

March 2026
BEA Bits and Briefs

bloomfielddedicationassociation@gmail.com
www.blmfldea.org



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Visit our website at:

www.blmfldea.org



Email us at : 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



Heather Callabro, of Carmen Arace Middle School, is being recognized by her colleagues for being instrumental in helping her teammates to work through problems and offering unwavering support. Thank you Heather!

BEA Monthly Spotlight



Erin Morella and Lynn DeBlasio, of Laurel Literacy Academy, are being recognized for taking on new roles and working to build the MTSS program. They are meeting with new teachers to assist with curriculum and helping them meet the needs of their students. They are always looking for ways to assist and provide additional resources for our children in intervention. Great job ladies!

BEA Monthly Spotlight



Pamela Parker, of Carmen Arace Middle School, is being recognized by her colleagues for always showing her love toward her students. It's so nice to see that they, in turn, love her as well. She is someone who students look forward to seeing every day.

BEA Monthly Spotlight



Amy Rheiner, of Wintonbury Early Childhood Magnet School, is being recognized for the care and joy she brings to her classroom and our school. Beyond being a wonderful teacher, Amy has a special way of connecting with families so that they feel supported and see how much she cares for each of their children. Amy is also a wonderful colleague, always willing to lend an ear, and always finding humor and joy in our day-to-day work in a way that spreads positivity in our school. Thank you Amy!

BEA Monthly Spotlight



Katrina Kucinkas, of Carmen Arace Intermediate School, is being recognized by her colleagues for stepping up as an interim Building Rep and supporting colleagues through a variety of situations. Thank you for all that you do!

Monthly Rep Council Meeting Schedule:

4/2 Laurel

5/14 BHS Ag Center

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

Stay in the know!

Signed MOA's for 2025-2026

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

Stay in the know!

Just a few reminders:

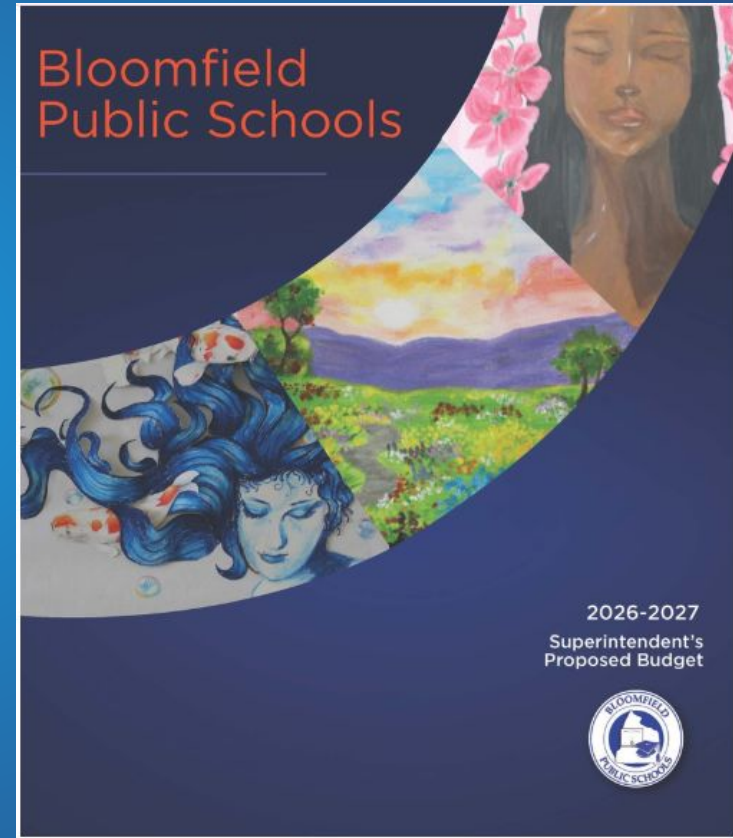
- Presently, our last day of school is slated to be Monday, June 22. Gail is in talks with Dr. Youngberg to see if there are other solutions that may allow us to recuperate time - stay tuned!
- If you are asked to attend a meeting with an administrator and you are unsure what it will be about, you are 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.

Did you know?

- If you resign in June, Bloomfield health insurance will cover you through the end of August, although you will be billed for the months of July and August.

Stay in the know!


- Find the proposed 2026-2027 school budget and other pertinent information by clicking on the image.



Stay in the know!

- 2026-2027 approved school calendar: Select the image to be taken to the PDF.

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS | 2026-2027 CALENDAR



<p>DAYS: 0 3 Independence Day observed; offices closed.</p>	<p>JULY '26</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>Th</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		<p>JANUARY '27</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>Th</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>2</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> <tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S						2		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31							<p>DAYS: 19 01 New Year's Day: schools & offices closed 13 PD: early dismissal PreK-12 18 M.L. King Day: schools & offices closed 27 PD: early dismissal PreK-12</p>
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Legend:
 School closed
 Rest or last day of school
 Early dismissal (conferences or PD)
 Professional Development (schools closed)
 Schools and Offices closed

Approved: February 17, 2025

Take Action!

- Nominate yourself or a coworker to represent Bloomfield at the [CEA RA here](#).

The CEA Representative Assembly will take place at the Mohegan Sun May 8-9, Bloomfield can send 4 delegates. Your room will be compensated, however, you will share a room with one of the 3 other Bloomfield Representatives. Business typically runs 4:00pm-10:00pm Friday, and 8:00am-3:00pm Saturday. Please learn more on the [CEA Website](#).

- Nominate yourself or a coworker to represent Bloomfield at the [NEA RA here](#).

The NEA Representative Assembly will take place in Denver, CO July 2-8, Bloomfield can send 1 delegate. BEA will pay for your room, however, you will share a room with another CT Representative. You will also have a set amount to spend per day on food. Business runs from 8:00am-5:00pm most days.

Take Action!

BEA's Political Action Committee wants to hear from you!!

Please take a moment to fill out this 2 question survey so we can learn what works best for our members! Click the image below to share.



BEA Political Engagement

Take action and make your voice heard for the issues in education you care about most!

Take Action!

Review CEA's Legislative Priorities and reach out to your leaders to tell them what you think today! Click the image to learn more!

Improve the education experience for teachers and students

Ensure that teachers, students, and public schools are fully supported in every way.

[Read More](#)



Ensure safe air quality and temperatures

Protect teachers and students by ensuring that our public schools are healthy places for teachers to teach and students to learn.

[Read More](#)



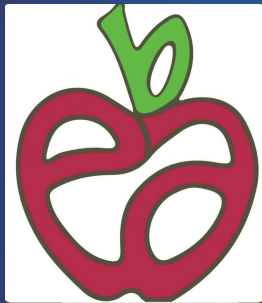
Teachers' Rights

Advocate against any proposals that eliminate, restrict, or interfere with teachers' rights to negotiate salaries, health insurance, working conditions, and other benefits.

[Read More](#)



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 ¹	Regular Meeting	7:00 PM	Hybrid Meeting*
September 9, 2025	Regular Meeting	7:00 PM	Hybrid Meeting*
September 30, 2025 ²	Committee Meetings	6:00 PM	Board Room, BOE
October 9, 2025 ³	Special Meeting	7:00 PM	Hybrid Meeting*
October 28, 2025	Committee Meetings	6:00 PM	Board Room, BOE
November 18, 2025 ⁴	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

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 ¹	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 ²	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

- [9/9/25 Meeting, 11/18/25 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?



Protecting Those Who Protect Our Students: Teachers Call for FOIA Privacy Reform

March 3, 2026

"As public school teachers, we need to know that we're safe to come into work and do our jobs," CEA Vice President Joslyn DeLancey told the legislature's Government Oversight Committee during a public hearing.

Click on the article to read more!

What's
Happening in
the World of
NEA?

PRESS RELEASE

Department of Education Backs Down on Unlawful Directive Targeting Educational Equity

In a victory for academic freedom and education equity, the U.S. Department of Education conceded the end of its February 14, 2025, "Dear Colleague" directive that sought to restrict diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) efforts in schools and higher education institutions nationwide.

Upcoming Events!

Click on the image to register!

Saturday,
March 21
8:30-2:00

CONNECTICUT EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

EARLY CAREER EDUCATOR CONFERENCE

Together We Rise

Strong Union, Strong Educators

Upcoming Events!

Click on the image to register!

Together We Rise: Elevating Equity and Your Leadership Potential

Join educators from across Connecticut for a powerful day of connection, leadership, and storytelling focused on equity and belonging in education. This year's Summit centers on elevating racially and ethnically diverse voices, supporting educators of diverse student populations, and building leadership pathways that drive meaningful change in schools, unions, and communities.

Our keynote speaker will be Congresswoman and former National Teacher of the Year Jahana Hayes who will share her journey from the classroom to Congress, reflecting on finding her voice, overcoming barriers, and leading with authenticity.

More Summit Highlights:

- Leadership and advocacy sessions grounded in lived experience
- Tools to amplify educator voices and strengthen leadership capacity
- Opportunities to connect with educators statewide
- Closing keynote: State Senator Sujata Gadkar-Wilcox – Claiming space, disrupting systems, and leading with purpose



Saturday,
March 28
9:00-3:00

Upcoming Events!

Hope to see
you there!
The school
with the most
attendees will
win the
coveted
chalice filled
with candy!



**BEA Spring
Social**

*APRIL
showers
bring happy hours!* 

Appetizers and Raffle prizes too!

When: Thursday, April 2, 2026
Time: 3:00 PM- 6:00 PM
Where: TJs Burritos
695 Park Ave., Bloomfield, CT 06002

We hope to see you there!!

Upcoming Events!

Click on the image to register!

Lobby Day

April 8

Join with your fellow CEA active, retired, and aspiring members for our annual CEA Lobby Day at the State Capitol.

It is vital that every one of our legislators hear directly from their educators about the issues impacting our members, our students, and public education. This unique event allows for members to join together at the State Capitol to lobby your legislators directly.

Please keep in mind that this will be a CEA member only event.

The event is tentatively scheduled for April 8th. Confirmation of the date will be sent out closer to the event.




Wednesday,
April 8

Upcoming Events!

Click on the image to register!

THU

12

March 12 @ 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm  [CEA Pride Meeting](#)

CEA Pride Meeting

Virtual CT, United States

0+ Virtual Event

Join us online every second Thursday of the month for CEA Pride meetings. We will discuss current issues, supports, and advancing LGBTQ+ rights for staff and students. All are welcome!...



THU

19

March 19 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm  [Racial and Ethnic Diversity Affairs Commission Meeting](#)

Racial & Ethnic Diversity Affairs Commission Meeting

Virtual CT, United States

Committee Meeting

Upcoming Events!

Click on the image to register!

THU

26

March 26 @ 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm  [Hartford County Forum](#)

Hartford County Engagement

Details coming soon

TUE

31

March 31 @ 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

March Madness County Forum

Virtual CT, United States

Register today!



Member Champion Deals

Click the
image to learn
more --->



Healthtrax

Healthtrax Fitness & Wellness Centers

As a CEA Member, you have access to exclusive discounted membership rates at Healthtrax Fitness & Wellness.

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)

Cheryl Bleiler March 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