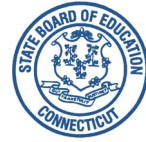




STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Bridgeport Public Schools Action to Address District Needs January 2026

Introduction

At its January 22, 2025, special meeting, the State Board of Education (SBE) duly authorized the Commissioner of Education to implement the powers set forth in Section 10-223e(e)(2) of the Connecticut General Statutes in order to address the stability of operations of the Bridgeport Public Schools (BPS), improve student performance – with a particular focus on students whom BPS has found eligible for special education and related service – and address other needs of the school district as deemed necessary by the Commissioner.

Financial and Human Resources Improvement

In December 2025, the CSDE Technical Assistance Team (“the Team”) and Public Works (PW) supported BPS to develop an Annual Budget Calendar (“the Calendar”) that was presented to the Bridgeport Board of Education (BBE) on December 15, 2025. The Calendar outlines the action items of the BBE, superintendent, central office, department and school leadership necessary to build a comprehensive district budget aligned to district goals. With support from the Team and PW, district leadership also developed a budget planning manual for school leaders, enrollment-based staffing allocation standards for campuses, forms for school leaders to make staffing and capital improvement requests from central office, and training for principals to view their school budgets using the district’s financial software, MUNIS.

PWs has also worked with district leadership to develop a draft Human Resources Procedural Manual to address three of the *2025 Forensic Audit of Bridgeport Public School District* (“Forensic Audit”) recommendations that are focused on establishing unique and non-duplicate employee email profiles and employee onboarding procedures. Continued support will target the development of the superintendent’s 2026-2027 proposed budget while also addressing the remaining Forensic Audit recommendations.

Facilities and Maintenance

On January 5, 2026, the BBE approved the *Building Operations Five Year (FY27-31) Capital Plan* (“Capital Plan”). The Capital Plan was presented to the BBE by the district Chief Operating Officer in alignment with the budget timeline calendar developed in collaboration with the Team and PW. The Capital Plan includes a cost estimate of \$116,051,470 and will address roof repairs, asbestos abatement, and funding towards a new East End School. Henceforth, the Capital Plan will be submitted to Bridgeport’s Office of Policy and Management.

Board Governance/Oversight Improvement

On July 29, 2025, the CSDE requested an update from the BBE on progress towards meeting its improvement goals including the review and adoption of updated bylaws. As of August 15, 2025, the BBE had reviewed their existing bylaws, but tabled a motion on their adoption because there was an opportunity to enhance the bylaws to “allow for integration of professional development requirements and clearer expectations.” To date, the BBE has not adopted updated bylaws. Attached to this update is the letter that was sent to the BBE Chair requesting a meeting.