Committee Meetings	6:00 PM	Board Room, BOE
November 18, 2025 <sup>4</sup>	Regular Meeting	7:00 PM	Hybrid Meeting*
December 9, 2025	Regular Meeting	7:00 PM	Hybrid Meeting*

### References

- 1: Meeting moved to first Tuesday in anticipation of the last day of school being June 10, 2025
- 2: Meeting moved to fourth Tuesday (September 30) in observance of Rosh Hashanah
- 3: Meeting moved to first Thursday due to schedule conflict
- 4: Meeting moved to third Tuesday (November 18) in observance of Veterans Day

\*Hybrid meetings will be in-person at the Board of Education and virtual via Zoom

1133 Blue Hills Avenue • Bloomfield, CT 06002 • (860) 769-4200 • Fax (860) 769-4215  
[www.bloomfieldschools.org](http://www.bloomfieldschools.org)

## Bloomfield Board of Education Meeting Schedule 2026

Adopted 11/18/2025

Date	Type of Meeting	Time	Location
January 13, 2026	Regular Meeting	7:00 PM	Hybrid Meeting*
January 27, 2026	Committee Meetings	6:00 PM	Board Room, BOE
February 10, 2026	Regular Meeting	7:00 PM	Hybrid Meeting*
February 26, 2026	Special Budget Meeting	7:00 PM	Hybrid Meeting*
March 10, 2026	Regular Meeting	7:00 PM	Hybrid Meeting*
March 24, 2026	Committee Meetings	6:00 PM	Board Room, BOE
April 7, 2026 <sup>1</sup>	Regular Meeting	7:00 PM	Hybrid Meeting*
April 28, 2026	Committee Meetings	6:00 PM	Board Room, BOE
May 12, 2026	Regular Meeting	7:00 PM	Hybrid Meeting*
May 26, 2026	Committee Meetings	6:00 PM	Board Room, BOE
June 2, 2026 <sup>2</sup>	Regular Meeting	7:00 PM	Hybrid Meeting*
September 8, 2026	Regular Meeting	7:00 PM	Hybrid Meeting*
September 22, 2026	Committee Meetings	6:00 PM	Board Room, BOE
October 13, 2026	Regular Meeting	7:00 PM	Hybrid Meeting*
October 27, 2026	Committee Meetings	6:00 PM	Board Room, BOE
November 10, 2026	Regular Meeting	7:00 PM	Hybrid Meeting*
December 8, 2026	Regular Meeting	7:00 PM	Hybrid Meeting*

### References

- 1: Meeting moved to first Tuesday due to Spring Recess
- 2: Meeting moved due to High School Commencement ceremony

\*Hybrid meetings will be in-person at the Board of Education and virtual via Zoom

- [Link to September 9, 2025 Meeting](#), [Link to November 18, 2025 Meeting](#)

- [Link to BOE Agendas](#)

- [Link to BOE Policies](#)

- If you choose to join virtually, feel free to use our BEA logo as your image so that we know it's our people out there watching! Don't know how, just email us and we will be happy to help you figure it out.



Click on the article to read more!

# What's Happening in the World of CEA?



When Washington Walks  
Away, Connecticut Steps Up  
for Public Service Graduate  
Students

January 6, 2026

Click on the article to read more!

## **Avoiding Tech Fatigue in the Classroom: 'It's All About Balance'**

Too often, educators are asked to integrate technology into the classroom without support, training or boundaries.



What's  
Happening in  
the World of  
NEA?

# Upcoming Events!

Click on the image to register!

TUE

January 13 @ 4:30 pm - 7:00 pm

13

## Title IX at CEA

CEA- 3rd Floor Conference Room 21 Oak Street, Hartford, United States

On January 13, the US Supreme Court will hear oral arguments on Title IX and the rights of LGBTQ+ students. To help you understand the potential impact and what you can do to fight for your students, we will hold a gathering at CEA HQ, listen to the oral arguments, have real time analysis, and make signs and social media content of support.



# Upcoming Events!

Click on the image to register!

THU

January 15 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm  [Racial and Ethnic Diversity Affairs Commission Meeting](#)

**15**

## **Racial & Ethnic Diversity Affairs Commission Meeting**

Virtual CT, United States

Committee Meeting

MON

January 26 @ 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm  [Building Rep Academy](#)

**26**

## **Building Rep Academy**

Virtual CT, United States

Are you a superstar Building Rep in your school? Do you want to be? CEA's "Building Rep Academy" might be for you!

# Upcoming Events!

Click on the image to register!

TUE

January 27 @ 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

27

## CountyPalooza! Virtual County Forum

Virtual CT, United States

Join us on January 27 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. for this dynamic virtual forum, featuring remarks from CEA leadership and a special guest, Maryland Education Association President Paul Lemle...



# Upcoming Events!

Click on the image to register!

February 2026

TUE

3

February 3 @ 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm [Loan Forgiveness Webinar with Cambridge Credit Counseling](#)

## Loan Forgiveness Webinar with Cambridge Credit Counseling

Virtual CT, United States

Learn about your student debt repayment options with Cambridge Credit Counseling.



SAT

7

February 7 @ 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

## CEA Breakfast with Legislators

Legislative Office Building 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT, United States

Join teachers across the state in Hartford for the annual CEA Breakfast with Legislators.



# Member Champion Deals

Click the  
image to learn  
more ---->



## Tickets at Work

With CEA's partnership with TicketsatWork, members are saving at least \$50 on their purchases every month. TicketsatWork is updated daily with seasonal offers and exclusive...

# BEA Officers 2025-2026

President: Gail Jorden

Vice President: Marissa Mancini

Treasurer: Lynn DeBlasio

Secretary: Lynne Dumas

Membership Chair: Melinda Mellady

## BEA Building Reps 2025-2026

Wintonbury (Pre-K)

Amy Lomnicky 2024-2026

Jennifer Pearl 2025-2027

Laurel (Grades Pre-K – 2)

Rose Rose - 2024-2026

Melanie Gabel 2025-2027

Metacomet (Grades 3 – 4)

James Verano 2025-2027

Elka Spencer 2025-2027

Carmen Arace (Grades 5 – 8)

Jacqueline Springer 2024-2026

Dorothea Jones 2025-2027

GEMS (Grades 6 – 12)

Amelia Dodd - 2024-2026

Thomas Rubino 2023-2025

Bloomfield High School (Grades 9 – 12)

Shannon Trombino 2025-2027

Jennifer Neal 2023-2025

Colleen McCaughey 2023-2025

Mary Jarvis 2023-2025

# Chairs, Committees, and Vital Roles 2025-2026

Grievance Chair: Katrina Kucinkas

Grievance Committee:

Marissa Mancini

Rose Rose

Pamela Parker

Felicia Johnson

Shannon Trombino

Racially and Ethnically Diverse Affairs  
Committee Chair: Elka Spencer

Website Design: Lamar Turner

Political Action Chair: Magnolia Coates

Young and Union Ambassador: Michelle Bibeau