

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. by Mr. D. Goldson, President. The meeting was held in the Celentano Magnet School Cafetorium, 400 Canner Street, New Haven,

Connecticut.

Present: Mr. D. Goldson, President; Dr. T. Jackson-McArthur, Secretary; Dr. E. Joyner, Mr. J.

Rodriguez, Mr. N. Rivera, Mayor T. Harp, Dr. C. Birks

Absent: Mr. J. Cotto, Vice-President; Ms. M. Dawkins

Mr. Rodriguez led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

188-19 Approval of Minutes, January 14 and January 28, 2019 On the motion by Dr. Jackson-McArthur, seconded by Mr. Rodriguez, it was unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of the Board meetings of January 14, 2019 and January 28, 2019.

Achievements and Acknowledgements

Davis Street Inspirational Ensemble

Dr. Birks introduced Mr. William Fluker, Director of the Davis Street School Inspirational Ensemble. The performers are all 6th graders:

Alijah Steed, Aaron Steed, Catalina Smernoff, Christian Edwards, Audrey Fitzgerald, Queenazingah Nkrumah, and Niara Rodriguez

The Ensemble performed: "Do You Believe in Miracles, You're Never Alone" and "This Is Me".

After a magnificent performance the students were recognized by a round of applause. Mr. Fluker noted that at Davis Street we are set up to inspire young students. We have a marching band, a concert band, and a staff band, and our parents are very supportive; they are all here tonight. They were recognized by a round of applause.

Dr. Birks congratulated Mr. Fluker on the wonderful job he did at Davis Street's 100th anniversary celebration. She thanked him for his service to our schools.

CIAC State Champions,

Hillhouse Boys and Girls Track Teams

Dr. Birks announced and congratulated the Hillhouse Boys and Girls Track Teams on winning the CIAC State Championships under the leadership of the "Dynamic Duo", the Moore's. Dr. Birks remarked that this is the fifth consecutive year that the boys have won and the second year the girls have won this championship. Dr. Birks gave the statistics for both the boy's team and the girl's team. Each of the students was invited to the podium to receive a Plaque of Achievement. Students posed for a group photo with members of the Board. They were recognized by a resounding round of applause. Dr. Birks acknowledged Coach Darrell Brown and he was given a round of applause.

Coach Gary Moore thanked Dr. Birks and the Board for inviting them and honoring them. It is definitely a nice feeling to come here every year for the kids to be recognized for their hard work and their accomplishments. Mrs. Moore commented that she is proud of the kids and it shows in their accomplishments. She thanked the kids for their hard work.

One of the students acknowledged their "village" that they have and for their support system, the parents, teachers and former teachers that support them. Thank you so much for believing in our kids because they are our tomorrow.

Visit to State Capitol

Dr. Birks commented that she would be remiss if she didn't mention that on Friday they had an opportunity to go to the State Capitol to present to the Education Committee. They didn't have much notice to be able to rally people but she wanted to thank the following individuals who were so instrumental in organizing parents and students so that New Haven could have a powerful voice in Hartford. This particular bill, if passed, could represent a 5% increase in Magnet School funding and benefit New Haven. Dr. Birks acknowledged the following: Mr. Rodriguez-Blanco, student at John C. Daniels; Mr. Marquelle Middleton, Director of School Choice & Magnet Schools; Ms. Tina Adari, Ms. Marta Rodriguez-Blanco, John D. Daniels parents; Ms. JoAnne Wilcox, Riverside parent; Ms. Dolores Miller Williams, Davis Street parent; Ms. Jill Kelly, ESUMS parent; Ms. Sarah Miller, Columbus Academy parent. Dr. Birks thanked them and the New Haven Public School Advocates for their support.

Public Participation

Ms. Jill Kelly, ESUMS parent, NHPS Advocates, presented a list of questions from Advocate members; Ms. Sarah Miller, Columbus Academy parent, member NHPSA, commented about the Data Wise programming that is being proposed tonight; she asked why our school district makes data the center of everything, she continued to explain;

Mr. Goldson announced, for the record, Board member Nico Rivera has joined our meeting at 6:10pm.

Mr. David Cicarella, president, Federation of Teachers Union, spoke to budget issues that are being considered and that the NHFT will work collaboratively to keep teacher cuts at a minimum; he also spoke about transparency and that some things have to be done in private and explained in detail; Ms. JoAnne Wilcox, former parent of New Light, noted that she was at the Legislature on Friday and thought the discussion was interesting on a number of bills; she noted that the kids did a great job in representing New Haven; she remarked that her issues are all around restorative practices and she explained; her daughter attended the meeting with her and she spoke up about the importance of alternative schooling, she explained further; Ms. Florence Caldwell, retired matron, Title I Advocate, commented that from January until now we have been hearing some not so positive things about the NHPS system but hearing the Davis Street School Inspirational Ensemble, under the leadership of Mr. Fluker, has restored faith in our

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young people. She also pointed out that the amazing young women and men from Hillhouse show that we are doing something right.

President's

President's Report

Mr. Goldson remarked that we received a request from the Lee High/Career School Alumni Organization to start a Wall of Fame at the school. We are going to submit that to the Facilities Naming Committee to set up a public hearing and come back to the Board with recommendations.

Mr. Goldson commented that today he was invited to visit Wexler School's Career Day. He had a wonderful time, spoke to the 8th grade class and they invited him to have lunch with them to taste how bad the food was, and he has to admit it was pretty bad. So he has spoken to the Chair of the Food Task Force Group ono how to improve that.

For full disclosure, Mr. Goldson reported that an FOI complaint was filed by one of the Board members alleging an illegal meeting. That has been forwarded to the FOI Commission and there will probably be a hearing sometime in the near future.

Superintendent's Report

Announcements

Dr. Birks remarked that the next Coffee Conversation will be held on March 12th and will be hosted by Change; the location is still to be determined. Our next Face Time with the Superintendent. A time when she meets with students from the district and they provide her with information about the district such as areas of growth, strengths, etc. When they provide her with areas of action, she and her staff respond to them.

Hillhouse High School and Clinton Avenue School will undergo their NESAC accreditations in March: HHHS 3/17-3/20 and CAS 3/24-3/27. Dr. Birks remarked that is it very important that the internal community, the schools and our internal leadership support them in the accreditation process. There will also be an opportunity for the Board to participate and she has provided the Boards with the dates; March 17^{th} and March 24^{th} both Sundays.

Dr. Birks remarked that we are excited to announce that we will be launching our Student Board Elections, which will begin on February 27th. Mr. Rodriquez and Alder Greenberg are supporting us in that effort, as well as members of our internal team. She gave the schedule and the requirements of eligibility needed to participate. The elections will take place in May.

Dr. Birks commented that the Citywide Student Council meeting will take place on March 5th.

The next School Law Institute session will take place tomorrow, and the focus will be on Labor Relations. It will be held at Metropolitan Business Academy.



Mr. Rodriguez remarked he continues to serve as the Board's liaison to the student elections. He invited the members to the March 5th Student Council meeting, which will serve as the official kickoff for the upcoming election. It will take place at the Parish Hall from 10a to 1p.

Mr. Goldson remarked that he appointed Mr. Rodriguez to this committee last year. For the record, he appointed Mr. Rodriguez to this committee again this year. Staff members: Carolyn Ross-Lee, Dr. Garcia-Blocker, Dr. Whyte, and Cynthia Sanchez. A discussion ensued.

Mr. Goldson called on Alder DeCola to talk about his upcoming event. Alder DeCola announced that on April 26th the 7th Annual Talent Haven Show will take place at COOP High School with the help of Ellen Maust, Supervisor of Performing & Visual Arts, the Superintendent, the Mayor, and the School Board to support the Board of Alders raising funds for children to attend Music Haven, Neighborhood Music School, and the Shubert Summer Theater Camp. Their goal is to raise \$10,000 so that more children can have the opportunity to attend these programs and be more engaged in arts and music. Tickets are available at the Shubert Theater; our sponsors are Wells Fargo, Webster Bank and the NHFT, to name a few.

Dr. Birks then clarified the principal search process that takes place in the district. She continued to explain in detail.

2019-2020 Estimated Proposed Expenditures

A lengthy discussion took place on this item. *This discussion may be viewed in its entirety at NHPS.net.*

After much discussion, it was agreed that Dr. Birks present the prepared PowerPoint overview of the proposed budget. Discussion continued at length.

The PowerPoint presentation was shown at this time. Dr. Birks explained in detail.

On completion of the presentation Board members presented their comments and questions. A lengthy discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Dr. Joyner, seconded by Mr. Rodriguez, to approve the budget for \$217,901,420 as requested by Dr. Birks.

Mr. Rodriguez began a discussion on the motion.

Mayor Harp commented that she has a responsibility, under the Charter, to present to the Board of Alders a balanced budget, so she will be abstaining on this vote. Dr. Joyner commented that the public now knows that we have done our duty to inform them.

For the record, Dr. Birks commented that they will work to mitigate the budget with all groups in the City and the State, and she will keep the Board apprised of any new fiscal developments that she finds out from the State Board of Education.

189-19 Approval of Proposed Budget

On the motion by Dr. Joyner, seconded by Mr. Rodriguez, it was voted by roll call with one abstention by Mayor Harp, to approve the budget for \$217,901,420 as requested by the Superintendent.

Dr. Birks pointed out the appointment of Mr. Frederick Till as Interim Director of Transportation. She gave his credentials and noted that he volunteered his services and would like to bring him on full-time. She praised the work he has done thus far.

190-19 Approval of Personnel Report

On the motion by Dr. Joyner, seconded by Mr. Rodriguez, it was unanimously voted to approve the Superintendent's Personnel Report.

Dr. Joyner praised Mr. Till for taking this position without compensation. Dr. Birks also remarked on the great job Mr. Till has done and continues to do.

Mr. Till commented that our primary objective is to get the kids to school and home safely and in a timely fashion. After looking at your system, he realized that there is a lot of room to ratchet down expenses without compromising getting the students' to school on time. He is a workaholic and he is going to give the district as much as he has for as long as he can. He explained the plan that is in place and what they are doing in conjunction with the bus company and the staff. The ultimate goal is efficiency, utilization, safety and getting the kids to school on time.

Mr. Goldson and Dr. Jackson-McArthur both made comments. Dr. Jackson-McArthur told Mr. Till of an incident that happened when her kids were not picked up and she called the bus company and they were very responsive and sent a bus to pick them up. She appreciated it.

Mr. Till remarked that we transport the most important thing in the world; somebody's child.

Finance & Operations Committee Report

A discussion took place on the Information Only items. Mayor Harp commented that it is confusing if we vote on them. She suggested that Information Only items be attached to the minutes so that it is clear that the Board saw them. She continued to explain. Dr. Joyner agreed with the Mayor. Mr. Goldson commented that going forward, Information Only Items will be in our packets and in the minutes but we are not going to make any motion on them. Mayor Harp remarked they can be a part of the Superintendent's written report.



191-19 Approval of On the motion by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Dr. Joyner, moving forward, Information Only Items will be a part of the Superintendent's Report written report.

Information Only Items

Part of the Superintendent's Report

Mr. Rodriguez reported the committee met on Tuesday, February 19th and submit for approval 8 agreements.

On the motion by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Dr. Joyner, it was unanimously voted to approve the following FINANCE AND OPERATIONS-RELATED ITEMS:

AGREEMENTS

192-19

Amendment #1,

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing

Amendment #1 to Agreement #96301157 with Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing to, 1) increase funding of \$96,700 by \$7,500to \$104,200 for additional administrative coaching Agreement #96301157, sessions: 2) to change funding account # from School Improvement Grant (SIG 1003) Acct. #2531-6165-56694-0049 (\$96,700) and to fund \$7,500 from School Improvement

Grant Supplemental Grant, Acct. #2531-6302-56694-0049.

193-19

Amendment #1,

Clifford Beers Guidance Clinic

Amendment #1 to Agreement #96302156 with Clifford Beers Guidance Clinic to change funding account # from School Improvement Grant Supplemental – West Rock Program, **Agreement #96302156.** Acct. #2531-6165-56694-0049 to School Improvement Grant (SIG 1003) – West Rock

Program, Acct. #2531-6302-56694-0049, with no change in funding amount.

194-19 Amendment #1.

Foundation for the **Arts & Trauma**

Amendment #1 to Agreement #96300178 with Foundation for the Arts & Trauma to change the funding account # from School Improvement Grant (SIG 1003) - Strong Agreement #96300178, Program, Acct. #2531-6279-56694-0028 to School Improvement Grant (SIG 1003) -Strong Program, Acct. #2531--56694-0028, with no change in funding amount.

195-19

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing An agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Co., to provide 20 days of job-embedded coaching and modeling for teachers and staff at Brennan-Rogers School from February18 to May 30, 2019 in an amount not to exceed \$71,000.

196-19

Kenya Yopp, LPN

An agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and Kenya Yopp, LPN, to provide medical assessments, pre- and post-natal education and follow-up for students enrolled in the Supporting Pregnant & Parenting Teens program from February 26 to June 14, 2019 in an amount not to exceed \$20,026.

197-19 Amendment #1,

Amendment #1 to Agreement #96178107 with ARTE, Inc., to extend programming to Columbus, Daniels, Bishop Woods, Truman and Martinez schools, to increase the Agreement #96178107, number of sessions from 76 by 75 to 151 sessions and to increase funding of \$15,200 by

ARTE, Inc.

\$15,000 to \$30,200. Funding source and account number for the amendment as follows: Extended Schools Hours Program, Acct. #2579-5326-56697

198-19

Foundation for Arts & Trauma

An agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and Foundation for Arts & Trauma to provide behavioral interventions and support for students in grades K-2 at Barnard, Quinnipiac and Hillhouse from February 26 to June 28, 2019 in an amount not to exceed \$152,212.50.

199-19 Yale University An agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and Yale University to continue the Comer School Development Program Process at Lincoln-Bassett, Fair Haven, Wexler/Grant, West Rock and Hillhouse from February 1 to June 15, 2019 in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.

200-19 Approve Items 9 & 10 for Discussion On the motion by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Dr. Joyner, it was unanimously voted to move Agreements Items 9 and 10 for further discussion.

Mr. Rodriguez explained the reasons for moving these items for further discussion because parents and Board members had raised questions on these items. He asked the Superintendent or Deputy Superintendent to provide an overview of those two items so they may ask any questions that they may have. Some members of the F&O Committee couldn't attend the meeting and some questions were raised, and out of respect to the process he wanted that discussion to take place tonight.

Deputy Superintendent, Ms. Ivelise Velazquez addressed Agreement #9, Curriculum Solutions, and explained in detail. Board members asked questions of Ms. Velazquez. She explained in detail and a lengthy discussion ensued.

Ms. Velazquez then explained Agreement #10, Data-Wise, in detail. Dr. Birks noted that this is an approved activity on the Alliance Grant. A lengthy discussion ensued. *These discussions may be accessed at NHPS.net*.

201-19 Withdraw Motion 200-19 On the motion by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Dr. Joyner, it was unanimously voted, after further discussion, to withdraw the previous motion.

202-19 CMSI On the motion by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Dr. Joyner, it was unanimously voted to approve Agreement #9 by and between the New Haven Board of Education and Curriculum Solutions (CMSI) to conduct a curriculum audit based on, 1) document review of all district curriculum; 2) observations in a representative sample of classrooms; and 3) surveys of a representative sample of teachers, students and parents, effective February 25 to June 20, 2019 in an amount not to exceed \$\$132,500.

A discussion, initiated by Mayor Harp, ensued.



203-19 Table Item #10 On the motion by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Dr. Joyner, it was unanimously voted to Table Agreement #10 with Data Wise.

Governance Committee Report

Dr. Jackson commented that this committee met today and made some movement in a few things. We had a discussion about the District Expulsion Process and Code of Conduct. Kermit Carolina and Gemma Lumpkin were there to present. We will be forming a committee around the unified code of conduct. She passed out a draft that is four years old, so it needs to be revisited and developed further. By the end of May they will have a policy for a unified code of conduct for the district to be voted on. Dr. Joyner presented a very informative third draft summary procurement process. He will be meeting with his committee and by the end of March we will have a draft policy to present. They ran out of time and were not able to discuss the domestic overnight trips and the draft for the IRB. She thanked everyone for their hard work.

Teaching & Learning Committee Report

Mayor Harp reported this committee will meet on February 27th at 4pm at the Meadow Street Board Room.

Food Service Task Force

Mr. Rodriguez reported this committee met a week ago. They have begun the process of discussing some summer meal sites with the Parks Department. They are working with the district to see what our summer sites will be and they hope to have those schools identified prior to the end of the school year. They are looking into updating our food allergies policy to align with the State. They also had a conversation on the school climate survey.

School Construction & Stewardship Committee Report

Mayor Harp reported the next meeting is on March 14th at 4:30 pm in City Hall.

204-19 Adjournment On the motion by Dr. Joyner, seconded by Mr. Rodriguez, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Ginger McHugh **Recording Secretary**

"A video of the meeting is available on the NHPS website, NHPS.net, Public Meetings"



PERSONNEL REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

APPOINTMENT-Executive Management:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Assignment</u> | Effective Date | <u>Salary</u> |
|----------------|--|-------------------|---------------|
| Frederick Till | Interim Director of Transportation Gateway Center General Funds 19047100-50112 | February 25, 2019 | \$116,000 |

APPOINTMENT-Teacher:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Assignment</u> | Effective Date | <u>Salary</u> |
|--|---|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Brianna Burlinson Quinnipiac University-6 th yr. | Teacher-Social Worker Lincoln Bassett School General Funds 19049320-50115 | March 11, 2019 | \$50,151 (Step B, 1yr.exp.) |

APPOINTMENT-Teacher (Pending Certification):

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Assignment</u> | Effective Date | <u>Salary</u> |
|--------------------------------------|---|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| Kerry Hayes LaSalle University-BA | Teacher-Special Education Columbus Family Academy General Funds 19049041-50115 | February 25, 2019 | \$47,551 (Step B, 0yrs.exp.) |

RESIGNATIONS – Teachers:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Assignment</u> | Effective Date |
|----------------|--|-----------------------|
| Devan Lavorgna | Teacher-Science Hill Regional Career High School Inter District Funding 27041463-50115 | March 14, 2019 |
| Margaret Luke | Teacher-Read 180 Ross/Woodward Magnet School General Funds 19041010-50115 | February 16, 2019 |



RESIGNATIONS – Teachers (Continued)

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Assignment</u> | Effective Date |
|--------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Lauren McEachern | Teacher-Social Worker Lincoln Bassett School General Funds 19049320-50115 | January 26, 2019 |
| Marta Soto-Johnson | Teacher-Mathematics Wilbur Cross High School General Funds | April 3, 2019 |

19041161-50115

APPOINTMENT-Paraprofessional:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Assignment</u> | Effective Date | <u>Salary</u> |
|--|---|------------------|--------------------------------|
| Anthony Consiglio Gateway Community College-AS | Assistant Teacher-PreK Jepson Magnet School Inter District Funding 27041018-50128 | January 29, 2019 | \$22,313 (Step 1,0yrs.exp.) |

RESCINDED-Paraprofessional:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Assignment</u> | Effective Date | <u>Salary</u> |
|--|--|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Courtney Mayberry Central CT State University – MS | Assistant Teacher – SPED Lincoln Basset School General Funds 19049020-50128 | February 25, 2019 | \$22,313 (Group I, Step 1) |

RESIGNATIONS-Paraprofessionals:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Assignment</u> | Effective Date |
|---------------|---|------------------|
| Luisa Duluc | Assistant Teacher-Bilingual Grade 1 John C. Daniels Magnet School Inter District Funding 27041013-50128 | January 17, 2019 |
| Raheem Nelson | Assistant Teacher-Special Education K-8 James Hillhouse High School General Funds 19049062-50128 | March 9, 2019 |



RESIGNATIONS-Paraprofessionals (Continued)

Name Assignment Effective Date

Bethzaida Nieves Assistant Teacher-PreK March 9, 2019

Hill Central Music Academy
School Readiness Hill Central

25236067-50128

APPOINTMENT- Non-Instructional Staff:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Assignment</u> | Effective Date | <u>Salary</u> |
|----------------|--|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Raul A. Peters | Magnet Schools Recruitment Specialist Gateway Center | March 4, 2019 | \$43,372 (Range 10, Step 1) |

Magnet 16-19 Central Office

25176226-50124

RESIGNATION – Non-Instructional Staff:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Assignment</u> | Effective Date |
|-----------------|---|-------------------|
| Nicole Santiago | School Health Assistant 10 Months ECS Alliance-Culture & Climate 25476108-50124 | February 15, 2019 |

APPOINTMENTS-Food Services:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>From</u> | <u>Hours</u> | <u>To</u> | <u>Hours</u> |
|----------------|--|-------------------|--|------------------|
| Donna Walker | Cook Lead West Rock Author \$21.99/hour | 6.0 8:00-2:00 | Cook Lead Hooker Elementary \$21.99/hour | 5.0 7:30-1:00 |
| Mayia Jackson | General Worker Roberto Clemente \$18.88/hour | 6.0 7:45-1:45 | General Worker Central Kitchen \$18.88/hour | 6.5 7:30-2:30 |
| Patricia Estep | General Worker Sound \$18.88/hour | 5.25 7:15-1:30 | General Worker Central Kitchen \$18.88/hour | 6.5 7:30-2:30 |
| Renee Oliver | General Worker Metropolitan \$18.88/hour | 5.0 8:15-1:15 | General Worker Roberto Clemente \$18.88/hour | 6.0 7:45-1:45 |



APPOINTMENTS-Food Services:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>From</u> | <u>Hours</u> | <u>To</u> | <u>Hours</u> |
|--------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Edith McGee | General Worker Troup \$18.88/hour | 3.5 10:15-1:45 | General Worker Metropolitan \$18.88/hour | 5.0 8:15-1:15 |
| Natacha Torres | General Worker Central Kitchen \$18.88/hour | 6.5 7:30-2:30 | Cook Lead Celentano \$21.99/hour | 6.0 8:00-2:00 |
| Kristin Longobardi | General Worker Clinton \$18.88/hour General Worker Wilbur Cross \$18.88/hour | 4.75 8:45-1:30 1.5 6:45-8:15 | General Worker Sound \$18.88/hour | 5.25 7:15-1:30 |
| Jacqueline Natal | General Worker West Rock Author \$18.88/hour | 3.5 9:45-1:15 | General Worker Clinton \$18.88/hour | 4.75 8:45-1:30 |
| Shelle Waite | General Worker Hill House \$18.88/hour | 4.0 9:00-1:00 | General Worker Hill House \$18.88/hour General Worker Wilbur Cross \$18.88/hour | 4.0 9:00-1:00 1.5 6:45-8:15 |
| Marteina Carter | General Worker Strong \$18.88/hour | 2.5 11:00-1:30 | General Worker Troup \$18.88/hour | 3.5 10:15-1:45 |

CORRECTION/CHANGE ITEMS:

The following items are previous Board Actions approved. The action items below represent all the necessary changes and/or corrections.

CHANGE IN START DATE-Teacher:

APPOINTMENTS – Teachers:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Assignment</u> | <u>From</u> | <u>To</u> |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------|----------------|
| Sarah Gelb University of CT - MA | Teacher – Music Lincoln Bassett School General Funds 19042220-50115 | February 25, 2019 | March 11, 2019 |