



**NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT**

Minutes – Board of Education Meeting – October 13, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 5:36 p.m. by Mrs. Yesenia Rivera, President. The meeting was held via Zoom.

Present:

Mrs. Y. Rivera, President; Mr. M. Wilcox, Vice-President; Dr. E. Joyner, Secretary; Mr. L. Conaway, Dr. T. Jackson- McArthur, Mayor J. Elicker, Mr. D. Goldson, Dr. Tracey

Absent:

Ms. L. Arouna, A. Fiore

Mrs. Rivera announced that interpretation is available this evening.

Dr. Joyner led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Rivera remarked that tonight she is announcing a change in the procedure for our meetings in accordance with our Bylaws. This Board is responsible for the control and management of all the public schools to administer its funds and to maintain its facilities with the overarching objective being education excellence and equity to all New Haven students. As President of this Board I am responsible, under the bylaws, for the orderly conduct of Board meetings and to recognize persons who desire to speak and to protect the speaker who has the floor from disturbances and interference. To that end, I am instituting a change in the way our meetings will be run.

All participants, including Board members, will be asked to mute their microphones unless and until I recognize them to speak. Anyone who desires to speak may raise their hand in the chat function or may physically raise their hand on the screen so that it is visible to me. Right now I can see all of you on the screen. When a member's turn finishes, they should mute themselves. If background noise or interruptions continue, those with open microphones will be muted. I hope that this will result in a more orderly, civil and efficient meeting. If not, I reserve the right to mute all participants and only unmute those when recognized.

Discussion will be limited to the matter at hand and on which the Board can take some action or wishes to discuss. We encourage civil discourse with the goal of providing all the opportunity to express their opinions or positions on the specific issues before the Board so that the Board may have the opportunity to consider all aspects of the issues before the Board before taking action by means of a vote.

Under this Board's standards of conduct, all Board members and employees are obligated to refrain from abusive conduct, personal charges or affronts upon the character, motives or intent of other Board members or employees. Any speaker, whose remarks or comments violate the standards, will first be asked to refrain from continuing with such remarks and if he or she fails to do so, will be muted.



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Our Board has been subject to publicity surrounding the conduct of our meetings to the detriment of the public perception of the Board's effectiveness and to the detriment of its mission. I will not tolerate remarks or comments that stray away from the issue at hand by impugning the character or motives of other Board members or employees. Such conduct contributes to the length of our meetings but does not yield any benefit for our students.

I'll appreciate your cooperation with my effort to conduct meetings by engaging in civil discourse for the benefit of the students who depend on us to provide the equity and educational opportunity that will benefit them for years to come.

Mr. Goldson pointed out that our bylaws, section 9020, states, before voting on any issue Board members shall be encouraged to present whatever evidence they may feel is important to the matter at hand. The Board shall fully consider the implications and relevancy of all information as presented, all opinions, reactions and positions shall be openly discussed so that each member may understand all aspects of the issue before the Board makes its decision. So, he would like to understand how she has the authority, outside of this Board's Bylaw, to limit people's ability to comment on issues before this Board.

Mrs. Rivera said if he heard the statement that she read, clearly there is no intent to limit discussion or limit anyone from asking questions or propose any discussion on anything. The issue is the crosstalk and the interruptions. She needs to limit that so as to protect the speaker on the floor and to move the meeting along.

Dr. Joyner commented that her comments said nothing about limiting people's opportunity to speak you referred to bylaw 9271C which says that when we do speak we should refrain from abusive conduct, personal charges or affronts upon the character or motives or intentions of other Board of Ed members or New Haven Public School employees. You said nothing about limiting comment, limiting debate or limiting dialogue. What you did address was the tenor of speech and that we should not use speech to condemn or question peoples motives, etc.

Mr. Goldson commented that he is not sure what Dr. Joyner was reading from, he clearly had access to information that other Board members did not have. He also said that her statement was not given to us in advance so he doesn't know exactly what it says. He heard it but he couldn't absorb all of it because you read it quickly and you didn't provide us with a written copy, which is inappropriate. Mr. Goldson continued to say that he doesn't have a problem with waiting his turn to speak, but she has to commit to making sure that she is fair in the way that she wields that power. He went on to say that every time he speaks someone interrupts him with a point of order and he continued to explain this in detail. He hopes that she will be fair in wielding that power and we shall see.



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Dr. Joyner remarked that what President Rivera said was in writing verbatim from our Bylaws in Section 9271C and we all should have copies of the Bylaws. All we have to do is turn to that section and we will see exactly what she said but she also has the authority, as the Chair, to run an orderly meeting.

Mr. Conaway asked Mrs. Rivera if she would be so kind as to get them a copy of what she said. He agrees with an orderly meeting and he would have liked to preview this beforehand.

Mr. Goldson continued to talk about other Board members having information that other Board members don't have. He continued to explain. He concluded by saying if you are going to have an issue that you want to bring up to the Board, you should give it to us in advance in writing, so we could be made aware of it and we wouldn't have this 10 minute conversation around this.

Mrs. Rivera remarked that this was a statement written for her. It wasn't emailed to anyone you can look up Bylaw 9271C for reference. I have no problem sharing it, but it literally was written right before the meeting. Mr. Goldson asked why she didn't share it. Mrs. Rivera said it is just a statement and this is the reason why.

679-20
Approval of Minutes
June 22, 2020

Mr. Goldson commented that Mr. Alexiades sent him the minutes about three minutes ago and he sent an updated copy. There are several sections that he has problems with and some information is not correct. He has not had a chance to go over it so he asked that the Board pass over the June, 22, 2020 minutes and do them at the next meeting.

Mr. Conaway noted that on Page 1, Section 322-20 it says he abstained from the motion to pass the minutes of June 8th and he did not abstain; he voted yes. He went on to say if there is an updated copy he hasn't received it as of five minutes ago.

Atty. Alexiades asked Board members that if they have additional corrections, to please send them to him and he will collect them and forward them to the Recording Secretary, Ms. McHugh, so that we can get a good clean accurate copy. He did make one change regarding Mr. Goldson's vote and he corrected it. He also noted that we have a number of minutes from prior meetings and the same would apply.

Mrs. Rivera noted that the Board Minutes of June 22, 2020, did not pass and they will be discussed at our next Board meeting.

679-1-20
Approval of Minutes



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September 21, 2020
Special Meeting

On the motion by Mr. Conaway, seconded by Mr. Wilcox, it was voted by roll call to approve the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of September 21, 2020. Mr. Goldson, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Dr. Jackson-McArthur, yes; Mr. Conaway, yes; Joyner, yes; Mayor Elicker, Mrs. Rivera, yes. Motion passed.

Public Participation

Mrs. Rivera noted to the public if you would like to ask a question or make a comment just raise your hand in the Zoom chat feature and wait to be called on by the meeting facilitator.

The following participated in this segment of the meeting: Ms. Jessica Light, teacher/parent; Mr. Desi Nesmith, Deputy Commissioner at the State Department of Education; Ms. Teresa Johnson, parent of Beecher and Career students; Mr. Jonathan Q. Berryman, teacher and resident; Ms. Cynthia Harris Jackson, school nurse who has COVID; Ms. Erica Carrano, teacher for ten years; Ms. Rhonda Caldwell, ESUMS parent; Ms. Sheila Davis, teacher/parent; Ms. Vicky Grubaugh, parent/member of the voting public; Ms. Claudette Kidd, Community Health Organizer, Clifford Beers.

This portion of the meeting can be viewed in its entirety at NHPS.net, Public Meetings.

Mr. Goldson commented that he would also like to get some answers to some of these questions. He heard a rumor that out-of-district parents were not going to be able to be remote once we go hybrid and he would like to know if that's true. Mr. Goldson further commented, as at every meeting he would like to advocate for more minutes added to speakers' comments and he explained. He also spoke about the before and after care and commented that the issue was around saving money and he thinks we cut off our noses to spite our faces. He thinks we should have another review and add it to the agenda for further discussion.

Dr. Jackson-McArthur commented that the three policies in the Governance Report presentation are not listed on the agenda but they are in the packet. Mrs. Rivera commented that she didn't get a response from anyone when she requested items for the agenda. Dr. Tracey explained that it was a mix-up and she explained in detail.

Mr. Goldson suggested that Dr. Jackson-MacArthur amend the agenda to add those items and he would second that motion.

680-20
Amend Agenda to
Add Second
Readings of Listed
Governance Reports

On the motion by Dr. Jackson-MacArthur, seconded by Mr. Goldson, it was voted by roll call to amend the agenda to add the following Governance Committee items to the agenda: Second readings, of the Naming and Renaming Facilities Draft Policy, Virtual Learning Opportunities Acceptable Use of Recording Personnel Policy and the NHPS Policy for Race and Equity and the first reading of the District Equity Leadership Team Racial Policy.



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Equity Policy. Mr. Goldson, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Dr. Jackson-McArthur, yes; Mr. Conaway, yes; Dr. Joyner, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Mrs. Rivera, yes. Motion passed.

Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Tracey announced that Ginger will be leaving us on October 31, 2020 after serving the Board of Education, faithfully, for 29 years. Ginger is one of the last vestiges of someone who takes shorthand. She has served the Board will under three superintendents and various Boards and she feels that this is her time to retire. Dr. Tracey gave a shout out to Ginger for all her years of service and hard work to the Board of Education.

Dr. Tracey clarified that no one is losing their magnet seats. Once you are in the magnet program you’re not losing your seat. What we did say was, if you remove your child to home school, you are no longer in the New Haven Public Schools, so you lose your seat.

Dr. Tracey commented she has to clarify one other comment from the nurse; that it came from her office, is not true. I do not identify groups or individuals and never sent this to the newspapers.

Personnel Report

Dr. Tracey requested approval of the Personnel Report.

Mr. Goldson wanted to know what a literacy coach is. It is someone who doesn’t work directly in the classroom, is that correct. Dr. Tracey responded, no, they work directly in the classroom and some work at the Central Office level. Mr. Goldson also wanted to know if this person on the blue sheet will work in the classroom and Dr. Tracey commented, no. All of our schools have Literacy or Math coaches. Those are people who work to provide embedded learning with the staff, guiding them to what literacy and math matters need to be addressed in their classrooms supporting the classroom teachers.

**681-20
Approval of
Personnel Report**

On the motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Dr. Joyner, it was voted by roll call to approve the Superintendent’s Personnel Report. Mr. Goldson, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Dr. Jackson-McArthur, yes; Mr. Conaway, yes; Dr. Joyner, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Mrs. Rivera, yes. Motion passed.

*Bridges with New Haven Housing Authority
Presented by Keisha Redd-Hannans*

Ms. Redd-Hannans greeted the Board members and thanked them for this opportunity to present. She has Dr. Karen DuBois Walton here as well. We are excited to be a part of the Bridges Collaborative, a partnership between New Haven Public Schools and Elm City communities.

The Bridges Collaborative is the first of its kind grassroots initiative to advocate racial and social economic integration and equity in America’s schools. This initiative officially



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launches this week and we will begin our official training and sessions on Thursday and Friday. It is coordinated by Century Foundation, a national think tank that's helped steer the conversation on school integration for decades. Joining us in this initiative are 53 other organizations, including 27 School Districts, 17 Charter Schools and 11 Housing Organizations. The districts vary in size and the five largest districts in the country are part of the collaborative. In New Haven Public Schools we are excited because we believe that we're going to gain practical insight into collaborative efforts and leverage best practices around school integration, student diversity and community perception of our schools. Ms. *Redd-Hannans* introduced Dr. Dubois-Walton.

Dr. Dubois-Walton thanked everyone and exclaimed that this is really exciting. It was a competitive process where the Bridges Collaborative reached out to New Haven wanting to have a New Haven Housing entity and New Haven Public School entity involved in this collaborative. We prepared applications and submitted them and we are excited that we were both selected along with Elm City Montessori. There are a few other organizations in Connecticut and the remaining are from across the country. It is an exciting time to come together with other practitioners, explore best practices that we can share with others. There is much to learn from what the district has done under this Board's leadership and there's much to be learned among New Haven practices that we can share with others. Dr. Dubois-Walton noted that it is all being done virtually through convening's that will be kicked off this week.

Mr. Goldson wanted to know if we, as a school system, would have to contribute any kind of funding to this collaborative. Dr. Dubois-Walton answered, "no."

Dr. Tracey thanked Ms. Hannans and Dr. DuBois-Walton for their presentation.

Reopening Schools Update

Dr. Tracey remarked that a few months ago the Board gave us ten weeks to have certain things in place because there were concerns about readiness in terms of safety and the health of our students and teachers. We have taken that charge on and have been working with a lot of people, such as the New Haven Department of Public Health, Yale Department of Public Health and the Office of Policy Management from the State all pitched in to check on our school readiness. We also retained a company to look into our HVAC systems to be sure that they are in good operating condition. Dr. Tracey explained the process in detail.

Dr. Tracey commended all of the departments that worked so hard every day to ensure that they were up to par. Dr. Tracey explained the process in detail. She also commended Dr. Vasquez and Director Bond and their teams for their tireless efforts in this process. Dr. Tracey mentioned that we are supported by the State in getting this work done.



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Dr. Tracey continued to explain the process that is being used to make the buildings ready to open for our students when they come back to school.

Dr. Tracey noted that we are coming to the end of our ten weeks that the Board has given and she stressed that this Central Office will not open any school that is not safe to be opened. She knows there is a lot of angst out there about buildings not being safe but we are not going to open any building until it is safe. However, there are three schools that are old and they probably will not be ready to open and they are West Rock, Quinnipiac and Riverside. She explained what is being done to prepare these buildings to open. Dr. Tracey also mentioned that Sound School has had leaky roofs and they are repairing those roofs because almost 100% of their children want to come back to school in person but their classrooms are very small. Edgewood is also a school that needs special attention so that they can open and she gave the particulars on this school. She commended the staff that worked so hard and diligently to prepare these schools for reopening.

Dr. Tracey also commented that they have eight schools that can open and she named them because they are fairly new to brand new. Their target is to open school November 9th under the hybrid model, which will be the start of the second marking period.

Dr. Tracey's full report may be accessed by going to NHPS.net, Public Meetings.

The following reports were presented and discussed:

- a. *Hybrid Learning Model* – Dr. Ivelise Velazquez
- b. *Contact Tracking and School Inspections* – Director Maritza Bond for Dr. Jennifer Vazquez
- c. *Air Quality & HVAC Systems*, Mr. Joseph Barbarotta

These reports may be viewed in their entirety at NHPS.net, Public Meetings

Dr. Tracy commented that the State is giving us not only financial support but technical support as well to get our schools ready. She thanked Mr. Barbarotta, Director Bond, Dr. Velazquez and Ms. Redd-Hannans for their participation in this presentation.

At this time, an extensive question and answer session was held by Board members. They also gave their thoughts, comments and questions on opening the buildings and the safety measures for ensuring PPE and other protocols. Mayor Elicker asked Dr. Tracey for an update on bus monitors and she called on Ms. Lisa Mack, Director of Human Resources to present this concern. Ms. Mack explained in detail.

At the conclusion of this session Dr. Tracey, for the record, wanted to know if we are clear that we are moving forward and opening school on November 9th and she will keep the



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Board updated on our progress. Mr. Conaway answered that we have heard from the Teacher's Union, the Administrators Union and everyone who is involved in working to get our schools opened safely.

Dr. Tracey noted that she is sending the surveys out to the families tomorrow so that we can solidify our numbers and make sure our schools are ready to open on November 9th, however, if there is any building that is not up to speed, they will not be opened. She is not coming back to this Board for another vote because it has already done that.

Dr. Tracey restated, for the record, that we are clear that we are moving forward to open on November 9th and they agreed.

President's Report

Authorized Signature Resolution

President Rivera read the following into the record:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that Yesenia Rivera, President of the New Haven Board of Education, and in her absence, Matthew Wilcox, Vice President, are authorized to make, execute, and approve on behalf of this school district any and all contracts or amendments thereof with agencies of the federal government and State of Connecticut including, but not limited to, the Department of Public Health, Children and Families, Environmental Protection, Social Services, Connecticut Commission on the Arts, Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism, and Higher Education which includes Southern Connecticut State University and Gateway Community College.

682-20

Mrs. Rivera made a motion to approve the Authorized Signature Resolution; the motion was seconded by Mr. Wilcox.

Mr. Goldson initiated a discussion regarding this resolution. He noted that he wants to make clear, for the record, that giving her this authorization to sign documents is that you will use that authorization after the Board approves whatever the item is that you're signing off on. This does not give you unilateral power to sign off on contracts or agreements or any other thing without Board approval.

Mrs. Rivera agreed. She commented that she wouldn't sign anything without Board approval. Mr. Goldson said that someone signed the contract to investigate him. Mrs. Rivera said it did have Board approval and she explained to him. Mr. Goldson continued to state his case. Dr. Joyner called a point of order that this item was not on the agenda. Mrs. Rivera thanked Dr. Joyner and said the point of order is well taken. Mr. Goldson continued to explain his position. Dr. Joyner called a point of order and explained. Mr. Goldson called a point of order. This back and forth continued and Dr. Joyner explained in detail. Mr. Goldson continued with his opposition. Mrs. Rivera said that she isn't going to



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talk about anything that is going to be discussed in Executive Session. This discussion continued at length.

682-1-20
Approval of
Authorized
Signature Contract

On the motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Wilcox, it was voted by roll call to approve the Authorized Signature Contract. Motion passed.

Finance & Operations Committee Report

Mr. Wilcox asked for approval of the Finance & Operations Items. Mr. Conaway seconded.

Mr. Goldson asked about Agreement #8 with Hillhouse HS for a program where students were going to be doing training for construction work and he wanted to know if it is a certification program. Mr. Conaway remarked that it is a certification program and they give certifications for plumbing, electrical, etc. They've also done a remote summer program and if everything goes according to plan, they will be going hybrid with it on November 9th as well.

Mr. Goldson had another question about the F&O minutes and the discussion that was held around the School Board paying Corporation Council's salary. He asked for an explanation and also wanted to know when there was a Board vote around that. Mr. Wilcox commented he would be happy to do that after he finishes his report.

Mr. Wilcox continued with his report and noted the For Information Only Items approved by the Superintendent are a part of their packet and the F&O report.

On the motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Mr. Conaway, it was approved by roll call to approve the following FINANCE AND OPERATIONS-RELATED ITEMS:

ABSTRACTS

- 683-20 **School Volunteer Program Endowment**, in the amount of \$20,613.04 for July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021
- 684-20 **Commissioner's Network – Clinton Avenue School Grant**, in the amount of \$400,000 for August 30, 2020 to June 30, 2021
- 685-20 **School Improvement Grant (SIG 1003) Wexler School**, in the amount of \$200,000 for July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021
- 686-20 **State Bilingual Education Grant**, in the amount of \$220,399 for July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021



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AGREEMENTS

- 687-20
ACES** An agreement with Area Cooperative Education Services, (ACES), to provide the ARCTEL advanced educator preparation program for Bilingual Education and Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, from October 12, 2020 to June 30, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.
- 688-20
Hill for Literacy, Inc.** An agreement with Hill for Literacy, Inc. to provide consultation to staff at Wexler Grant School on databased decision making, explicit and systematic instruction, and differentiated small group instruction, from November 9, 2020 to June 17, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$86,600.
- 689-20
Friends Center for Children** An agreement with Friends Center for Children, to provide 20 full day/full year infant/toddler spaces and 5 full day/full year preschool spaces, from September 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$206,944.17 which includes a COLA increase for staff salaries.
- 690-20
LULAC Head Start** An agreement with LULAC Head Start to provide 53 full day/full year infant/toddler spaces and 22 infant/toddler wrap-around spaces, from September 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$519,102.68, which includes a COLA increase for staff salaries.
- 691-20
Montessori School on Edgewood** An agreement with Montessori School on Edgewood, to provide 20 full day/full year infant/toddler spaces, from September 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$171,047.90, which includes a COLA increase for staff salaries.
- 692-20
Morning Glory Infant Toddler Center** An agreement with Morning Glory Infant Toddler Center to provide 16 full day/full year infant/toddler spaces, from September 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$136,838.32; which includes a COLA increase for staff salaries.
- 693-20
Focused Schools** An agreement with Focused Schools to provide Executive Coaching for Hillhouse High School principal and leadership team, from October 13, 2020 to June 18, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$39,800.
- 694-20
Justice Education Center** An agreement with Justice Education Center to provide a program of study that will prepare students from Hillhouse High School for a career in the construction industry, from October 13, 2020 to June 18, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$60,000.
- 695-20
City of New Haven Youth and Recreation Department** An agreement with City of New Haven Youth and Recreation Department, to provide remote, hybrid and/or programming for students at Wexler Grant and Martinez schools, from October 12, 2020 to June 30, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$23,893.
- 696-20** An agreement Extension to Doosan Fuel America, Inc., to provide Fuel Cell services for



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Doosan Fuel America, Inc. FY2020-2021, in an amount not to exceed \$162,532.

CONTRACT

697-20 Change Order #1, Life Safety Services & Supply, LLC Change Order #1 to the Contract #21704-1-5 with Life Safety Services & Supply, LLC for on-Call Fire Extinguishers Services to increase the unit price per unit with no change in total funding amount.

Mr. Wilcox noted as Mr. Goldson mentioned we did have a discussion on the arrangement with the City regarding transfer of funds. This is something we are still looking into and we are in agreement that we need to have something in place that codifies this and so it is going to be on the agenda for our next meeting.

Mr. Goldson, in an effort to understand this, commented that the Board of Alders added a position for Corp Counsel in their budget and then charged us part of the salary for that position without a legal agreement in place. We are actually paying a person, who works for the city, etc., and we have no say whatsoever in the workload, as a Board, of this employee and we are paying his salary, which is a little odd to me. Mr. Goldson said he would appreciate an explanation of how we got into that arrangement and how it works.

Mr. Wilcox remarked he agrees, he also has questions about it. This was the previous Mayor and the previous Superintendent, so he is hoping to get some information that will allow us to endorse or deny this type of relationship. Mr. Wilcox noted that this will be on the agenda at their next F&O meeting.

Mr. Conaway concurred with Mr. Wilcox and repeated that they did have a conversation about this at their last meeting and agreed that it is something that needs to be resolved. He remarked to Mr. Goldson that he makes some excellent points and it is not something that he is not opposed to but it is something that has to go through a protocol and a process.

Governance Committee Report

Dr. Jackson-McArthur remarked that we amended the agenda to include the second readings of the Naming and Renaming Facilities Draft Policy, Virtual Learning Opportunities Acceptable Use of Recording Personnel and NHPS Policy for Race and Equity and the second reading of the District Equity Leadership Team Racial Equity Policy. She would like the Board to hear the presentation but it is 8:24pm and she thinks it is too late. Mrs. Rivera asked how long the presentation would be and was told 10 minutes. The presenters agreed to present.



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District Equity Team Racial Equity Policy

presented by Dr. Velazquez, Ms. Carolyn Ross-Lee

Dr. Velazquez introduced the policy that they presented to the Governance Council, the major parts of the policy and to understand the history and where it comes from and why this now. The district equity leadership team is made up of teachers, administrators, community members and Central Office staff.

Ms. Carolyn Ross-Lee who remarked that the district equity leadership team has been around for three years and we have been working with all of the aforementioned partners and our goal is to make sure that we provide equity for all students in New Haven Public Schools. We came together under a grant from CERC who brought forth schools districts and provided training with Glenn Singleton and the Pacific Education Group to provide us the ability to go through our own process to create a policy and a plan. We have four components to our plan: Students at the Center, Culturally Relevant Leading, Teaching and Learning, Equitable Resources, Systems and Structures, and Family & Community Engagement.

Dr. Velazquez remarked that part of the policy and part of what they do in their training is to define equity terms, which is really important because the term equity is used widely now, but in the work of racial equity and equity in schools people had it in the policy and she explained this in detail. These terms are used in the policy and in the training that we do with staff members.

Mr. Matt Brown, Building Leader at HSC, remarked that he will talk a little bit about some of the efforts that this policy is trying to do in terms of what it's trying to bring to the Board and what it is proposing. Obviously, you first have to eliminate systemic disparities. This policy asked us to consider systemic disparities that are enacted in our school system and the way in which we need to confront them. It talks about work that we want to do around how to organize our thinking and taking action around this particularly around the idea of raising students at the center and culturally relevant teaching and learning. He explained in detail.

Dr. Velazquez explained how the training will be going forward.

Ms. Kanicka Ingram, Senior Talent Recruiter gave an update on the Graustein Grant on the talent portion of the policy. They were awarded \$100,000 to work on a career ladder with our paraprofessionals and she explained this portion of the policy in detail.

Dr. Velazquez noted that Dr. Dubois-Walton had to leave but they are working closely with her and other community members to provide some training and some gatherings in the evening so that we can also hear from our families what they believe an equitable lens and how we apply that to both our policies and our practices look like.



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In closing, Dr. Velazquez explained the Implementation and Monitoring piece of the plan in detail. The policy tells us that the adults and superintendent are to report back to the Board on the plan's progress and the impact of the work that is being done.

Dr. Jackson-McArthur thanked the presenters. She remarked that this was an important policy to present. It has a far and wide deep reach and at a time like this, with what is going on in our country, it's one of the most important policies we could be looking at right now.

Teaching & Learning Report

Dr. Joyner commended the presenters and Dr. Jackson-McArthur. He remarked that what they are doing is synergistic with what's going on with teaching and learning. Clearly, we need to hear from teachers, and at our last Teaching & Learning meeting we heard from three exemplary teachers in our District and he named each one. Christina Crevalone, 1st grade teacher at Troup School, Martha Coombs, French teacher at Betsy Ross and Odalis Mercado, Spanish teacher at COOP, and Tanya Lawrence, ESL teacher from Fair Haven.

Dr. Joyner remarked that they gave them a report on how teachers are experiencing the online learning. Dr. Velazquez plans on bringing students in at our next meeting and we will also hear from parents. All of the teachers expressed the fact of having the ability to work with the various hardware and software to try to meet the needs of kids. We are ahead of the game given the limited resources they started with.

Dr. Joyner continued with his report. He mentioned also that Dr. Sherban reported and gave some great data that she has available for those who want it. Dr. Joyner thanked Mr. Conaway for his outstanding work as well as the hard work of teachers and administrators of our school district that are trying to create a system based on fairness, justice and critical consciousness. He also thanked Dr. Velázquez and Jessica Haxhi for the job they do above and beyond the call of duty.

Head Start Report

Mr. Wilcox reported their next meeting will be held on Thursday the 15th at 5:00pm. Information is posted online as to how to connect.

Mr. Wilcox mentioned that last Thursday he participated with our Policy Council Chair, Mr. Eddie Blue, and they met with Devon Jones, the representative that handles Head Start issues. This was part of the child supervision review follow up. If you recall, there was an incident where a child was left alone so there has been a lot of work going on in the district to prevent that from happening again. He explained in detail.

Facility Naming Report



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NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes – Board of Education Meeting – October 13, 2020

Mrs. Rivera noted she has no report at this time; however, they are rescheduling their October 15th meeting to October 22nd at 5:00pm.

Citywide School Building Stewardship Report

Mrs. Rivera noted that this committee met last week and discussed the commissioning schedule updates for the Obama School, ESUMS, Mayo and New Haven Academy. We also discussed the stewardship report, the LED Project update, boilers, and the minutes and agenda will be posted online, if they haven't been posted already.

**698-20
Executive Session**

Mrs. Rivera made a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. §1-200(6) (E). Mr. Goldson called a point of order. He said that this motion states it's attorney/client privilege. He wanted to know who is the client, is it the Superintendent or the Board. Mrs. Rivera answered it would be the Board. Mr. Goldson wanted to know how it is the board when they were not made aware the reason for this expenditure and we did not vote on this expenditure. He wanted to know if it is a Board activity or a Superintendent activity. Mrs. Rivera noted that he is out of order and he will learn more in Executive Session. Mr. Goldson commented that a 2/3 vote is needed to go into Executive Session and he is going to urge his fellow Board members, or at least three of them, to vote against this.

Mrs. Rivera continued reading the motion as follows:

Executive Session pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. §1-200(6) (E) and § 1- 210(b)(10) re: communications privileged by the attorney-client relationship concerning Tinley, Renehan & Dost LLP investigation. ii. Discussion and possible action on matters discussed in Executive Session. Mr. Wilcox seconded the motion.

Food Service Task Group Report

Mr. Conaway, for the record, mentioned that Madam President inadvertently left off the Food Service Task Group Report. Mr. Conaway reported that Thursday, October 15th is their next full service meeting.

**698-1-20
Executive Session**

On the motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Wilcox, it was voted by roll call to go into Executive Session pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. §1-200(6) (E) and § 1- 210(b)(10) re: communications privileged by the attorney-client relationship concerning Tinley, Renehan & Dost, LLP investigation.

Mayor Elicker wanted some information and commented he thought you just needed a majority. Mrs. Rivera asked Atty. Alexiades what is correct and he said, "according to the FOIA, a 2/3 vote is needed."



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Mr. Goldson continued his diatribe and questioning of the process and denigrating Mrs. Rivera and the way she runs the meetings. For the record, Dr. Joyner pointed out that at this time any allegation is unfounded and you can't have a report until it's completed. The discussion continued and multiple points of order were interjected into the dialogue.

698-2-20
Executive
Session, 9:00pm

On the motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Wilcox, it was voted by roll call to go into Executive Session pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. §1-200(6) (E) and §210(b)(10) re: communications privileged by the attorney-client relationship concerning Tinley, Renahan & Dost, LLP investigation. Mr. Goldson, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Dr. Jackson-McArthur, no; Mr. Conaway, no; Dr. Joyner, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Mrs. Rivera, yes. Mrs. Rivera also invited Atty. Alexiades and Pat King to attend this session.

699-20
Reconvene Public
Session, 10:00pm

Mrs. Rivera remarked no votes were taken in Executive Session.

700-20
Adjournment

On the motion by Dr. Joyner, seconded by Mr. Wilcox, it was voted by roll call to adjourn at 10:05 p.m. as follows: Mr. Goldson, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mr. Conaway, yes; Dr. Joyner, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Mrs. Rivera, yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Ginger McHugh

Ginger McHugh
BOE Recording Secretary

“A video of this meeting is available on the NHPS website, NHPS.net, Public Meetings”
