



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Haven, Connecticut

NEW HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION FINANCE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, January 3, 2022

MINUTES

Present: Mr. Matthew Wilcox, Ms. Yesenia Rivera

Staff: Dr. Iline Tracey, Dr. Michael Finley, Dr. Paul Whyte, Ms. Keisha Redd-Hannans, Ms. Linda Hannans, Ms. Patricia DeMaio, Ms. Ivelise Velazquez, Ms. Gemma Joseph Lumpkin, Mr. Joseph Barbarotta, Ms. Viviana Conner, Ms. Lisa Mack, Mr. Justin Harmon, Ms. Typhanie Jackson, Attorney Elias Alexiades

Guests: Ms. Ilene Rosenthal, Mr. John Nguyen
Closed Captioner

Call to Order: Mr. Wilcox called the meeting to order at 4:38 p.m.

Summary of Motions:

Motion to Amend the Agenda: At Mr. Wilcox's request, a motion by Mr. Conaway, seconded by Ms. Rivera, to amend the agenda to include an update on the water filter system project under discussion items was unanimously approved by Roll Call Vote: Mr. Conaway, Yes;

Recusals:

1. Mr. Wilcox recused himself from discussion and deliberation on Agreement # 7 with Clifford Beers.
2. Mr. Conaway recused himself from discussion and deliberation on Agreement # 10 with Kyama Movement

Motions to Recommend Approval of Action Items:

3 Motions to Recommend Approval of **1 Abstract, 17 Agreements and 1 Purchase Order** were properly moved, seconded and voted as follows:

1. A motion by Mr. Conaway, seconded by Ms. Rivera to Recommend approval of Item # 7 Agreement with Clifford Beers, passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Conaway, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Recused.
2. A motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Ms. Rivera to Recommend Approval of item #10 with Kyama Movement, Inc., passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Mr. Wilcox, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Conaway, Recused.
3. A motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Mr. Conaway to approve 1 Abstract, 15 Agreements and 1 Purchase Order, passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Mr. Conaway, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.

Motion to Adjourn: A motion by Mr. Conaway, seconded by Ms. Rivera, to adjourn the meeting at 6:16 p.m., passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Mr. Conaway, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes

I. INFORMATION ONLY & ACTION ITEMS:**A. INFORMATION ONLY:** Committee members did not have questions about the following items approved by the Superintendent:

1. Agreement with Amy Vatner to provide a book reading, presentation and book signing from January 11, 2022 to June 30, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$250.00.
Funding Source: ESSER II Program **Acct. #2552-6363-56697-0000**
2. Agreement with Janae Marks to provide a presentation and book signing program from January 11, 2022 to June 30, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$1,000.00.
Funding Source: ESSER II Program **Acct. #2552-6363-56697-0000**
3. Agreement with Valerie Bolling to provide a presentation and book signing program from January 10, 2022 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$500.00
Funding Source: ESSER II Program **Acct. #2552-6363-56697-0000**
4. Agreement with Southern Connecticut State University to provide an Introduction to Public Health course for up to 25 New Haven Academy students, from January 19, 2022 to May 31, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$7,822.50. **Funding Source:** Interdistrict Magnet Program **Acct. #270-433-70-56697**
5. Agreement with Andrea Frasier, LLC, to provide holistic healing and life coaching program for NHPS administrators and staff, from December 13, 2021 to June 30, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00.
Funding Source: ESSER II Program **Acct. # 2552-6363-56697-0000**

B. ABSTRACT:

1. FAFSA Challenge Grant for Wilbur Cross and Hillhouse High Schools, in the amount of \$18,150.00 for January 3, 2022 to June 10, 2022 was presented by Ms. Jackson on behalf of Ms. Natalino. She explained that the goal of the grant is to increase the number of students completing FASFA through increased parent participation. **Funding Source:** Connecticut State Department of Education

C. AGREEMENTS:

1. Agreement with Miss Kendra ALIVE program, to provide clinicians to facilitate stress reduction sessions and support for students at Wilbur Cross High School, from December 14, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$78,925.00 was presented by Dr. Whyte on behalf of Ms. Brillante. He explained that the ALIVE program differs from other programs sponsored by the Miss Kendra agency; the program offers age appropriate programs of stress management and counseling for students.
Funding Source: ESSER II Program **Acct. #2552-6363-56694-0061**
2. Amendment #1 to Agreement #96363204 with Justice Education Center, to correct the daily rate for auditing purposes from \$1,000.00 per day to \$1,052.00 as stipulated in the scope of service, with no change in total funding amount of \$20,000.00 was presented reviewed by committee in the absence of Dr. Worthy. Staff confirmed that the amendment corrects daily rate.
Funding Source: ESSER II Program **Acct. #2552-6363-56694-0062**

3. Agreement with Shubbhra Gupta, to provide on-site monitoring of School Readiness funded programs to ensure compliance with grant requirements, from January 11, 2022 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$45,000.00 was presented by Ms. Velazquez, on behalf of Ms. Duclos. Ms. Velazquez reported that Ms. Duclos will retire in February and the services are required to continue grant monitoring. The Agreement below for the same service also applies to the staff transition and grant monitoring situation.
Funding Source: Quality Enhancement Program **Acct. #2523-6390-56697-0442**
4. Agreement with Gulchekhra Makhikambaeva to provide on-site observation and assessment of 33 School Readiness funded programs to ensure compliance with grant requirements, from January 11, 2022 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$45,000.00 by Ms. Velazquez on behalf of Ms. Duclos. As described above, the services are required for grant monitoring during staff transition.
Funding Source: Quality Enhancement Program **Acct. #2523-6390-56697-0442**
5. Agreement with Learning Innovation Catalyst, LLC (LINC), to provide online professional development workshops and virtual coaching on the Generative Change Model for staff from New Haven Adult Education, East Rock School, Martinez School, Bishop Woods, Riverside Academy and Hill Regional Career Magnet, from January 10, 2022 to June 30, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$90,700.00 was presented by Ms. Velazquez.
Funding Source: ESSER II Program
Acct. # 2552-6363-56697-0053 (\$9,250.00)
Acct. # 2552-6363-56697-0046 (\$17,250.00)
Acct. # 2552-6363-56697-0008 (\$16,250.00)
Acct. # 2552-6363-56697-0091 (\$10,450.00)
Acct. # 2552-6363-56697-0063 (\$21,250.00)
Change to Agreement: Ms. Velazquez explained that Martinez School has chosen not to participate in the program, opting instead to use funds for other programs. This change decreases the funding amount from \$90,700.00 to \$74,450.00. Action Items for the Board of Education will reflect the change.
Administrative Correction: In preparation of the minutes and Action Items, staff noted the funding amount for Bishop Woods School was omitted in error. The school's funding information is included in the Agreement and total. Action Items for the Board of Education will reflect the correction.
6. Agreement with Arts for Learning CT to provide an after school arts program at Clemente and Conte schools, from January 10, 2022 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$4,999.95 was presented by Ms. Joseph-Lumpkin. **Funding Source:** Extended School Hours Program **Acct. #2579-5326-56697-0000**
7. Agreement with Clifford Beers Guidance Clinic to provide a winter recess and spring recess camp program for middle school and high school students January 11, 2022 to June 30, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$198,000.00 was presented by Ms. Joseph-Lumpkin.
Funding Source: ESSER II Program **Acct. #2552-6363-56697-0000**
Recusal: Mr. Wilcox recused himself for this Agreement. Mr. Conaway led discussion and deliberation. A motion by Mr. Conaway, seconded by Ms. Rivera to Recommend approval of Item # 7 Agreement with Clifford Beers, passed by Roll Call Vote: Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Conaway, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Recused.
8. Agreement with Eli Whitney Museum, to provide an afterschool program for students from Brennan, Wexler and Davis schools, from January 10, 2022 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$29,700.00 was presented by Ms. Joseph-Lumpkin.
Funding Source: ESSER II Program

Acct. # 2552-6363-56697-0021 (\$10,890.00)
 Acct. # 2552-6363-56697-0032 (\$ 8,910.00)
 Acct. # 2552-6363-56697-0009 (\$ 9,900.00)

9. Amendment #1 to Agreement with Little Scientists to increase the number of sessions from 166 by 60 to 226 and to increase funding of \$29,050.00 by \$10,500.00 to \$39,550.00 was presented by Ms. Joseph-Lumpkin
Funding Sources:
 21st Century Afterschool Program **Acct. #2579-6354-56694-0002** (\$5,250.00)
 21st Century Afterschool Program **Acct. #2579-6354-56694-0021** (\$9,800.00)
 ESSER II Program **Acct. #2552-6363-56697-0032** (\$10,500.00)
10. Agreement with Kiyama Movement, Inc., to provide a mentoring program for male students at Hillhouse High School, from January 10, 2022 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00 was presented by Ms. Joseph-Lumpkin. **Funding Source:** ESSER II Program **Acct. #: 2552-6363-56697-0062**
Recusal: Mr. Conaway recused himself from this Agreement. Mr. Wilcox led discussion and deliberation. A motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Ms. Rivera to Recommend Approval of item #10 with Kyama Movement, Inc., passed by Roll Call Vote: Mr. Wilcox, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Conaway, Recused.
11. Agreement with Higher Heights to provide an after school college access program at Hill Regional Career High for rising Seniors and aspiring Juniors, from December 14, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$29,952.00 was presented by Ms. Joseph-Lumpkin.
Funding Source: ESSER II Program **Acct. #2552-6363-56697-0063**
12. Agreement with Music Haven to provide music instruction for students at Wexler Grant, Daniels and East Rock schools, from January 10, 2022 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00 was presented by Ms. Joseph-Lumpkin.
Funding Source: ESSER II Program **Acct. #2552-6363-56697-0000**
13. Amendment #1 to Agreement #96325202 with Our World Care For You, LLC, to increase the number of sessions from 70 by 149 to 219 sessions and to increase funding of \$14,000.00 by \$29,800.00 to \$43,800.00 was presented by Ms. Joseph-Lumpkin.
Funding Source:
 21st Century Afterschool Program **Acct. #2579-6325-56697-0015** (\$14,000)
 ESSER II Program **Acct. #2552-6363-56697-0000** (\$29,800.00)
14. Agreement with Prince Hall, Oriental Lodge #6, to provide a weekend mentoring program for up to 20 male middle school students at Troup School, from January 10, 2022 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00 was presented by Ms. Joseph-Lumpkin.
Funding Source: ESSER II Program **Acct. #2552-6363-56697-0015**
- See description below for Agreements # 15 and #16 Agreements for ROTC:**
15. Agreement with Jose Sala Jr. for the JROTC Program from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$91,238.16 was presented by Ms. Redd-Hannans on behalf of Dr. Worthy.
Funding Source: 2021-2022 Operating Budget **Acct. # 19043362-50135**
16. Agreement with Lisa Rodriguez for the JROTC Program from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$85,616.52 was presented by Ms. Redd-Hannans on behalf of Dr. Worthy.

Funding Source: 2021-2022 Operating Budget **Acct. #** 19043362-50135

Discussion - Items #15 and 16: Mr. Wilcox requested that staff reword the motion for the Board of Education Action Items to explain that the Army reimburses the District for 50% of the total amount.

17. Agreement with United Illuminating Company to pay incentives to the District for compliance in Energy Conscious Blueprint Agreement at Obama School for an amount of \$160,040.00 to be received by NHPS was presented by Mr. Barbarotta.

Discussion: Mr. Wilcox requested that staff move the Agreement to its own category because it represents income to the District versus the other Agreements which are expense. The change will be made to the Action Items for the Board of Education.

D. PURCHASE ORDER

- 1, Purchase Order for Footsteps2Brilliance, Inc. for a digital bilingual language and literacy platform for students Pre-K to 3rd grade, January 11, 2022 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$59,610.00 was presented by Ms. Conner who introduced Ms. Rosenthal from Footsteps2Brilliance to provide the PowerPoint presentation that was posted with the materials on line. Ms. Conner and Ms. Rosenthal answered Committee questions.

Funding Source: Title I Program (Pending Receipt of Funds) **Acct. #**2531-5256-55100-0000

- II. **DISCUSSION:** A motion by Mr. Conaway, seconded by Ms. Rivera, to amend the agenda to include an update on the water filter system project under the discussion items was unanimously approved by Roll Call Vote: Mr. Conaway, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.
- **Water Filter System Update:** As a follow-up to previous updates, Dr. Tracey reported that the initial filters ordered for the schools did not fit and had to be re-ordered. A discussion ensued about how the District will handle water availability for the students until new filters are installed. Mr. Wilcox asked Dr. Tracey to include, as part of the Superintendent's report, an update on mitigation efforts for the Board of Education meeting. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**
 - **Budget Projection Update:** Dr. Tracey and Ms. Hannans reviewed the General Fund Forecast, noting that some expenses, such as bargaining unit salary increases, could not be covered by funds from the American Recovery Program (ARP) grant as anticipated. Ms. Hannans noted cost drivers that impacted the budget. She noted that the \$8.8 million deficit stated in the report has been updated and reduced to \$7.3 million. Mitigation activity over the summer and various staff vacancies has reduced that projected deficit to \$3.9 million. Mitigation activity will continue in the coming months. A discussion ensued. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**
 - **Budget Development Calendar:** Ms. Hannans reviewed the calendar. A discussion ensued. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**
 - **Teacher Retention Data:** Ms. Mack introduced Mr. John Nguyen, Assistant Principal of Co-Op High School who reviewed a PowerPoint report on retention data for the years 2017-18, 2018-19 and current. The report demonstrates that a trend of vacancies in specialty areas such as Special Education, Math and Science is consistent with national trends. Mr. Conaway and Mr. Wilcox asked that the report be included in Board of Education packets so that it can be reviewed in more depth. A discussion ensued about retention of teachers in shortage areas. **No motion was made and no vote**

was taken.

- **Series 3000 Policies:** No report was provided.

Adjournment: Mr. Wilcox noted that this was Mr. Conway's last meeting on the Finance & Operations Committee. He thanked Mr. Conway for his dedication and service. A motion by Mr. Conway, seconded by Ms. Rivera, to adjourn the meeting at 6:16 p.m., passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Mr. Conway, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. DeMaio