

**TOWN OF LITCHFIELD
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
REGION 20 MEMBER ELECTION
JUNE 15, 2026**

A Special Town Meeting of the Town of Litchfield was held on Monday, June 15, 2026 at the Litchfield Intermediate School Auditorium to elect a member of the Region 20 Board of Education. Approximately 400 electors participated. First Selectman Denise Raap called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm. The election would be by paper ballot and each elector was given a blank ballot upon check-in by the Registrars of Voters. Lisa A. Losee, Town Clerk, served as Clerk.

First Selectman D. Raap made a motion to extend voting until 8:00 pm to accommodate parents who were at a school awards banquet. Motion was seconded by Jeffrey Zullo. It was then so voted unanimously to extend voting hours. Motion carried.

Margaret Hunt made motion that Jeffrey Zullo preside as Moderator, seconded by Erich Marriott. There were no other nominations. Motion was made by Jennine Lupo, seconded by Daniella Larrison to close nominations. All were in favor. It was then so voted that J. Zullo serve as Moderator.

The Certificate of Posting of the Legal Notice of this meeting is attached to these minutes as Exhibit A.

The Moderator read the Call of the Special Town Meeting Election and it is attached to these minutes as Exhibit B.

Item I: To elect one (1) member from the Town of Litchfield to the Regional School District 20 Board of Education, in order to fill a vacancy with term expiration of June 30, 2030.

The Moderator stated that the following ground rules for public comment and nominations would apply:

- ~Individuals offering nominations and public comment should please state their first and last name and where they reside.
- ~All persons making a motion to nominate a Candidate for R20 BOE shall nominate an individual and speak for 4 minutes on behalf of their candidate.
- ~All persons seconding the nomination shall speak for 2 minutes.
- ~After all nominations a motion and second to close nominations will be in order.
- ~All candidates shall accept their nomination and speak for 5 minutes in the order of their nomination.
- ~There will be a brief question and answer period of the candidates.
- ~Remarks should be limited to no more than 2 minutes, and candidate answers not more than 2 minutes.
- ~All public comments must be relevant and related to the BOE nominations.
- ~Profane or vulgar language, partisan political statements and comments will not be permitted.
- ~After the question-and-answer period voting will commence by paper ballot with voting open until 8:00 pm as voted in favor of at this meeting.

- ~The Registrars of Voters will hand count the ballots.
- ~The Moderator will declare the winner of the R20BOE election and accept a motion to adjourn.

The Moderator then called for nominations from the floor.

Nominee #1: Rachel Bernhardt
Nominated by: Danny Clock
Seconded by: Beth Landau

Nominee #2: Josh Szwed
Nominated by: Sue Carpenter
Seconded by: Carrie Szwed

Nominee #3: Matthew Carbone
Nominated by: John Morosani
Seconded by: John Strawson

The Moderator called for more nominations from the floor. Being none, a motion was made by John Bongiorno, seconded by Burke Gibney to close nominations. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

After all Nominators and Candidates had the opportunity to speak, there was a brief question and answer period. There was one question asked and answered. The Moderator asked twice for more questions. There being none, the electors were then called to begin placing their ballots in one of two ballot boxes supervised by the Registrar of Voters. Voting remained open until 8:00 pm.

A total of 400 ballots were cast. Ballots were hand-counted by Lynette Kyasky, Republican Registrar of Voters, Nancy Southard, Republican Deputy Registrar of Voters, James Duncan, Democratic Registrar of Voters, and Jill Bigelow, Democratic Deputy Registrar of Voters, assisted by L. Losee, Town Clerk. Two Ballots were rejected due to over-voting. 398 Ballots were counted. The results were as follows:

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| <u>Josh Szwed</u> | <u>Rachel Bernhardt</u> | <u>Matthew Carbone</u> |
| 225 | 120 | 53 |

The Moderator declared **Josh Szwed** duly elected to serve on the Region 20 Board of Education representing the Town of Litchfield for the term expiring in June 2030.

M.Hunt made motion to adjourn said meeting, seconded by D. Larrison. All voted in favor and the meeting ended at 8:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa A. Losee
Town Clerk
Town of Litchfield

Exhibit A

POSTING CERTIFICATE
NOTICE OF REGION 20 BOE MEMBER ELECTION
AT SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
TO BE HELD JUNE 15, 2026

I, Lisa A. Losee, the duly elected Town Clerk of the Town of Litchfield, Connecticut, hereby certify that there has been posted in the office of the Town Clerk, on the Town website, and all other places designated by the Town on May 21, 2026, the Notice of the Region 20 BOE Member Election at Special Town Meeting to be held on Monday, June 15, 2026 at 6:00 pm at the Litchfield Intermediate School, that which will be published in the Republican-American, a newspaper having a substantial circulation in the Town of Litchfield, in its issue of June 8, 2026; which publication is at least five days prior to the holding of said Town Meeting (counting the date of publication but not the date of the meeting).

Signed and sealed at Litchfield, Connecticut this 21st day of May, 2026.



Lisa A. Losee, Town Clerk
Town of Litchfield

Exhibit B

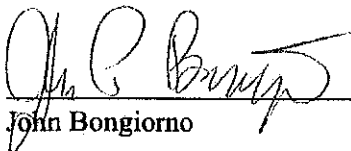
**TOWN OF LITCHFIELD
NOTICE OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
REGION 20 MEMBER ELECTION**

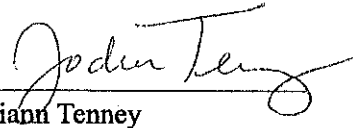
Notice is hereby given to the electors of the Town of Litchfield that a Special Town Meeting will be held on June 15, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Litchfield Intermediate School, 35 Plumb Hill Road, Litchfield, for the following purposes:

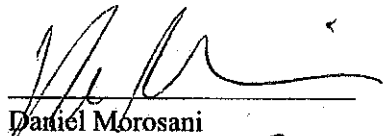
- I. To elect one (1) member from the Town of Litchfield to the Regional School District 20 Board of Education, in order to fill a vacancy with term expiration of June 30, 2030.

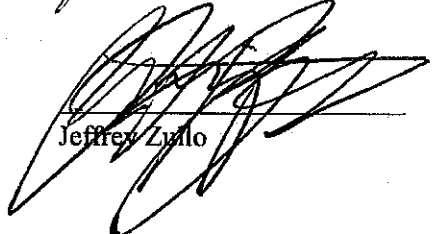
Dated at Litchfield, Connecticut, this 19 day of May, 2026.


Denise Raap


John Bongiorno


Jodiann Tenney


Daniel Morosani


Jeffrey Zullo

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF LITCHFIELD**

Any Persons requiring special assistance should contact First Selectman Denise Raap Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at 860-567-7550.