



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes – Board of Education Meeting – May 26, 2020

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

Absent: Mr. N. Rivera, L. Arouna

Dr. Joyner led participants in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Goldson commented as he has mentioned in the past, there is an issue that has not been solved and he would like it resolved by next meeting.

Mr. Conaway pointed out the following correction under Educational Continuity in the Superintendent’s Report:

Pg. 3, 1st paragraph, 9th sentence, Sergio Fernandez should read: **Sergio Rodriguez**

Dr. Tracey pointed out the following correction under Educational Continuity in the Superintendent’s Report:

Pg. 3, 1st paragraph, 5th sentence, Chief Reddish should read: **Chief Reyes**

Mrs. Rivera commented under **pg. 5 Ratification of Executive Employment Contracts**; the way it reads doesn’t seem that we voted to ratify the contracts but rather to amend the agenda to add the names and the salaries.

**280-20
Approval of BOE
Minutes, 5/11/20**

On the motion by Dr. Joyner, seconded by Mr. Conaway, it was unanimously voted by roll call, with one abstention by Dr. Jackson-McArthur, as amended.

Public Participation

Mrs. Rivera remarked that we received one email from Katerina Homann and she wants to know what our status is on implementing climate education in the schools. If it has already been implemented, has it been successful and if not, what would it take to implement climate education into the schools?

Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Tracey asked for approval of the Superintendent’s Personnel Report.

Mr. Goldson made a motion to approve the personnel report and Dr. Joyner seconded.

He referred to page 9 has Jasanea Hernandez listed twice and wanted to know if that is a typo. Dr. Joyner pointed out that there are also two different dates and Dr. Jackson-McArthur pointed out that the classification is different as well; instructional and non-instructional.



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes – Board of Education Meeting – May 26, 2020

Ms. Mack, for clarification, remarked that it should be non-instructional and she was due to return but returned sooner than she was required to. Her leave of absence was from March 16th to June 7th but she returned on April 29th and we are required to return them back before we give them their assignment. Mr. Goldson said then it should read non-instructional rather than instructional, is that correct; Ms. Mack agreed.

Mr. Goldson then asked if we are seeing a lot of people returning back early from FMLA. Ms. Mack answered it's about average. We do have some that did return earlier and we have some that are still out. We also had an individual who opted out of going on a leave because working remotely was more feasible. Ms. Mack noted that they have tentatively approved some return to work from workman's comp because they are working remotely and are not at risk of injuring themselves. This is only a tentative approval because when we go back to normal, we have to make sure they are approved before going back full time.

Mr. Conaway asked if Dr. Tracey would address the Heather Toothaker situation that is located on page 3 of the Personnel Report. Dr. Tracey remarked what has been happening is that some Board members were receiving emails from this person and we found out it was a fake name, it was a fake Gmail account, and we do not have such a person working in our system. It appears someone wanted to create an account to attack another staff member. We are tracing the origination of the email and we are very close to finding that out.

Dr. Joyner commended Mr. Conaway for sending the email to him when he received it and as Board members we immediately sent it to the Superintendent rather than addressing it ourselves.

281-10
Approval of
Personnel Report

On the motion by Mr. Goldson, seconded by Dr. Joyner, it was unanimously voted, by roll call, to approve the amendment to the Personnel Report to correct the Leave of Absence on Page 9 from Instructional Staff to Non-Instructional Staff.

Mr. Goldson asked the Superintendent if we are interviewing for the position of Assistant Superintendent and Dr. Tracey answered, yes, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum Instruction.

Update on Student Elections

Mr. Wilcox reported that he attended the last meeting of this committee and they are progressing on the one student who has qualified to fill the position that will open when Niko Rivera graduates. The student has gone through the process as outlined but is short of the signatures required and because of COVID-19 this has been difficult to do so students will be able to sign the petition electronically. The last he heard is that he has 72 of the 100 signatures needed. Those signatures have to be from 5 high schools and he



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes – Board of Education Meeting – May 26, 2020

has signatures from 6 high schools. Mr. Wilcox noted that this is the only one student who has gone through the process and we would like him to get the number of signatures he needs. We will know the results at their next meeting, which is on Thursday.

Mr. Goldson called a point of order, for the record he knows that the BOA is meeting tonight to approve the budget and he would like to know if we can get on the record the position of this Board on this budget they are voting on. He continued to explain.

Dr. Tracey commented that she did not have to present that tonight so she doesn't have a copy of the letter in front of her and she doesn't want to adlib. Mrs. Rivera said she doesn't have a copy at hand either.

Dr. Joyner asked if we could please just follow the agenda and Mrs. Rivera agreed.

*COVID-19 Update,
School Cleanout & Distribution of Students Personal Property*

Dr. Tracey commented that she has already sent the Board a copy of the plans we have for this operation going forward. As you know, we left school in a hurry and left everything in the classrooms so teachers have to go back and clear out their classrooms and help bag the student's personal belongings. She sent a notice to families with the dates to follow. Principals are setting up a schedule for their individual schools which they will send to teachers and to families when they can come to collect their student's materials. Dr. Tracey noted that students in ending grades in their schools will be required to bring back the computers they have. For those students continuing in the school, they can keep their computers for the summer. The students are coming in at staggered times for this process. Dr. Tracey explained in detail.

Dr. Tracey remarked we have some misunderstandings around whether or not June 5th is the last day of school, and that is incorrect. June 5th is the last day of new instruction and assignments. Students will be doing reviews, making up assignments, etc. Dr. Tracey gave this schedule in detail and mentioned that it is moving smoothly so far.

Dr. Tracey pointed out that we are planning for graduation and we are sending to parents the plans we are making and what the schools are planning. A motorcade is being planned for all of our students, supported by the Fire Department and the Police Department. As another way of celebrating our students, schools are making signs for their lawns, etc., to help students make memories of their graduation.

Dr. Tracey then discussed the summer school plans and noted that they have received some guidelines from the State and she expressed her concerns about opening for summer school because we are still in the height of this Pandemic. She explained in detail. We are planning for summer school but it will be remotely. The folks who are planning summer



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes – Board of Education Meeting – May 26, 2020

school have come up with a plan and she will send it to Board members. This will not be for everyone. As you know, we receive a grant every year called the Accountability Grant and those are the students we will be targeting for summer school. Dr. Tracey also noted that they are planning for high school seniors who need only one or two credits and she listed the subjects that would be included. Parents will be getting information soon.

Mr. Goldson wanted to know in terms of summer school, if her ideas on opening summer school is based on scientific advice from the medical professionals or is it just a general thought that she doesn't like the idea of getting kids together. Dr. Tracey remarked she didn't say we are not having summer school, she said that it will not be in person. To his question, she told him it is based on data and based on the fact that we are not ready to put up dividers and to do some of the other things that we would be required to do.

Mr. Goldson then commented that he knows that the CARES Act has suggested that some of that money can be used to help facilitate summer school learning. Is that a possibility or is it too soon. Dr. Tracey said that funding is something we have to apply for and they have not completed the application.

Ms. Typhanie Jackson offered some additional information about summer school. She noted that they have also been having ongoing meetings with health professionals and some of the information is coming from them.

Dr. Jackson-McArthur commended Dr. Tracey for bringing that up. She wanted to know if we are opening the buildings for summer to host camps and, if not, have we notified those folks who use our buildings. As far as the buildings are concerned, she would like to understand what the cleaning is going to look like once we reopen and how will it be addressed? Mr. Pinto remarked that we will certainly provide that update. Dr. Jackson-McArthur asked Mr. Pinto if they could have a presentation on the cleaning protocols. Mr. Pinto responded he will provide it to them as soon as it is completed.

Mr. Pinto commented we do have applications for summer camps from the Parks Department which is less than usual in participation levels, in order to maintain social distancing and to keep the kids safe. We would like to move forward with that, he is just waiting for the final decision on the summer camps to make sure we are adjusting site locations appropriately. The other thing is that we would like to cancel private camps; we just don't think we can accommodate them at this time. There is a balancing act because a lot of folks rely on summer camps for summer daycare. He continued to explain.

Dr. Joyner initiated a discussion and commented that Mr. Goldson asked a very important question. This discussion included Dr. Jackson-McArthur expressing her thoughts and suggestions on this topic. The discussion continued at length joined by Mr. Goldson, Mr. Conaway, Dr. Tracey, Mr. Wilcox and Mayor Elicker.



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes – Board of Education Meeting – May 26, 2020

Mr. Conaway wanted to know from Dr. Tracey how we are dealing with the disengaged and high risk populations. He has started to see an uptick in the City of petty crimes and things like that and some of these kids are the kids he dealt with at Riverside. He doesn't want to spend a lot of time on it now, but he will be following up on this. For the record, he wants to put it on her radar. He knows she is dealing with it; he just doesn't want the kids to get lost.

Dr. Tracey explained to Mr. Conaway that they have the YFCE force that is tracing these kids; literally knocking on doors to find them. We are doing the best we can, supported by the SRO officers following up and making sure that these students do not get lost in the process. When they don't find them, they document where they have been in an effort to locate them.

Mr. Conaway thanked Dr. Tracey and commented that he will be talking with his T&L co-chair to be sure these students do not get lost and he knows that Mr. Wilcox is concerned as well.

Mr. Goldson asked Mr. Pinto what the difference is between the Board of Ed and PAL camps compared to the mom and pop camps he referred to. Mr. Pinto answered that what he meant is that they are relatively small and it would be difficult for us to monitor and ensure that all of them have the needed protocols in place. He continued to explain.

Mr. Goldson commented that he is concerned about parents not being able to access programs that they have been accessing for years. He agrees with Dr. Joyner and Dr. Jackson-McArthur that we do not know enough about this virus and he would be opposed to any organization running a summer camp out of our buildings until we know where this virus is heading. When we are comfortable with that, then we could probably allow private organizations to participate.

Dr. Joyner agreed with Mr. Goldson and commented that when we can answer the question of how we can ensure the safety of every single child that comes into our buildings and under our watch no matter their point of origin. If we don't have a good answer, we shouldn't let anyone in.

Mayor Elicker cautioned everyone not to do a "one size fits all" to this. He commented that an alternative way to look at this is that our kids have been out of school for months, and it is important for us to find safe ways to engage them. The answer doesn't mean to shut our schools down to every program and every organization. Our team in City Hall is still working to finalize our summer camp plan. He understands and shares their concerns about the spread of the virus but, to Mr. Conaway's point, we must also keep our kids engaged.

Mr. Goldson agreed with Mayor Elicker about not doing one size fits all and that is what Mr. Pinto said earlier, that we shouldn't deal with any private programs. He also agrees with Dr.



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes – Board of Education Meeting – May 26, 2020

Joyner if there is any kind of protection we can give to our kids, short of putting them in bubbles, we should. He would rather be safe than sorry. If we start to allow this kind of stuff in our schools, people will think it's safe and we can't guarantee that.

Mr. Wilcox suggested that we put this on the agenda for our next Board meeting where we can have plans and/or information presented to us so that we can make an informed decision. He certainly shares all the concerns that people have presented on how we keep people healthy and stop the spread of this disease. That would give staff a chance to pull together information on potential uses and to look at some of these other programs.

Overview of Litigation & Investigation

Mr. Pinto reported that at the May 18th F&O meeting the chairman requested an overview of the expenses that required the change order for the Shipman & Goodwin litigation contract. When we issued that "not to exceed contract" last summer we actually scaled it back from its normal \$80,000 level because we anticipated they would be spending more time this year on labor relations and labor negotiations. We went back and reviewed the change order at the request of Mr. Goldson and Mr. Wilcox. He explained the process in detail. Mr. Pinto added that in October 2019, we had staff shortages in the HR Department so a number of labor relation issues were done by Shipman & Goodwin, which increased the billing and required the change order. Mr. Pinto noted that this was in the memo included in their packets.

Mr. Goldson wanted to know from Mr. Pinto how many pre-March 2020 FOI requests have not been completed. Mr. Pinto answered he did not know off-hand. Mr. Goldson said he knows of at least two because they have contacted him and he wanted to know why they have not been dealt with if we are putting extra money into this firm and we now have a lawyer dedicated by the City to do this. He knows of a request from August 2019 that hasn't been made yet. Mr. Pinto said he is unaware of any. Mr. Goldson continued asking Mr. Pinto questions about this subject at length. Mr. Pinto told Mr. Goldson that they have complied with the FOI Commission, as appropriate.

Dr. Joyner requested that Mr. Wilcox work those concerns out at an F&O meeting. Some of Mr. Goldson's questions are reasonable and would be helpful for us to know. He continued in detail. In closing, Dr. Joyner pointed out it makes sense to him to work this out in F&O and let's be sensitive to the fact that staff cannot answer questions off the cuff if they don't know the answer.

Mr. Wilcox stated that he would be more than happy to take this up in F&O; in fact that is why that information is here tonight. We will try to dig into this further and provide more detailed information on this matter and try to make it as transparent as possible. If anyone has particular questions, they can send them to Dr. Tracey and the committee, we will make sure we are getting answers as best as we can.



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes – Board of Education Meeting – May 26, 2020

Dr. Tracey noted that those questions are important, but also this happened back in August when Atty. Alexiades was not in charge of these FOI requests. We also have to be aware of the fact that while we are deliberating we have to pay these firms. She understands the questions and as a Board they need to know the information but in terms of the cost and why the cost. She feels we should not drag this out too much and make sure folks are paid.

Mr. Goldson commented he doesn't quite understand that last statement because these people have already been paid. We already approved it so that is not the issue. The issue for him is about finding out exactly why they got paid. I didn't vote on this because I wanted more information. He hopes in the future we will make decisions based on real information and not based on recommendations and trust.

*Update: Estimate of 2019-20 Deficit & April 2020,
Monthly Financial Report, presented by Mr. Phil Penn, COO*

Mr. Penn began his presentation of the financials for the past month. He began with page 3 of the deficit which stands just under \$2.6 million, with the majority of that continuing to be in the salary and benefit lines offset by a number of things like supplies and services. This is a trend that we've pretty much seen since we started tracking this last fall.

Mr. Penn explained how the deficit changed over time since our last projection about a month ago. Since that time we have seen a bit of deterioration in the salaries and benefit lines. We talked about some of the certified staff coming back from leaves, a little bit early, which has not been incorporated into our forecast. We trued up some numbers for the end of the year in the part-time and substitute lines.

On the benefit side, we confirmed what our full year numbers were going to be in the excess cost grant coming back from the State, which was a little better than we anticipated. We started to get some benefits on the utilities line with the schools being dark over the past three months and we saw that starting to roll into our bills. We have now incorporated that into our outlook as well. So the total change from one outlook to the other is a net reduction in the deficit of just over \$300,000. The key drivers of the change included:

- A more favorable view of utilities for the full-year, largely driven by the school shutdown.
- A more favorable estimate of tuition costs based on revision to Excess Cost reimbursement for Special Education.
- Transportation outlook does not include any assumed savings from ongoing contract negotiations.
- A slight deterioration in payroll lines as several certified staff returned from leave and part-time payroll estimates for the full year were revised.

Additional mitigation items currently being validated:

- Further reductions in transportation.



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes – Board of Education Meeting – May 26, 2020

- A potential further savings in subs and overtime with schools closed and in other contractual services as purchase orders are released (snow plowing, etc.)

Mr. Penn noted that we are now getting into the point of year when we start looking at all open purchase orders and starting to make decisions about which ones can be closed out and he feels a really good example of that is our purchase orders for snow plowing. Although we got snow in the northern part of the state in May, he feels we could probably rule it out for New Haven for the remainder of the year. We would certainly release those funds as we go forward.

Mr. Penn asked if there were any questions on the deficit before he went on to the fiscal results for April.

Mr. Goldson answered yes. He referred to the bottom of page 3 and commented that he just wanted to make sure he understands this. He asked Mr. Penn questions about what was budgeted in the next two columns and Mr. Penn explained in full to Mr. Goldson's satisfaction.

Mr. Penn went on to say that total expenditures through April 30, 2020 are \$176.1 million. General fund expenditures incurred through April 30, 2020 are \$44.8 million. Mr. Penn went on to explain the remaining slides in detail.

Mr. Penn went on to describe grant funding and commented we are anticipating a little bit under \$80 million worth of grant funds and that is down about \$4.8 million from last year and that continues to put stress on our general fund expenditures to the extent that we keep the staff or we keep programmatic activity. Mr. Penn went on to discuss this in detail.

Mr. Goldson asked Mr. Penn to go back to page 3 because something didn't look right to him. He explained what he thought was incorrect and Mr. Penn thanked him and said there must be a glitch in the program and he will make sure we get that bug out of there next time.

Mr. Goldson wanted to also know why we begin with May and then we go back to the April forecast. Mr. Penn explained this in detail to Mr. Goldson. Mr. Goldson continued to ask questions and Mr. Penn answered in detail.

Update: Negotiations w/First Student

Mr. Penn remarked that this seems to be a fairly good story for us. He sent the Board a brief memo in their packet, which was also published on our website. As of right now, we're expecting First Student to give us concessions on the April through June period of about \$1.5 million and he knows that is about \$325,000 higher than their initial offer. Mr. Penn mentioned that they have heard anecdotally that that puts us very much in line with where other districts are settling with First Student. The next step in this process will be to draft a change order to the existing agreement that will be reviewed by Finance and Operations and



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes – Board of Education Meeting – May 26, 2020

then it will come to the full Board for approval. Since this is a City contract, there didn't have to be an approval process. Mr. Penn continued to explain in detail.

This discussion continued at length.

Overview: ESSERF (CARES Act) Grant

Dr. Tracey called on Mr. Penn to provide information on this topic. Mr. Penn remarked that a memo explaining the particulars of this fund is in your packets and was also posted on our website. Mr. Penn commented that the ESSERF (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund) is a portion of the CARES Act designed to provide local school districts, colleges and universities with funds to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

New Haven Public Schools has been allocated just over \$8.5 million as a result of that relief fund. A small portion, about \$70,000, will be set aside for the non-public schools in New Haven. The use of the ESSERF is restricted to the pandemic response.

Mr. Penn commented that once the CSDE (Connecticut State Department of Education) has issued the grant application, we will bring an Abstract with our recommended spending through the normal F&O committee and full BOE approval process. Mr. Penn referred Board members to the memo for further information.

A discussion initiated by Mr. Goldson ensued at length with Mr. Conaway and Dr. Tracey, sharing their ideas and concerns.

Dr. Tracey concluded that we will get input from people. Her concern is whenever grants like these are sent to us, there is a very short window of time to get it done, and that is how the State operates. We once had two weeks to get an Alliance Grant of \$15 million together. We have not even seen the application and until we see what they are expecting from us and what they are measuring. Until we see what the application looks like and what they are asking of us for we really don't have an answer. Dr. Tracey explained in detail.

Dr. Tracey told Mr. Goldson that she agreed with him and many of the points that he is raising but when we get the application we will have to get it done like yesterday.

Mr. Goldson remarked that there is plenty of information out there right now from the state and the federal government that gives you a very clear idea of what you can do with this money. You don't have to wait for the grant to come out and then start preparing for it. He continued to express his concerns.

Update: Tiger Team Work & Summer School

Dr. Tracey reported that there is a governance team that is collating all this information from the different teams. As soon as we have everything together, we will be sharing with the Board and then sharing with our families, what the thinking is as we move forward. We are still in working groups and they are meeting and they are getting more clarity at what we are



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes – Board of Education Meeting – May 26, 2020

doing. We are also looking at what other states have done around this, i.e., Maryland, Washington State, and she noted that our Governor has not come out yet with a comprehensive plan that will guide all schools, which their task force is working on. Meanwhile, we have to be proactive and start thinking about New Haven. Recently other superintendents have been asking how can we come together and work as a team to have coherence across the systems.

Dr. Whyte added that there are 60 members which encompasses parents, teachers, administrators all stakeholders and parents within in the district. Mrs. Rivera commented that she has been a part of few meetings and it is working out really well. Dr. Tracey mentioned that Board members can be on a team so please ask Dr. Whyte what team you would like to be a part of as we continue to plan this process.

Finance & Operations Committee Report

Mr. Wilcox reported that this committee met on May 18th at 4:30 and they are presenting for approval 5 Abstracts, 4 Agreements and 5 Contracts that are listed on our agenda.

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

ABSTRACTS

- 282-20 ***New Haven Adult & Continuing Education Grant***, in the amount of \$4,800,000 for July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021
- 283-20 ***Literacy Volunteers of Greater New Haven Program***, in the amount of \$40,742 for July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021
- 284-20 ***Program Enhancement Project, (PEP)***, in the amount of \$110,000 for July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021
- 285-20 ***SERC, Social Emotional Learning Program – Wexler Grant***, in the amount of \$50,000 for February to June 2020
- 286-20 ***SERC Social Emotional Learning Program – Clinton Avenue***, in the amount of \$50,000 from May 27, to June 30, 2020

AGREEMENTS

- 287-20 An agreement with State Education Resource Center (SERC), to provide professional development
SERC sessions on Social Emotional Learning to staff at Clinton Avenue School from May 27 to June 30, 2020 in an amount not to exceed \$33,250.
- 288-20 An agreement with State Education Resource Center (SERC), to provide professional development



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes – Board of Education Meeting – May 26, 2020

SERC sessions on Social Emotional Learning to staff at Wexler Grant School, from May 27 to June 30, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$11,300.

289-20 Amendment #1 to Agreement #96293366 with Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, to correct the start date from October 7, 2019 to August 28, 2019, with no change in funding amount of \$34,992.
Amendment #1,
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

290-20 An agreement with Dr. Dolores Cole to provide professional development sessions for staff at Wexler Grant School, from May 27 to June 30, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$11,500.
Dr. Dolores Cole

CONTRACTS

291-20 Renew Contract with Roch’s Fresh Foods, to provide fresh fruit and vegetable products for the NHPS Food Service Program for FY 2020-2021, in an amount not to exceed \$800,000.
Roch’s Fresh Foods

292-20 Renew Contract with Guida Seibert Dairy, Inc., to provide dairy products for the NHPS Food Service Program for FY 2020-2021, in an amount not to exceed \$900,000
Guida Seibert Dairy

293-20 Renew of Contract with Thurston Foods, to provide grocery items for the NHPS Food Service Program for FY 2020-2021, in an amount not to exceed \$1,200,000
Thurston Foods

294-20 An award of Contract for Direct Distributor Commodity Purchases for the NHPS Food Service Program for FY 2020-2021, in an amount not to exceed \$1,160,000.
Direct Distributor
Commodity Purchases

295-20 Renew Contract with Calise and Sons Bakery, to provide bread and bakery products for NHPS Food Services Program for FY 2020-2021, in an amount not to exceed \$350,000.
Calise and Sons
Bakery

Governance Committee Report

Dr. Jackson-McArthur reported this committee met and submit the Procurement Policy #3323 and the Internet Safety Policy #6141.321, as second readings.

296-20 Dr. Jackson-McArthur made a motion to approve the Procurement Policy #3323 and the Internet Safety Policy, #6141.321 seconded by Mrs. Rivera.

Mr. Conaway asked to have the policies separated because they are two reports.

297-20 Dr. Jackson-McArthur made a motion to approve the Internet Safety Policy, #6141.321, seconded by Mrs. Rivera.

Mr. Goldson said that he doesn’t have much of a problem with it except that there are a few pages at the end of the document that are duplicating some of the information. There wasn’t a copy of the policy in our packet for us to look at. He has made some suggestions and now



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes – Board of Education Meeting – May 26, 2020

he doesn't know if those suggestions he made were acted upon because we don't have a document in front of us to vote on.

Dr. Jackson-McArthur told Mr. Goldson that the reason he doesn't have a document is because she doesn't have his suggestions, and she apologized. She only received one for the Procurement Policy.

Mr. Goldson told Dr. Jackson-McArthur that he will resend that email to her. Mr. Goldson continued his narrative. We don't have to discuss it further, he will just not vote on it. Dr. Jackson-McArthur said that because we didn't make any changes, they didn't think they had to send it out.

Dr. Joyner commented that he feels we should have a clean copy of it so that it is very clear what we're voting on and he would say that for both policies. He added if anyone has questions, they should be submitted in a timely manner.

Dr. Jackson-McArthur responded that she was following a recommendation. If everyone is uncomfortable because they don't have a copy, it's okay if we vote on it at the next Board meeting. This discussion continued at length.

Ms. Typhanie Jackson added that in support of the point of order, moving forward she will be certain that copies of the policies are in the packets. Historically when we've done the first reading, when it comes to the second reading we have not included a copy of the policy in the packets. To Mr. Goldson's point, she will be certain to include a copy in the packets for a second reading. She continued to explain.

Dr. Jackson-McArthur remarked she will remove both policies from her report and submit them for action at the next meeting so that they are posted properly.

Teaching & Learning Committee

Dr. Joyner commended the administrative teams for the world class minutes they submitted. He also commended Mr. Conaway. We basically have five areas that we are working on in Teaching & Learning. One is asking Dr. Tracey to develop a policy priority list and we want to make sure that we do it as synergistic with what she's trying to get done. We have asked her to rank the policies in the order of what she will be working on in the next few months. We also do not want any conflict with the strategic plan. We had a long and enlightening presentation on the math text book adoption. He and Mr. Conaway had a post conversation on that and we are pleased that the content as well as the debate regarding the question of what schools that are doing well can keep doing what they're doing. We are still working on stretching broader participation in frontline building staff to make sure that what we are doing reflects what their needs are.



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes – Board of Education Meeting – May 26, 2020

Dr. Joyner went on to say that a key addition to what we are doing and right now is three of them are working on a position paper, hopefully, on how we can improve students because everything that happens in school and in life is a function of how we behave, and how we behave stems from our value system, the nurturing we have or have not had before we come to school as well as the behaviors that teachers can help students embrace in order to be more effective students. That's in direct alignment with the notion of the whole child.

Dr. Joyner mentioned that he and Mr. Conaway have discussed what is needed to make sure that when we say "whole child", everybody knows what we're talking about. The developmental pathways in the Comer process are really the foundations for behaviors, social, emotional and behavioral, etc., and we recognize that we are in a poor city with 40 different languages with the predominant other language being Spanish. If we are going to teach effectively, we are going to have to help students, teachers and everybody realize that behavior is the way to excellence. Dr. Joyner asked Mr. Conaway, who is a licensed clinical social worker, teacher and administrator, to weigh in on this.

Mr. Conaway commented that he thought the math debate was interesting and he knows that Dr. Tracy and her team are going to come up with the right math curriculum for students. Mr. Conaway remarked that he wants to emphasize the Board policies and he doesn't want to leave out high risk and disengaged students. He wants to thank Dr. Therrien and Jessica Haxhi for getting the minutes out to people in a very clear manner.

Dr. Joyner said that he wants to acknowledge Keisha Hannans and Paul Whyte for all the work that they do above and beyond the call of duty. Mr. Conaway said, "Dr. Joyner teacher centric and student friendly."

Facility Naming Report

Mrs. Rivera reported that they have a request that will be coming up and she will work with Mr. Pinto to set up a meeting for this committee.

Mr. Goldson asked Dr. Joyner if he wanted to make a resolution. Dr. Joyner said that we should put something in writing. He and Mr. Goldson feel that there are two situations at Hillhouse that merit recognition. One case, in memoriam, is a posthumous recommendation of a great teacher, Mr. Polishen, the other is a great principal who's alive and well, Mr. Lonnie Garrison. They elaborated on their suggestions.

Food Service Task Group

Mr. Conaway reported that they had a quick meeting and they talked about some of our summer program lunches and breakfasts being served. They are doing a wonderful job and he gave a shout out to the Food Service staff.



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes – Board of Education Meeting – May 26, 2020

Mr. Wilcox added that one of the things we talked about is when the district reports the number of meals being served; they are talking about the number of people they served. So if they report 3900 people served, it is times four in terms of the number of meals.

Dr. Jackson-McArthur asked Mr. Wilcox and/or Mr. Conaway if they have heard any discussion around the possibility of changing how we do lunches, i.e., having boxed lunches all the time as opposed to salad buffets, etc. Mr. Wilcox said that they haven't talked about what school lunches are going to look like in the fall. The conversation has been on what is currently happening and the summer meals in addition to the meals that we serve. We definitely have to plan on how to safely serve thousands and thousands of students a day. He will definitely add it to a future agenda. Dr. Jackson-McArthur continued this discussion.

Dr. Tracey added that regarding summer meals, we may have to go back to Monday through Friday servicing because at this time it is not just students and families it is almost the entire community.

Mr. Pinto said that three days a week was causing some strains, so they have retooled the line and have been able to add more capacity. We will probably be okay through the end of the school year with three a week. In the summer, which we are doing now, we will go back to five days.

Head Start Report

Mr. Wilcox reported the committee met last week. We are in the process of having their learning activities, and our enrollment remains at 98%. We had some discussion about COVID-19 relief monies coming to the Head Start Program of almost \$154,000 and he told of what that money would be used for. They have also been told that funds not used can be carried over and they will be able to carryover on-line instruction.

Additionally, as they talk about the active supervision incident, the leadership has conducted a root cause analysis of the incident, which is their first step in developing their comprehensive plan for corrective action. There will be an opportunity for us, in the first week of June, where there will be a monitoring event, by phone, where they will be checking up on us to make sure we are following all the rules.

**298-20
Convene
Executive Session
Superintendent.**

On the motion by Dr. Jackson-McArthur, seconded by Dr. Joyner, it was unanimously voted, by roll call, to go into Executive Session at 7:50pm., pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 1- 200(6) (A) re: appointment, employment and/or evaluation of the Superintendent. Also invited to attend: Atty. Alexiades, Atty. Natalia Sieira Millan.

**299-20
Adjournment**

On the motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Mr. Conaway, it was unanimously voted, by roll call, to adjourn at 9:15 p.m.



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes – Board of Education Meeting – May 26, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

Ginger McHugh

BOE Recording Secretary

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