

BOARD OF HEALTH- DENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
April 28, 2026

A meeting of the Bristol-Burlington Health District's Board of Health was held in the Bristol-Burlington Health District Office, 240 Stafford Avenue, Bristol, Connecticut

Members Present: Kathy Langlais, Dental Committee Chairwoman
Robert Wollenberg
Donna Friday

Staff present: Marco Palmeri, MPH, RS, Director of Health
Louise McGlone, Office Manager, Board of Health Secretary

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chairwoman Langlais at 2:02 p.m.

1. Attendance

All Dental Committee Members present, no absences.


2. BBHD Dental Committee Discussion

- Discussion Points:
 - i. Purpose of the committee was unclear to several members, creating tension about expectations and preparation.
 - ii. Debate over data interpretation: 100% treatment was clarified as 100% of students with signed permission slips, not 100% of all enrolled students.
 - iii. Discussion of metrics and goals: clear benchmarks requested (e.g., % of students getting cleanings), while Director Palmeri notes there is no formal numerical target and that numbers alone don't show workload.
 - iv. Review of school program operations: age/grade-based coverage, scheduling challenges, parental permission options (exam, cleaning, fluoride), and factors that prevent seeing every child.
 - v. Review of Senior Center clinic utilization: relatively low daily patient volume, high no-show rate (~28%), and questions about efficient use of hygienist time.
 - vi. Clarification of payment model: donation-based for seniors, billing insurance (especially Husky/Medicaid) when possible; most dental revenue currently comes from school-age children.
 - vii. Discussion of future expansion: planned move of the operatory to a new site with a public entrance and possible broader community access, contingent on licensing, staffing, and finalized plans.
 - viii. Recognition that hygienists should be at the table for future meetings, and that better advance communication of questions and goals is needed.

3. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned by Committee Chairwoman Langlais at 3:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Marco Palmeri, MPH, RS
Director of Health