

TOWN OF STAMFORD
SPECIAL SELECT BOARD MEETING
JOINT MEETING with SCHOOL DIRECTORS and LIBRARY TRUSTEES
May 5, 2026
(UNAPPROVED)

Present: Selectboard: Nancy L. Bushika, Chair, Michael G. Denault, Kurt Gamari, and Jedidiah Gramlin.
School Directors: Cynthia Lamore, Chair, Beth Thomas and Brian Rower.
Library Trustees: Caroline Burch, Chair, Amy Johns, Tyna Senecal, and Linda Rodovick.
John Dunn, Phyllis Desautels, Joseph Caruso were not present.
Visitors: Lisa Gramlin, Victoria Jefferies, and Pamela Tworig.
Lori Shepard, Select Board Secretary.

Nancy Bushika opened the meeting at 6 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed everyone.

SHARED USE

The board members discussed the school's use of the library for student testing. Kurt Gamari and Jed Gramlin supported creating a Memorandum of Understanding. Several members felt the formation of a legal document would require legal advice and did not want to consult an attorney. Amy Johns did a lot of research and felt it would be considered a contract. Mike Denault asked how the town, school and library have shared the space harmoniously for so long and only recently have had difficulty. Our library is a community library and the law requires that it is open at a variety of times that will accommodate community members of all ages. The Superintendent's request to close the library during a time when it was open to the public reduced their public hours by 40%. The Library Trustees wished they could have negotiated times that would have worked for both the library and the school, but they were not given the opportunity. Some felt the request should have been made by a School Director or the principal, and the request should have been made to the Library Board and not a library employee. The ownership and authority of the school building and property was also discussed. A question was asked if the Superintendent needed the town office space, if he had the authority to make the request and if the School Directors would support it. The Library Trustees were approached by the Emergency Management Director about opening on a Sunday as a warming shelter if needed. The Library Trustees supported being available to the community if needed and asked if permission from the school was required. Building maintenance and the custodian were also discussed. Nancy Bushika felt everyone coming together and discussing these matters was great progress and she thanked everyone for attending. With a strong intention toward open communication between the boards, a written agreement should not be necessary.

MOTION by Mike Denault to adjourn. SECONDED by Jed Gramlin. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The meeting ended at 7:35 p.m.

Kurt Gamari
Clerk

/las