

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
NEWINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
NEWINGTON, CT 06111**

Newington Town Hall  
Helen W. Nelson Meeting Room  
Tuesday, November 12, 2019  
Following Swearing-in Ceremony and  
Reception (Approximately 9:00 p.m.)

**SPECIAL MEETING/ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

**PRESENT:** Michael Branda, Dr. Bruce Fletcher, Emily Guion, Beth Manke  
Hutvagner, Steven Silvia, Cindy Stamm, Robert Tofeldt, Paul  
Vessella, Jessica Weaver

**ADMINISTRATION:** Dr. Maureen Brummett, Lou Jachimowicz, Wendy Crouse,  
Stephen Foresi

**A. Call to Order – Superintendent of Schools**

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Maureen Brummett called the Organizational Meeting of the Newington Board of Education to order at 9:02 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

**MOTION:** Steven Silvia moved the agenda be modified to move item E — New Business Items – 1. Action – Election of Officers as the first item in the agenda. Robert Tofeldt seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**E. New Business**

**1. Action – Election of Officers**

**a. Chairperson**

**MOTION:** Beth Manke Hutvagner moved the Board of Education accept nominations for the position of Chairperson. Emily Guion seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Beth Manke Hutvagner nominated Paul Vessella for Chairperson. Robert Tofeldt seconded the nomination.

**MOTION:** Dr. Maureen Brummett moved that nominations be closed. Michael Branda seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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Dr. Brummett stated let the record indicate Paul Vessella has been elected Chairperson of the Newington Board of Education.

b. Secretary

MOTION: Dr. Bruce Fletcher nominated Steven Silvia for Secretary.  
Emily Guion nominated Beth Manke Hutvagner for Secretary.

MOTION: Jessica Weaver moved that nominations be closed. Emily Guion seconded.  
The motion passed unanimously.

A vote was taken. Steven Silvia won 5 to 4.

Dr. Brummett stated let the record indicate Steven Silvia has been elected Secretary of the Newington Board of Education.

Chairperson Paul Vessella took over as chair of the meeting at 9:06 p.m.

Chairperson Paul Vessella appointed Robert Tofeldt Vice-Chairperson.

MOTION: Robert Tofeldt moved the meeting resume with original agenda. Dr. Bruce Fletcher seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Presentation of Awards/Proclamations

1. Presentation/Action – Resolution Honoring Custodians and Maintenance Workers

C. Public Participation on Any Matter Related to Board Responsibilities

D. Old Business

None

E. New Business

2. Report – Duties/Responsibilities of Members of the Board of Education

F. Public Participation on Any Matter Related to Board Responsibilities

G. Remarks by Board Members

H. Adjournment

MOTION: Michael Branda moved to adjourn. Emily Guion seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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The meeting was adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Silvia, Secretary

Debra O. Craig, Board Clerk

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Joshua Shulman  
15 Longview Drive

As is tradition, former Board Chairperson Joshua Shulman came to attend the Organizational Meeting. He congratulated the three new Board members and offered them some advice from his experience.