



**NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
Connecticut

**Board of Education Committee**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**January 11, 2021 via Zoom**

**Call to Order:** The meeting called to order at 5:38 p.m. by Ms. Rivera.

**Attendees:** Present: : Ms. Yesenia, President; Mr. Matt Wilcox, Vice-President; Dr. Edward Joyner, Secretary; Mayor Justin Elicker, Dr. Tamiko Jackson-McArthur, Mr. Darnell Goldson, Mr. Larry Conaway, Mr. Fiore, Ms. Arouna

**Welcome:** Mayor Justin Elicker welcomed everyone to the Board of Education's first meeting of 2021.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Mr. Conaway led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance

**Board Leadership Election:** Mayor Elicker acknowledged Dr. Joyner who nominated Ms. Yesenia Rivera as President of the New Haven Board of Education.

**001-21 Ms. Rivera Elected President** **On the Motion by Dr. Joyner seconded by Mr. Wilcox to nominate Ms. Rivera as Board President.**

Dr. Joyner, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes; Dr. Jackson, No; Mr. Conaway, No; Mayor Elicker, Yes; Mr. Goldson, No; Ms. Arouna, Yes; Mr. Fiore, Yes; Mr. Rivera, Yes. Motion Passed.

**002-21 Mr. Wilcox Elected Vice-President** **On the Motion by Ms. Rivera seconded by Dr. Joyner to nominate Mr. Wilcox as Board Vice-President.**

Dr. Joyner, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes; Dr. Jackson, No; Mr. Conaway, No; Mayor Elicker, Yes; Mr. Goldson, No; Ms. Arouna, Yes; Mr. Fiore, Yes; Mr. Rivera, Yes. Motion Passed.

**003-21 Dr. Joyner Elected Secretary** **On the Motion by Mr. Wilcox seconded by Ms. Rivera to nominate Dr. Joyner as Board Secretary.**

Dr. Joyner, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes; Dr. Jackson, No; Mr. Conaway, No; Mayor Elicker, Yes; Mr. Goldson, No; Ms. Arouna, Yes; Mr. Fiore, Yes; Mr. Rivera, Yes. Motion Passed.



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**004-21**  
**Approval of Board**  
**Meeting Minutes:**  
**12.14.2020**

**On the Motion by Dr. Joyner seconded by Mr. Conaway to approve the December 14, 2020 Minutes as presented.**

**Mr. Goldson, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes; Dr. Jackson, Yes; Mr. Conaway, Yes; Mayor Elicker, Yes; Dr. Joyner, Yes; Ms. Arouna, Yes; Mr. Fiore, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes. Motion Passed.**

**Public Participation:**

**Name \*** Lisa Desfosses

**Email \*** [lisadesfosses@yahoo.com](mailto:lisadesfosses@yahoo.com)

**Comments \*** Thank you for reopening schools on January 19th. These young kids need to be in school in person, and our family is eagerly waiting for that day to return to school. We know it has been hard work to get here, and we are grateful for the work and for the reopening.

**Name \*** Chris Bosse

**Email \*** [cboss51@yahoo.com](mailto:cboss51@yahoo.com)

**Comments \*** I was a big proponent to taking two weeks at the beginning of the year to fix the opening issues. I thought we could of opened after two weeks but in November they shut us down when the infection rate was over 6 percent. Now Jan 19th you want us to go back to the schools when the infection rate has not gone down or even been higher in many instances. The November shut down was because the science said we should not do it and that we would be at great risk to ourselves and to our families. How can you ethically reopen when the infection rate is still high, there is another strain out there even more contagious and vaccines still are not readily available to teachers. Even if a teacher receives a vaccine it will take a month to gain the proper immunity for the vaccine to work. I want to be with my students but not when the infection rate is still climbing.

**Name \*** Lisa Lucatino

**Email \*** [lm15468@aol.com](mailto:lm15468@aol.com)

**Comments \*** My comment or question is what has changed since November 9 when we were not able to return. Our percentages are higher and there is an uptick in cases with a new strain that has arrived in New Haven County that is even more contagious. Wouldn't it make sense to keep us remote until February after Presidents' Day so teachers have the opportunity to get vaccinated?  
Please consider these facts before sending us back,  
Thank you for your time,  
Lisa Lucatino

**Name \*** Elizabeth Hart

**Email \*** [beth\\_hart\\_lms@yahoo.com](mailto:beth_hart_lms@yahoo.com)

**Comments \***  
Dear members of the Board of Education and Dr. Tracey,  
My name is Elizabeth Hart. I am the Library Media Specialist at Worthington Hooker School. I appreciate the many improvements put into place to make our schools safer, including the air filters. Everyone involved has worked diligently to implement these improvements. I



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believe that one more precaution is necessary, and that is that all teachers who desire a vaccination receive both doses before starting hybrid instruction. Community infection rates are at their highest, so it seems too great a risk given we are so close to phase 1B of vaccinations. Specialists who visit every classroom are at a higher risk of contracting and spreading infection. I urge the board to continue to proceed with caution and work with the Health Department to offer teachers vaccinations as soon as possible. Thank you.

**Name \*** Jonathan Berryman

**Email \*** [jgbmusic@aol.com](mailto:jgbmusic@aol.com)

**Comments \***

In regard to the opening of NHPS school buildings for in-person instruction beginning on January 19, 2021 or any date prior to the availability of vaccinations for all NHPS stakeholders and the community's steady progression toward herd immunity, I stand here to reaffirm what the ancestors have already spoken to your minds, your souls, and your guts. The ancestors have told you to "Stop it!" "What ancestors?" you ask. Those who fought the good fight against bad educational and government policy, despite their being considered not White enough, not Christian enough, not English-speaking enough, and just too dark to qualify for the high-income perches of privilege on which this board sits today. I am convinced that those ancestors have already spoken to you about this latest proposal and have told you to have some backbone and "Stop it!" They've questioned whether this January 19 edict is about educational policy and equity or whether it is more about egocentrism, back door deals for advancement, and nepotism. The conclusion has been reached. "Stop it!" They and the Power higher than them have warned that returning to the Petri dishes that we call school buildings will have dire consequences, particularly since the Covid virus has recently sharpened its ability to attack, ravage, and kill. The blood of the fallen will be on the hands of this board of education, and no amount of sanitizer will be able to cleanse you. Please heed the voices of the ancestors and "Stop it!" while you have a chance.

Rather than give into coercive pressures to adopt the monkey-see-monkey-do-everybody-else's-buldings-are-open-yours-should-be-too approach to education that is well-rooted in the deficit-modeled idea that virtual learning is ineffective, the NHPS would be better suited to take its rightful place as the only district in the state of CT that is positioned to earnestly evaluate the effectiveness of the virtual-only method of teaching during the 2020-2021 school year.

New Haven has the unique opportunity to seize a moment that no other district has by conducting such an evaluation whose results can have significant implications for best practices in the use of distance learning at the PK-12 levels in urban districts. This is the time to double-down on staying the course with the virtual-only model and to launch a reliable and valid study of its effectiveness. I have no doubt that the NHPS would find welcomed partners within the CT University system to help design and conduct such a study. Without such a study, the value of in-person learning during this pandemic remains anecdotal and has no scientific merit. The NHPS has invested significant resources into making virtual learning a flourishing possibility and our workforce has shown its dedication and determination in making it a reality. Now would be the time to evaluate the return on that investment. As the top district in its class, the NHPS deserves a chance to prove why it is so.

**Name \*** Benjamin Hosen

**Email \*** [oikrusty@hotmail.com](mailto:oikrusty@hotmail.com)

**Comments \*** Packing people into crowded rooms for several hours is the exact opposite of what we need to be doing now.

**Name \*** Katherine Darr

**Email \*** [katherine.darr@gmail.com](mailto:katherine.darr@gmail.com)

**Comments \***

I wanted to offer a personal message of support for the return to school plan. It is the most equitable option to allow parents to make their own decisions about whether or not to send kids to school. Too many children are suffering in the remote learning model. I personally know families who have been struggling under the weight of finding alternate childcare and the financial burdens placed on them by being unable to work because kids are home. Thank you for making a solid decision based on the most recent available research: [https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/education/school-coronavirus-spread/2020/12/29/bbfac9d8-3697-11eb-a997-1f4c53d2a747\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/education/school-coronavirus-spread/2020/12/29/bbfac9d8-3697-11eb-a997-1f4c53d2a747_story.html). Thank you!

**Name \*** Rebecca Cramer

**Email \*** [rebecca.k.cramer@gmail.com](mailto:rebecca.k.cramer@gmail.com)



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### Comments \*

I am a parent of a PK4 student at L.W. Beecher School, and I am writing to express my support for the school reopening plan. I understand that there are people in our community who are concerned about opening schools considering the current infection rate, but I believe that it is important to trust in the expertise and guidance of the New Haven Health Department and NHPS district leadership. I read the NHPS Advocates statement and list of selected studies that show potential school transmission, but I would hope that the opinion of the health department, which has been quite cautious throughout the pandemic, be given credence as their staff consists of public health professionals who are deeply engaging with the data and consulting with others around the state and the country.

I recognize that this has been come an issue of race and class. I am a privileged white person hoping my child will be able to return to school. I know that many people in our community have been directly impacted by covid in a way that I haven't and also have a well-founded distrust of institutions. People should have the continue to have the opportunity to opt for remote learning as they will under the reopening plan, but I hope that we can also give the 50% of families that want to send their children back to school the opportunity to do so as other communities have done across our state. We should trust that these families will follow the policies and guidelines to prevent transmission at school and in the community instead of pointing to examples from other communities where people are not taking the virus as seriously. We can all work together to keep our community safe, but doing so can take different forms including through the safe reopening plan that NHPS has worked so hard to develop.

**Name \*** Jeremy Makins

**Email \*** [jmakins@yahoo.com](mailto:jmakins@yahoo.com)

**Comments \*** Please open the schools for in-person learning safely.

**Name \*** Karyn Smith

**Email \*** [professorksmith@gmail.com](mailto:professorksmith@gmail.com)

### Comments \*

Please consider pushing back school reopening until at least February. Opening 2 weeks before teachers are scheduled to be vaccinated seems short-sighted. Positivity rates are now are 3x higher than they were in November, and Black/Latinx communities like New Haven have been hit hardest by this disease. The UK variant has also been found in our county, and there is not enough information about the transmissibility of that variant. In fact, research on the transmissibility of Covid in schools is mixed--it does not come down solidly on one side or the other of the debate. Furthermore, as a parent at ECMS, I can attest first hand to the disruption of in-person learning. In the month that ECMS was open, it had 2 cases which resulted in some students and staff staying home. My child stayed with remote learning, and his schedule changed twice because his teachers had to quarantine. This kind of upheaval isn't beneficial to anyone's learning. Even if the Superintendent and Board want to believe only the studies that support re-opening, with current transmission rates, school and classroom closures will be the norm. Rather than a smooth re-opening experience, students and families will experience frequent upheaval. I also have concerns about the state's plan to allow unlicensed teachers into classrooms as substitutes, which severely undermines calls for equitable education. Thank you for your consideration, and please make the decision to delay reopening a little longer in order to keep our community safe and provide a strong re-opening experience at the appropriate time.

**Name \*** Michelle Streater

**Email \*** [michelle.streater@new-haven.k12.ct.us](mailto:michelle.streater@new-haven.k12.ct.us)

### Comments \*

Question of concern:

The city of New Haven receives messages to not gather even within your own home with those outside of your unit. How then is it safe to return to classrooms with unknown families? Teachers and children are not being tested and we are just weeks away from vaccination.

- Covid case counts are on the rise in the more contagious variant is in our state.

-Research is showing that children do indeed get Covid may not be quite as bad but they are dying from it as well and can bring it home to family members that can get deadly ill.

- We all know that children do learn best in the school environment. However, during this pandemic I think it wise to wait until the virus is more under control and people are more safely vaccinated. We can always improve upon the learning we cannot bring back life after it's been lost. Money and politics should not play a role this is about the preservation of life.Thank You!



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**Name \*** Sandra Fitzpatrick

**Email \*** [sandra603203@gmail.com](mailto:sandra603203@gmail.com)

**Comments \*** I support the decision for New Haven Public Schools to offer in-person learning to K-5 students. This needs to be an option for New Haven families. We have had more than adequate time to prepare and learn from the experiences of other districts.

**Name \*** Abigail Evanko-Weber

**Email \*** [abigail.evankoweber@yahoo.com](mailto:abigail.evankoweber@yahoo.com)

**Comments \***

Please reconsider the return to in person classes on January 19th. New Haven Public Schools has stepped up and been a leader in keeping their students and staff safe throughout this pandemic. Why the change of heart especially with the city seeing such alarming infection rates? We must continue to protect our most vulnerable populations and it is clear that remote learning is the safest course of action at this time. The fiscal challenges facing the district are indeed a concern, especially regarding the school food lunch program, however, there are other ways to mitigate those concerns without endangering the lives of our students, staff, and their families. Consider using the bus routes to deliver meals, lengthen the window for meal pickup times, and encourage all schools to mirror their lunch and the district meal pickup times to make it easier for families. Postponing this return until all staff can be vaccinated would mitigate some of infection that is sure to ensue due to in person learning. Much consideration should be given to the fact that a return to in person learning at this time, not only affects those returning but their families as well. The consequences of returning to in person instruction at this time are far reaching and the ill effects will be long felt.

**Name \*** Sherrie Herbert-Oliver

**Email \*** [sherrie@new-haven.k12.ct.us](mailto:sherrie@new-haven.k12.ct.us)

**Comments \***

I am very saddened that after keeping the staff and students safe that the board would decide to send us back to an unsafe environment. The restrictions we will have to take on a daily basis is more than should be asked of any teacher or paraprofessional. The students are learning and can participate in music and gym and able to enjoy the class. The restrictions that students will have will make them more uncomfortable and why would anyone want to subject their child to this. I personally do not feel comfortable and have been through a quarantine and do not want to go through that again if it can be helped. I feel that this is unacceptable for you to expect this of us. How can you ask this of us and sleep well at night.

**Name \*** R V

**Email \*** [rmaria205@aol.com](mailto:rmaria205@aol.com)

**Comments \*** It is completely unsafe to return to school. As the Covid numbers are increasing, now is the time to stay home and quarantine. Our students, teachers and staff need to be protected. Social distancing will not be possible on school busses and if one student comes down with Covid that will effect every school that has student representation on that bus. If adults on the BOE are not willing to meet in person why are we asking students and teachers to meet in person. The reopening of schools needs to be discussed and issues need to be taken into account. The ultimate goal is keep our students safe.

**Name \*** Sara Neal

**Email \*** [avocadogal@gmail.com](mailto:avocadogal@gmail.com)

**Comments \*** This makes no sense to me.  
It's not safe yet to open schools.  
We should wait until teachers get vaccinated first at the least.

**Name \*** Jane Hosen

**Email \*** [jane.hosen@new-haven.k12.ct.us](mailto:jane.hosen@new-haven.k12.ct.us)



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**Comments \*** Given the current COVID numbers and mutations, beginning in-person learning will put our students and community at risk. Please do not open the schools prior to the availability of vaccinations for all NHPS stakeholders.

**Name \*** Jessica Light

**Email \*** [jessica.light@new-haven.k12.ct.us](mailto:jessica.light@new-haven.k12.ct.us)

**Comments \***

I'm Jessica Light, I'm a teacher and I do not want to die.

There are studies claiming schools have not been super spreaders. Unfortunately, these studies do not apply to New Haven,

These studies refer to communities with low infection rates. Ours is exceedingly high. They refer to communities without the new variant of covid. They refer to schools with unified plans in place.

Within our schools there are discrepancies.

Should desks be six feet apart measuring from the edge or the middle making them closer together? Its being done both ways in New haven.

Some teachers are told to schedule mask breaks indoors. others only outdoors. How long should these mask breaks be, how often? The answers vary.

How often can a child remove their mask to drink water and for how long can a thirsty child remain mask-less.

Should all windows be up the entire day or are we just supposed to have one open because of the cold. I have heard both.

We've been told to use outdoor space as classrooms, but then how do we stay connected to our remote learners?

After a student reads a book, some teachers are told to quarantine the book in a bin for a few days. Other are told theres no need. Which is best practices?

These decisions should be written into a unified plan written in conjunction with health experts. Principals and teachers don't have the expertise to make life and death health care decisions. Teachers have not had, "How to manage Covid in the Classroom" training, not one day.

But there is good news on Feb first school staff can begin being vaccinated. Why risk lives for a few weeks of a charade of in person, where it is unsafe to allow kids to sit facing each other. They must sit isolated on their chrome books while I teach them online with remote learners. I can't kneel by a student to give them individualized attention.

The benefits of in person are negated by the rigidness we are being asked to enforce. Freezing with the windows up we will try to continue the same learning we have been doing remotely only less safe and now with the screeching feedback of all of our computers in one room on one wifi network.

When I come home how do I keep my family safe? Should I stay in a hotel? Is the city offering any help with this?

The vaccine is weeks a way, the end is near, please do not risk my life and additional community spread for this charade.

**Name \*** Kathleen Galo

**Email \*** [kcgalo@gmail.com](mailto:kcgalo@gmail.com)

**Comments \***

New Haven families should have the same choice families in 168/169 towns in Connecticut have had the privilege of making for the past six months.

Young children are especially poor at remote learning, there are hundreds of students who are not yet reading or who are early readers who would hugely benefit from returning to school. I fully support the district's plan to use available data and research to bring back children in grades preK3-5 to in-person learning. The resources for successful learning outside of school are highly inequitable and these disparities



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are exacerbated by the economic impact of the pandemic.

Every other town in Connecticut is giving families options for in-person learning while mitigating risk as much as possible. New Haven has plenty of support among its peer towns and should move forward with its plan to open on January 19, 2021.

**Name \*** Kimberley Steele

**Email \*** [kimberly.steele@new-haven.k12.ct.us](mailto:kimberly.steele@new-haven.k12.ct.us)

**Comments \*** Please wait for teachers to get vaccinated. Open after the February break to give us the time to get both shots. Thank you.

**Name \*** Mary McMullen

**Email \*** [mary.mcmullen@new-haven.k12.ct.us](mailto:mary.mcmullen@new-haven.k12.ct.us)

**Comments \*** Dear Members of the Board of Education: Please do the only ethical and reasonable thing, and delay the opening of in-person attendance for NHPS students until all NHPS staff (who choose to do so) receive the vaccine for COVID-19. With the students' routine in place and the vaccine on the near horizon, remaining remote for the time being is the only sensible course of action. Respectfully, Mary M. McMullen

**Name \*** MARIANNE MALONEY

**Email \*** [maloney\\_marianne@yahoo.com](mailto:maloney_marianne@yahoo.com)

**Comments \***

COMMENTS FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION  
NEW HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION JANUARY 11, 2021  
Marianne Maloney, Head Steward NHFT Local 933  
Instructor of Mathematics – New Haven Academy

May I join many other voices this evening in advocating for caution regarding the anticipated January 19 partial return to a hybrid model here in New Haven.

In your capacity as caretakers of our city's children and of your employees who service them, you have wisely delayed a return to in-person learning up until now. You have weighed the risks for our population, more vulnerable than some for many reasons, and you have determined that the health and safety of our community was more valuable than the effort it would take to retool and reform our method of educational instruction.

So what has changed in the interim?

- All students have been offered the technology to succeed
- All teachers have been trained in the art of remote instruction
- All teachers have honed these new skills and engaged their students in a new kind of lesson
- Students have become accustomed to a new educational model
- Students have learned to take more personal responsibility for their learning
- Students have learned that face-to-face interaction online can be as good or better than distanced, masked interaction in person
- The Covid infection rate in our city has nearly tripled
- The vaccine has come close to being a reality

The CTDPH estimates that Phase 1b of vaccine distribution will begin on January 17, with all school personnel included in the "critical infrastructure" designation. A new, more dangerous strain of the virus has been identified in our community. All of England responded to this new strain by closing all schools, country-wide.

Why would we not choose to wait for the vaccine so that at least our personnel, who will be responsible for the distancing and masking needed to keep our students safer can be vaccinated? The transition will be disruptive at any time, but let us recognize that we are doing well, and wait for safety to return.

**Name \*** Sherrie Herbert-Oliver

**Email \*** [sherrie@wboliver.com](mailto:sherrie@wboliver.com)



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**Comments \***

To the board, this is my second message. This is my second message as I feel this situation is weighting on me so heavily, and there are so many issues that need to be addressed. The situation that happened at the capital where people had to hide together in close quarters, some people ended up getting covid. So, now if we are in school and trying to keep our distance and there is a lockdown, what is going to happen? We normally go into the bathroom which is less than 6 ft and not socially distancing. That means for the 10- 20 min in close proximity someone may get covid! As I stated in my previous message, I just came off of quarantine and I don't wish to experience this anytime soon if it can be helped. I am a very nervous person who is 62, has high blood pressure and diabetes. I do not wish to get covid! So, you are causing me to go to a building that has children who go out and about with their families who may or may not take this situation as serious as I do. Sending us into this situation everyday is knowingly sending us into an unsafe situation that can risk us to exposure . When we get sick who do we sue as a consequence of the boards actions? We don't want to be sick, we want to keep our jobs and not get sick! There is no reason for us to go back to school right now.

The remote schooling works. The children are learning, the ones that are having an issue will have an issue wether at home or in class. Actually they will have a harder time in class because they will have to remain seated all day and not interact with their friends like they will assume that they can. The will be more problematic in this setting. I am really having a hard time accepting this decision. I personally don't want to do anything to improve my chances of catching Covid. However the decision you are making is putting everyone at risk for Covid, when there is no need. You have kept teachers and students safe so far, why not finish the year strong with remote classes and continue to keep everyone safe? I honestly feel that with this situation that if my job was not the means of my family's health insurance I would quit. My life means more to me than obviously any of you think. Remote should finish out the school year and then start the new year off after teachers get vaccinated, which can help the students stay safe. The school system spent money on trainings and probably platforms to get us up and running and the staff has risen to the occasion and are doing a fabulous job! Why can't you just trust the process and your employees and keep everyone safe. Remote school works! I hope you are truly listening to us. I am sure I am not the only one who feels this way.

**Name \*** Kristin Palmieri

**Email \*** [kristin\\_judd@hotmail.com](mailto:kristin_judd@hotmail.com)

**Comments \***

I am concerned with the decisions our city is making in regards to a return to school. The science simply does not support your decision . The evidence is conflicting about the potential for spread. I believe if there is a question there is no question. This board cannot say definitively that a student or staff member definitely will not contract Covid and consequently may die. What cost are we willing to take? Why wouldn't we wait to see how the vaccine distribution will be handled under a new federal response. I know teachers want to return and after being vaccinated we will march back in confidently. There is not a single teacher who does not understand the toll distance learning has created on students and the community. However, one evil does not justify another. This board's only job should be to weigh the potential costs to our lives- students and teachers. Lunch budgets and pleasing a state government should not be considered as factors to reopening. Although the consequences of closing schools will for sure have negative impacts on learning and retaining students there is a reason we chose to work as teachers or educators; we believe in protecting our communities and right now our call is louder than any other time. Please choose the lives of students and teachers. We can get kids caught up. We have an unbelievably talented pool of educators who have dedicated their lives to pedagogical theory. Set up a committee, ask for volunteers let's build a plan to help kids NOW. We can fill gaps with the right plan but we can't get the lives of our students and teachers back.

Respectfully,  
Kristin Palmieri

**Students' Report:** No Report at this time.

**Superintendent's Report:**

**005-21**  
**iv. Personnel**  
**Report:** **On the Motion by Dr. Joyner seconded by Mr. Wilcox to nominate Ms. Rivera as Board President.**  
**Dr. Joyner, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes; Dr. Jackson, Yes; Mr. Conaway, Yes; Mayor Elicker, Yes; Mr. Goldson, Yes; Ms. Arouna, Yes; Mr. Fiore, Yes; Mr. Rivera, Yes. Motion Passed.**



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**v. Update on  
Partial Reopening**

Dr. Tracey spoke on the Reopening Plan for January 19, 2021 for the participating students that will be in school for the Hybrid model. She stressed that all parents have the choice to opt out of the hybrid model and to continue their children to remain a remote learner.

She stated that during the 1918, Spanish Flu there were only three school districts that remained open during the last pandemic; New Haven being one of them.

Director Bond and Mr. Dalal stated that their team has reviewed multiple studies and consulted several experts. A student was conducted in Iceland, where the adults were more likely to spread, not the children.

Confirmation of two cases of new COVID variant in New Haven and are closely monitored. It would take approximately six months for new strain to overtake the older strain. The vaccine will work against the new variant of the virus.

Dir. Bond ensures the health and well-being of the community. Utilizing a robust checklist with the Health Administration and the Ventilation checklist and inspections at all the schools.

Transportation Director Carl Jackson to bussing concerns First Student has a new rigorous cleaning and inspections schedule and the operators and monitors have agreed to be tested every two weeks.

**vi. West Rock &  
Quinnipiac  
Closure**

The Contractor Fuss & O'Neill has inspected all of the schools and have provided a report.

December 1, 2020 an inspection was conducted of both Quinnipiac and West Rock Schools with the Fire Marshall and the Mechanical Inspector of the New Haven Building Department. Fuss provided a draft report of the assessments. Both Schools have no HVAC system and other repairs are needed or alternative methods.

**vii. New Haven  
Promise**

A New Haven Promise representative did a presentation on the progress on the partnership of New Haven Promise and New Haven Public School Students.

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**Presidents Report:**

No Report at this time.

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**Finance &  
Operations Report:**

Mr. Wilcox presented the F&O Report for committee approval.  
Agreement #3 for Lisa Rodriguez JROTC has been WITHDRAWN.

**On the Motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Ms. Rivera, it was approved by roll call to approve the following FINANCE AND OPERATION-RELATED ITEMS:**



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**Dr. Joyner, Yes; Dr. Jackson, Yes; Mr. Conaway, Yes; Mayor Elicker, Yes; Mr. Goldson, No; Mr. Wilcox, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes. Motion Passed**

<b>006-21 Head Start</b>	Head Start Enhancement in the amount of \$122,708.00 for July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.
<b>007-21 APC</b>	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.
<b>008-21 ACT</b>	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.
<b>009-21 JROTC Sala</b>	Agreement with Jose H. Sala, Jr. provide the JROTC program for 125 at Hillhouse High School, from November 12, 2020 to June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$52,840.28.
<b>ITEM WITHDRAWN</b>	Agreement with Lisa Rodriguez 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.
<b>Head Start Report:</b>	No Report at this time.
<b>Governance Report:</b>	No Report at this time.
<b>Teaching &amp; Learning Report:</b>	No Report at this time.
<b>Food Service Task Force Report:</b>	No Report at this time.
<b>Facilities Naming Report:</b>	No Report at this time.
<b>Citywide School Building Stewardship Report:</b>	No Report at this time.



**NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Connecticut**

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**Adjournment:** On the Motion by Dr. Joyner to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Goldson, it was voted by roll call to adjourn at 10:42 p.m.

Mr. Goldson, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes; Dr. Jackson, Yes; Mr. Conaway, Yes; Dr. Joyner, Yes; Mayor Elicker, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes. Motion Passed.

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Respectfully Submitted,

*Salina Manning*

Salina Manning

Executive Administrative Assistant

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“A video of this meeting is available on the NHPS website, [NHPS.net](http://NHPS.net), Public Meetings”