



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Haven, Connecticut

NEW HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION FINANCE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, January 4, 2021

MINUTES

VIRTUAL MEETING

Present: Mr. Matthew Wilcox, Ms. Yesenia Rivera, Mr. Larry Conaway

Staff: Dr. Iline Tracey, Dr. Paul Whyte, Attorney Elias Alexiades, Mr. Phillip Penn, Ms. Keisha Redd-Hannans, Ms. Patricia DeMaio, Ms. Elizabeth Gaffney, Mr. Glen Worthy, Ms. Ivelise Velasquez, Ms. Keisha Redd-Hannans, Mr. Michael Gormany, Ms. Gail Sharry, Mr. Joseph Barbarotta, Ms. Gilda Herrera, Mr. William Zesner, Ms. Gemma Joseph Lumpkin, Ms. Denise Duclos

Closed Captioner

Call to Order: Mr. Wilcox called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

Recusal if Needed: Mr. Wilcox noted that if there are questions or a need for discussion regarding the Agreement with Clifford Beers, listed under Information Only section he will recuse himself and ask Ms. Rivera to chair the meeting during discussion.

Summary of Motions:

- **Motion to Recommend Approval of Action Items:** After presentation of the following Action Items, a motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Ms. Rivera, to **Recommend Approval of 2 Abstracts and 2 Agreements**, passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Mr. Conaway, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.
- **Motion to Adjourn:** A motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Ms. Rivera to adjourn the meeting at 5:52 p.m., passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Conaway, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.

I. INFORMATION ONLY AND ACTION ITEMS:

A. INFORMATION ONLY: Committee members did not have questions about the following Information Only Items approved by the Superintendent:

1. Agreement with Clifford Beers to provide on-site and virtual mental health consultation and support for School Readiness programs, from December 14, 2020 to June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$16,000.00.
Funding Source: Quality Enhancement Program **Acct. #** 2523-5385-56697-0442
2. Agreement with Howard Blas to provide professional development and coaching to the Yeshiva Gedolah and The Cheder School under the Title IIA Non-Public program, from January 12, 2021 to June 15, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$7,900.00.

Funding Source: Title IIA Non-Public **Acct. #2511-5678-56905-NP14** (\$5,811.00)
Acct. #2511-5678-56905-NP27 (\$2,089.00)

B. ABSTRACTS:

1. Head Start Enhancement in the amount of \$122,708.00 for July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 was presented by Ms. Gaffney, who explained that due to Covid, the State allowed unspent funds from the previous year to be carried over into the current year. **Funding Source:** Connecticut State Department of Education
2. APC K-12 Server Room Makeover Contest In-Kind Equipment Award in the amount of \$10,000.00 for December 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 was presented by Ms. Herrera and Mr. Zesner, who explained that the funds will be used to replace 17 UPS devices. **Funding Source:** APC by Schneider Electric

C. AGREEMENTS:

1. Agreement with Alliance Children's Theatre, (ACT), to provide an after-school theatre program for students at Fair Haven School, from January 12, 2021 to June 30, 20 in an amount not to exceed \$6,000.00 was presented by Ms. Lumpkin.
Funding Source: State After School Grant Program **Acct. #2579-6205-56697-0016**
2. Agreement with Jose H. Sala, Jr. to provide the ROTC program for 125 at Hillhouse High School, from November 12, 2020 to June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$52,840.28 was presented by Mr. Worthy.
Funding Source: Operating Budget 2020-2021 **Acct. #19043362-50135**
Discussion: In response to Committee questions regarding the start date, Mr. Worthy explained that Mr. Sala was appointed in November. He also indicated that the ROTC program serves 180 students.
3. Agreement with Lisa Rodriguez to provide the ROTC program at Hillhouse High School, from November 12, 2020 to June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$84,245.28 was presented by Mr. Worthy.
Funding Source: Operating Budget 2020-2021 **Acct. #19043362-50135**

D. CONTRACTS:

1. Award of Contract to NPower was **WITHDRAWN**. NPower is the third party contractor in this program. Fees will be paid the UI. The Contract description will be corrected and resubmitted for the next meeting.
Funding Source: Capital Budget **Acct. #3C202074-58101**

E. CHANGE ORDERS:

1. Change Order #1 to the Contract #50535A-1-4 with M & M Total Construction, LLC for Snow Plowing NHPS was **WITHDRAWN**. Mr. Penn explained that the snow removal contractor was approved by the City as the lowest bidder but the Contract had not been submitted for Board of Education approval. The Contract when submitted, will include the additional schools but cost will not increase. .

Funding Source: Capital Budget

Acct. #19047400-56662

II. DISCUSSION:

- **Food Service Financial Update:** Mr. Gormany reported the district normally serves 10,000 meals per day, which represents significant reimbursable expense. However, due to Covid, the numbers fluctuate, and are well below reimbursable levels, which may result in a deficit for the program. Mr. Penn noted that staff have been working to identify opportunities to increase availability and distribution of meals, given USDA regulations which dictate how meals are distributed and tracked. A discussion ensued. Mr. Gormany will have a detailed budget report for the next meeting. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**
- **November 2020 Financial Results:** Mr. Penn reviewed the financials, noting total expenditures of \$64.0 million through November 30, 2020. He also noted that expenditures for Transportation and tuition do not reflect funds received from grants or other revenue which would lower gross expenditures. He noted that the Grant Source description includes new columns to display carryover funds from previous years as well as new fiscal year funding. Mr. Penn reported that a \$19 million drop in new funds is due to ESSER and quarterly installments of Federal Magnet grants. In addition, he noted that the newest grants, including Coronavirus Relief Funds and newly approved grants will increase funds in future reports. A discussion ensued. Committee members suggested and Mr. Penn agreed that future budget reports include a list of definitions for clarity purposes, such as Total Anticipated Funding, for example. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**
- **Sound School Roof Project:** Mr. Barbarotta explained that the District has applied for a new grant that will provide funds to replace the roof of the Foote Building at Sound School. The roof leaks have been problematic for many years, due in part due to penetrations to the roof for facility use purposes. In addition, he explained that the filtration system originally intended to be housed outside the building has caused an ongoing moisture build-up which impacts the roof. If the new grant is approved, the roof will be replaced and the filtration system moved, which should end future roof issues. A discussion ensued. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**
- **Board of Education Series 3000 Policies for Business & Non-Instructional Operations:** Mr. Wilcox reported that the Food Service Committee is currently reviewing related policies. In addition, he has reviewed the policy for Race & Equity as it relates to development of budgets to ensure a transparent process. Members discussed the need to identify the definition of equity as it relates to budgeting, and the key metrics that will be used to determine funding levels, given that dollars are limited. A discussion ensued. The subject will be added to the next Finance & Operations agenda. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**

Adjournment: A motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Ms. Rivera to adjourn the meeting at 5:52 p.m., passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Conaway, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. DeMaio