

**Berlin Board of Education**  
**Finance and Operations Committee Meeting**  
**August 19, 2021**  
**MINUTES**

In Attendance: Timothy Oakes, Chair, Virtual Attendance  
Julia Dennis

Also in attendance: Brian Benigni, Superintendent of Schools  
Ashley Dorsey, Director of Finance  
Sal Bordonaro

Absent: Jeffery Cugno  
Adam Salina

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Oakes at 5:30pm.

**II. Berlin Transition Academy/ Central Connecticut Transition Academy- Lease**

Superintendent Benigni briefly discussed the current status of the Berlin Public Schools' lease negotiation with the YMCA. Mr. Benigni noted plans to move forward with the Cromwell Public Schools to establish the Central Connecticut Transition Academy, a program formally known as the Berlin Transition Academy, operated by the Berlin Public Schools for students ages 18-22 who require transition services. Ms. Dorsey discussed the agreement between Berlin and Cromwell Public Schools. The agreement includes the following sections: location, population, program and staffing structure, transportation, billing, decision making, counterparts, and lease.

**III. Project Funding**

Ms. Dorsey provided the committee with the status of summer projects, indicating the Business Office is preparing project specifications to go out to bid. Ms. Dorsey also discussed the desire to repurpose storage space in Griswold Elementary School into a classroom learning space for the music program. Also discussed was the Social Wellbeing Suite at McGee Middle School, a grant-funded project to establish space for mental health services for students and their families.

**IV. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:59pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley L. Dorsey  
Director of Finance