

**REVISED AGENDA**  
**SHERMAN BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY - JANUARY 6, 2021  
7:00 PM

**ZOOM**

<https://shermanschool.zoom.us/j/8603553793>

Dial Into meeting: +1-929-205-6099

Meeting ID: 860 355 3793

**Vision Statement**

**We enable all Sherman Students to become the best possible version of themselves.  
We provide an environment where our children develop into empathetic, self-directed,  
critical thinkers who don't give up when faced with challenges.**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 2. CELEBRATIONS**
  - 2.1 National Honor Society Inductees
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- 4. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**
- 5. CONSENT AGENDA**
  - 5.1 Review of Minutes:
    - Minutes - Board Retreat, March 7, 2020
    - Minutes - Special Meeting, April 27, 2020
    - Minutes - Executive Session, May 6, 2020
    - Minutes - Executive Session, July 21, 2020
    - Minutes - Board Retreat, September 19, 2020
    - Minutes - Working Session, October 7, 2020
    - Minutes - Executive Session, November 4, 2020
    - Minutes - Communication Committee, November 10, 2020
    - Minutes - Maintenance Meeting, November 17, 2020
    - Minutes - Maintenance Meeting, November 30, 2020
    - Minutes - Monthly Meeting, December 2, 2020
    - Minutes - Budget Workshop, December 14, 2020
    - Minutes - Policy Committee, December 18, 2020
  - 5.2 Personnel Actions
  - 5.3 Monthly Enrollment Report
  - 5.4 Monthly Budget Report 2020-2021 Budget by Function & Summary of Funds
  - 5.5 2020-2021 Transfer Report
- 6. APPROVAL OF CURRENT BILLS**
  - 6.1 Monthly 2020-2021 Current Bills
- 7. ORAL REPORTS**
  - 7.1 SPTO Update

- 7.2 Sub-Committee
- 7.3 Chair
- 7.4 Superintendent Update

**8. PRESENTATIONS**

- 8.1 Remote Learning in Action

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

- 9.1 Review and possible approval of an RFQ/P for Playground Site Work and Installation
- 9.2 Discussion regarding possible addition of a student member of the Board of Education
- 9.3 Review and Discussion of Sub-Committee Assignments Enc. 9.3
- 9.4 First Reading Policy 9325 Meeting Conduct Enc. 9.4
- 9.5 First Reading Policy 5111 Admission and Placement of Students: Attendance Ages Enc. 9.5
- 9.6 Discussion of formal charge of special sub-committee for Capital Planning
- 9.7 Discussion and possible action to approve letter to Board of Selectmen as recommended by Capital Planning Committee
- 9.8 Discussion and possible action on recommendation from the Capital Planning Committee to authorize the Superintendent to solicit cost estimates from Tecton Architects for adjustments or alternatives to the conceptual design options that were previously presented

**10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- 10.1 Second Reading Policy 9221 Vacancies of the Board of Education Enc. 10.1

**11. COMMUNICATIONS**

**12. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**13. BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMENTS**

**14. FUTURE MEETING AND TOPICS**

- 14.1 Board of Education Meeting - Wednesday, February 3, 2021 at 7:00 PM
- 14.2 Budget Workshop - Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 6:00 PM

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

REMINDER: Agenda suggestions for the next business meeting are due to the Chairperson or Superintendent by 12:00 noon January 11, 2021. Copies of the agenda enclosure are available for examination at the Superintendent's Office at the Sherman School during business hours: 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

## January 2020 - December 2020

### Current Committee Assignments for Review & Discussion

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**Curriculum and Textbooks**

Dorinda Lenihan, Chair  
Brian Berlandi

**Policy**

Susan Seeger, Chair  
Dorinda Lenihan

**Maintenance & Operation**

Tim Laughlin, Chair  
James Neunzig

**Budget, Finance & Insurance**

James Neunzig, Chair  
All Members

**Communication Committee**

Vacant

**Transportation**

Susan Seeger, Chair

**Special Education**

Dorinda Lenihan

**Negotiations**

Brian Berlandi, Chair  
James Neunzig

# Draft

9325

## **Bylaws of the Board**

### **Meeting Conduct**

All Board meetings shall commence at the stated time and shall be guided by an agenda which has been prepared and delivered in advance to all Board members and other designated persons.

Meetings of the Board of Education shall be conducted by the Chairperson in a manner consistent with the bylaws of the Board. In the absence of the Chairperson, the meeting shall be chaired by the Vice Chairperson/Secretary.

The conduct of meetings shall, to the fullest possible extent, enable members of the Board to 1) consider problems to be solved, weigh evidence related thereto, and make wise decisions intended to solve the problems, and 2) receive, consider, and take any needed action with respect to reports of accomplishments both as to students and to school system operations.

Provision for permitting any individual or group to address the Board concerning any subject that lies within its jurisdiction shall be as follows:

1. No boisterous conduct shall be permitted at any Board of Education meeting. Persistence in boisterous conduct shall be grounds for summary termination, by the Chair, of that person's privilege of address. If necessary, the Chairperson may clear the room so that Board members may continue the meeting.
2. No oral presentation shall include charges or complaints against any employees of the Board of Education, regardless of whether or not the employee is identified in the presentation by name or by another reference which tends to identify an individual. All charges or complaints against employees shall be submitted to the Board of Education under provisions of Board of Education Policy.

The Board of Education may adjourn any regular or special meeting to a specified time and place. If all members of the Board are absent, the Superintendent may call to order and adjourn the meeting. A copy of the notice of adjournment shall be conspicuously displayed near the meeting room door within twenty-four hours of adjournment.

### **Public Participation in Board of Education Meetings**

## Enclosure 9.4

All Sherman Board of Education meetings are open to the public, except executive sessions as defined by law. In order to assure that persons who wish to appear before the Board may be heard, and at the same time that the Board may conduct its meeting properly and efficiently, the Board shall adopt procedures pertaining to public participation.

The Board of Education is open to receive positive and constructive feedback from members of the public. Members of the public are welcome to ask questions and/or make comments. The Board Chair shall determine if answering a question is feasible and appropriate, and if that question or concern can be addressed during the meeting, or it is more appropriate to be answered or addressed in another forum.

The Board Chair reserves the right to limit the first Public Comment on the agenda to serve as an opportunity for members of the public to address the Board with items that are germane to the agenda. The second Public Comment opportunity shall be an opportunity for a member of the public to speak on any subject related to public education. Members of the public are encouraged to keep their comments brief and concise. Any person wishing to speak shall give his/her name and address.

Each speaker will be given approximately 3 minutes to address the Board with a maximum of 20 minutes per meeting being allocated for any one item of the Agenda. If the Board Chair determines that a separate meeting would be appropriate to address a majority of public comments, he/she retains the right to warn a new meeting at a later date for such purpose.

Speakers may offer such objective criticisms of school operations and programs as concern them, but, in public session, the Board will not hear personal complaints of school personnel nor complaints against any person connected with the school system. Other legitimate channels provide for the Board's consideration and disposition of legitimate complaints against individuals.

Comments at special meetings must be related to the call of the meeting.

Questions asked by the public shall, whenever possible, be answered by the Chairperson or referred to Board Members, the Superintendent, or staff members present for reply. Questions requiring investigation should be deferred for response at a later date.

The portion of a Board Meeting designated for Public Comment is not to be construed as an opportunity to debate. After a speaker has made his/her presentation, one follow-up opportunity to speak will be allowed after all other speakers on a topic have exhausted their privilege.

The Board vests in its Chairperson or parliamentarian the authority to terminate the remarks of an individual when the individual does not adhere to the rules established above. When persons in attendance at a public meeting so disrupt the meeting that order cannot be restored by

removing the individuals causing the disruption, the Chairperson or parliamentarian may order the room cleared of all those in attendance except authorized members of the press or news media who are not participating in the disturbance. Once the room has been cleared, the meeting may continue, but only items on the agenda may be considered.

The Board also vests with its Chairperson or parliamentarian the authority to establish a curfew time for public comment and for the meeting.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

1-200 Definitions

1-206 Denial of access of public records or meetings. Notice. Appeal

1-210 Access to public records

1-225 Meetings of government agencies to be public

1-226 Recording, broadcasting or photographing meetings

19a-342 Smoking prohibited in certain places. Sign required. Penalty

1-231 Executive sessions

1-232 Conduct of meetings (re disturbances)

10-224 Duties of the Secretary

**Bylaw adopted by the Board: April 2, 2008**

SHERMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Sherman, Connecticut

**DRAFT****P5111****Students****Admission and Placement of Students: Attendance Ages**

The Board of Education shall provide education for all residents of Sherman at least five years of age as defined below and under twenty two years of age who have not graduated from a high school or vocational school, except as provided in Connecticut General Statutes 10-233c and 10-233d. Special education will be provided for children who have not attained school age and who have been identified as being in need of special education services, and whose educational potential would be irreparably diminished if such special education services were not provided.

Parents and those who have the care of children five years of age and older and under eighteen years of age are required by Connecticut law to cause any such child to attend public day school or its equivalent.

Admission of a child to kindergarten in the Sherman School requires that the child be at least five years of age no later than January 1 of the school year. Admission of a child who has not had a year of public school Kindergarten experience to first grade in the Sherman School will require that such child be at least six years of age no later than January 1 of the school year. Exceptions from routine admission may be made by the Principal on the basis of supporting evidence from physical and psychological examinations.

Children who apply for initial admission to the Sherman School by transfer from either public or non-public schools will be placed at the grade that would have been reached elsewhere, pending observation and evaluation by classroom teachers, the School Psychologist, and the Principal, and consultation with the parent. After such observations, evaluations and consultation have been completed, the Principal will determine the final grade placement of the children.

A birth certificate and statutorily required health documentation must be presented at the time of registration for all students entering the Sherman School for the first time.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[10-15](#) Towns to maintain schools

[10-15c](#) Discrimination in public schools prohibited. School attendance by five-year olds, as amended by PA 97-247

[10-76a](#) - [10-76g](#) re special education

[10-184](#) Duties of parents (re mandatory schooling for children ages five to sixteen, inclusive) - as amended by PA 98-243, and PA 00-157

[10-186](#) Duties of local and regional boards of education re school attendance. Hearings. Amended by PA 96-26, An Act Concerning Graduation Requirements and Placement of Older Students and PA 19-179 An Act Concerning Homeless Students' Access to Education

Appeals to state board. Establishment of hearing board

[10-233a](#) - [10-233f](#) Inclusive; re: suspend, expel, removal of pupils

[10-233c](#) Suspension of pupils

[10-233d](#) Expulsion of pupils

[10-233k](#) Notification of school officials of potentially dangerous students. (as amended by PA 01-176)

[10-261](#) Definitions

State Board of Education Regulations

[10-76a-1](#) General definitions (c) (d) (q) (t)

[10-76d-7](#) Admission of student requiring special education (referral)

[10-204a](#) Required immunizations (as amended by PA 98-243)

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §11431 et seq.

Plyler vs. Doe, 457 U.S. 202 (1982)

**Policy adopted: June 3, 2020**

SHERMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Sherman, Connecticut



**Draft**

**9221**

## **Bylaws of the Board**

### **Vacancies of the Board of Education**

In the event that a position on the Board of Education becomes vacant, the Board shall fill the vacancy in the following manner:

The Board shall notify the town committee under whose name the individual was elected and request a nomination(s) for the vacancy.

The Board shall notify the general public of the vacancy and invite applications from qualified individuals.

In the event that the vacated position was filled by an unaffiliated elector who did not run under a party name, both political parties shall be notified of the vacancy and invited to make a nomination(s), provided, however, that the statutes concerning minority representation would not be violated if an elector from the party with the majority representation were to be seated on the Board.

Upon receiving nominations and/or applications for the vacated position, the Board shall request said nominees and applicants to appear at a regular or special meeting for a personal interview.

The Board shall appoint an individual to fill the vacated position by a show of hands. However, upon the request of any member, a signed ballot shall be used for the election of the new member. The individual receiving the majority of the votes cast shall be declared appointed to the position. In the event of the failure of any one candidate to receive a majority of the votes cast, the Board shall continue to cast votes until one candidate receives a majority.

The individual appointed shall assume the duties of the office at the next regular or special Board meeting, provided, however, that he/she has been duly sworn, and shall fill that position until the next regular town election.

The Board shall endeavor to fill any vacancy within ~~90~~ 30 days.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

7-107 Vacancy appointments by selectmen.

9-204 Minority representation on boards of education.

10-219 Procedure for filling vacancy on board of education.

10-156e Employees of boards of education permitted to serve as elected officials; exception.

10-232 Restriction on employment of members of the board of education.

**Bylaw adopted by the Board: April 2, 2008**

SHERMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Sherman, Connecticut