



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes –Board of Education – September 23, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 5:37 p.m. by Mr. D. Goldson, President. The meeting was held in the Celentano Magnet School Cafetorium, 400 Canner Street, New Haven, Connecticut.

Present: Mr. D. Goldson, President; Ms. Y. Rivera, Vice-President, Dr. T. Jackson-McArthur, Secretary; Mr. M. Wilcox, Dr. E. Joyner, Mayor T. Harp, Dr. C. Birks

Student Members: Mr. N. Rivera, Ms. L. Arouna

Mr. Goldson called on Mr. Rivera to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

626-19
Approve Minutes of
September 3, 2019 **On the motion by Ms. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Wilcox, it was unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of September 3, 2019.**

627-19
Approve Minutes of
September 11, 2019 **On the motion by Ms. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Wilcox, it was unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of September 11, 2019.**

Mr. Goldson asked staff to mark the minutes “draft” when they post them on the website because they have not yet been approved. He thanked them in advance for responding to his request.

Mr. Goldson noted that one of our student members has to leave early to go to work, so we are going to begin with the Student Reports.

Student Reports Ms. Arouna reported that as Student Council begins students are thinking about issues they would like to focus on making some changes in for this coming year and one of them is a connection between the Board and the student body. This is an area that we have been trying to address and find solutions to. This disconnect becomes very apparent when there are no students running for a seat on the Board to be a representative for students. This issue has been ongoing among the student body. She would like to focus on this throughout the year.

Mr. Rivera spoke about the Food Services Task Force and he remarked that we need to have an in-depth meeting with our food services team in light of some of the complaints that have been presented. Also, he has been speaking with students to create a separate Board of students to participate in more Board activities, separate from the student body cabinet, and work closely with the Board of Education.

Achievement Acknowledgments

Dr. Birks mentioned that the student who was to perform tonight is ill, so there is no presentation tonight.



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes –Board of Education – September 23, 2019

President's Report

Mr. Goldson announced that he had a very good meeting with the State Board of Education staff a week and a half ago around magnet school seats and about providing more seats to local residents. As many of you know, we passed a resolution a few weeks ago to have staff move our seats from 65% local and 35% suburban to 75% local and 25% suburban. We also passed a resolution to ask the Commissioner to allow us to start charging tuition to the suburban towns that send their students to us. This will be discussed at a later date. The meeting was very successful for our school system. The State Board of Education are allowing us an additional 50 seats per school to the district and they are giving us an additional \$2.1 million to help pay for those additional students in those schools. It was very beneficial to us to provide more seats to local residents and more money to the district. This would not have happened if it wasn't for the hard work of Dr. Jackson-McArthur who kept us focused on this issue. He thanked Dr. Jackson-McArthur for keeping us on track.

Public Participation

Ms. Jessica Light, parent and teacher, spoke about the superintendent's evaluation. Unfortunately the microphone was not switched on so there is no recording of Ms. Light's comments. Ms. Delia Frazier, bus monitor, talked about the bus monitor's issues on buses for special ed children; they have to get a shuttle at 5:00am to be transferred to First Student and sit for one to two hours before they are brought to their regular stops and they are not paid for this; she continued to explain the inhumane conditions they face each morning; *Mr. Goldson asked her what the difference is between last year and this year.* Ms. Frazier commented that they were picked up at their homes last year. *Mr. Goldson continued to ask questions.* Ms. Anna Maria Maws, ESUMS clerk, 20 year employee and very proud to be, talked about the breakdown in transportation communication and routing of the buses; there seems to be a big disconnect between the information we send to transportation and how its put into the computer, etc., she explained in detail; Ms. Sarah Miller, parent, member of NHPSA, invited everyone to an event organized by NHPS Advocates this Wednesday evening, 6-8p at the YMCA on Howe St. in New Haven; the Advocates have held a number of Hot Topic Forums over the last year on issues of interest to the district, Wednesday they will talk about creating a culturally affirming curriculum for all children and she explained in detail, free childcare and a pot luck dinner will be provided; Ms. Dottie Green, spoke to the issue of respect between the audience, Board members and staff and she described an incident that happened at the September 3rd meeting on Meadow St., she hopes we can figure and maintain and ensure that everyone is given the same respect as human beings; she also addressed the upcoming evaluation of the Superintendent and asked that in the process there be a renewed vigor and ensure that there is diversity of black and brown people and others and people who live in New Haven be added to that, she continued in detail; Mr. Peter Lewko, ESUMS parent, issue with the bus stop change of his daughter; the bus drives by their house to get to the stop and they pick up at 5:20am; he continued to explain his frustration with the transportation issue; Ms. Nijija Ife-Waters, East Rock Parent, President CPT, this Thursday Citywide will be having a back to school Workshop 101 for parents, the topic is a Parent's Guide To Student Success and she explained in detail; Mr. Fred Till and First Student will also be there to answer any and all questions about transportation; she expressed her disappointment with the food service department and the Board and she referred to the granola mistake and explained in detail; Ms. Maria Paige, Amistad parent, commented that since her child



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes –Board of Education – September 23, 2019

started school her transportation needs have not been met and it has taken her and her husband time off from work to straighten this out; she also told of an incident when her daughter had detention and she was told to leave school with no way home and she explained in detail. *Dr. Goldson asked Mr. Pinto to speak with Ms. Paige.* Ms. Maria Harris, parent, commented she talked to food service about the menu last year and she was proud to see the menu was changed significantly, however, she has a problem with that because children who only have allergies to certain foods are not able to eat hardly anything; she talked about a lunch lady at her daughter's school who makes sure her daughter has something to eat, she continued to explain; she believes the culinary staff has to be trained a little bit better on the variety of things children can eat; she pointed out that they have to look at the 504's and IEPs specifically the children on special diets; Ms. Robin Miller Goodwin, city resident, remarked she was glad to hear the student reports tonight; she thanked the Chair for acknowledging her questions last meeting but she is still waiting for an answer to her Freedom of Information request; she was happy to hear what they are doing with the magnet school program and said the staff and parents should also be recognized in this effort; she also talked about the superintendent's evaluation but she has not seen anything about procurement of the payment for the attorney they hired; she remarked further; Ms. Hazel Pappas, retired matron, Title I advocate, wanted to know if they still interview paraprofessionals, etc., before they work with children, the answer was "yes", and she told of someone pushing a child with their foot along the floor instead of holding their hand; she also spoke about the fact that the parents should have been notified about the bus schedule changes before school started and this is just rude and disrespectful to students and parents, she continued in detail; if we as adults don't do things right how can we expect our children to do right; Ms. Florence Caldwell, retired matron, Title I Representative, remarked that in her 40+ years in this system things seem to be especially rocky this year; she spoke about the school bus situation and expressed her dissatisfaction and she gave some suggestions that may help; she spoke about the broken gates at Truman School and she explained the process; she noted that we all have to communicate better to make sure that a parents mind can be at ease when they are at work, she continued.

Mr. Goldson thanked everyone for participating in this meeting this afternoon. Mr. Goldson brought up two points: 1- the Board was not made aware the bus routes were reduced until the day before the start of school. We heard that the administration was planning to do that but we were not made aware of it; we are hoping this issue is resolved by our next Board meeting; 2- there is not a freeze on the budget and, in fact, he is concerned that we do not have a budget report in front of us today, and fixing gates would not have been affected by a freeze because it is a safety issue; and 3- where the 3-year old wandered off there were a lot of places where the system broke down and there are a lot of people involved for that occurring and he is looking forward to hearing a report from the Superintendent.



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes –Board of Education – September 23, 2019

President’s Report (Continued)

Mr. Goldson noted as he mentioned earlier we received an extra 703 seats in our magnet schools along with an additional \$2.1 million for those seats; it is not enough. We will continue to advocate at the state and to our neighbors for increased funding. He feels it is about \$3-5 million short. Because of the partial success with the state, he asked his fellow Board members to recall the motion that was made to repeal the State Board of Education’s decision to deny us charging tuition to our neighbors. We are not taking it off the table completely, but we will try to negotiate with our neighbors for a fair and equitable solution and try to develop a strategy that is beneficial to all parties.

He asked the Board to recall the magnet tuition appeal that we moved to the State Board of Education. Dr. Joyner asked what the reasoning is for this and Mr. Goldson explained in detail. A discussion ensued.

Dr. Joyner remarked he agrees with the recall but at what point will we revisit this. Mr. Goldson told Dr. Joyner that he is passionate about this issue and it is about equity and providing resources to our schools and our teachers, which should be our number one job here. He has been asked to join the State Board (CABE) and he is going to work with CABE to talk to some of the Board chairs and he hopes the superintendent will do the same. He explained in detail. Dr. Joyner wanted to know if we can have an update by the beginning of the next year. He feels that our constituents need to know where we are.

Dr. Jackson-McArthur wanted to know if the provisions of this current agreement will be provided to the community. Dr. Goldson answered in detail.

**628-19
Approve to Recall
Magnet Tuition
Appeal Letter**

On the motion by Ms. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Wilcox, it was unanimously voted to approve to recall the magnet tuition appeal letter that the Board moved to the State Board of Education.

Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Birks greeted everyone and provided some updates. She commented that since school started she has had many opportunities to visit schools. She met with a committee of chairs to discuss their strategic planning process and she explained in detail.

New Haven Adult Education is celebrating their Join the Movement March on Thursday, September 26th. They are encouraging PTO presidents, student groups, etc., to join them in this march to help make people aware of their opportunities to attend our adult education program and to inform them that there is another opportunity for those who have not graduated from high school.

Their Smarter Balance assessments are in and we have provided that information to the Board; they will present it to the community at a future date. She explained in detail.

Dr. Birks stated that members of their operation team will provide an update on where we are as it relates to Transportation as well as Food and Nutrition. As one community member stated, we have had a rocky beginning related to transportation as well as food



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes –Board of Education – September 23, 2019

and nutrition, so we are working to resolve those concerns. She commended staff for setting up a call center as well as a support center for families in an effort to answer their transportation concerns. Dr. Birks commented that they have had a community forum and will continue these forums to help resolve many of these matters.

Transportation Update

Dr. Birks called on Atty. Pinto to update the transportation issue.

Atty. Pinto introduced himself as the COO of NHPS. Mr. Pinto reported that they are in the process of addressing some of the concerns that they have been given. We have added 14 buses to our routing and have added approximately 5100 stops across the district. He explained in detail. He apologized that Mr. Till was not present but he became ill at the end of the day. Mr. Till forecasted that we will be on target to process the remaining requests by October 1st. We have made a lot of stride on the special ed side and have brought on some additional help for the routing to clear these issues. He continued to explain.

Mr. Pinto, in summary, remarked that we now have a total of 602 routes, 5100 stops are back in the system, and as the changes go through we are at the live stage of the process. We have been working diligently so that the special ed routes go through immediately and the regular changes are being addressed as soon as possible.

Dr. Jackson-McArthur commented it seems that the transportation department is only addressing people who come in with questions and concerns. There are a number of families that cannot come in, so their concerns are not being met. While October is coming, we need evidence that every drop-off and every pick-up is reviewed because unless we do that, she is not confident that we are fixing this as we should have.

Mr. Pinto responded to Dr. Jackson-McArthur's concerns and remarked that they have partnered with the city's GIS department to identify overlaying stops, identified crime issues, etc., in an effort to take a proactive look. He explained in detail. Dr. Jackson-McArthur asked if the working issue has been addressed and Mr. Pinto responded to the best of his ability.

Dr. Joyner endorsed what Dr. Jackson-McArthur said, that not one child is indispensable. He suggested to Mr. Pinto that they come up with a plan that has as the underlying principle, that no child is negotiable. Dr. Joyner said he would hope we go back to the time when we didn't have these problems and we need customized responses to every child in this system. He continued to explain.

Mayor Harp said her question is that last year we cut \$2 million out of the budget, so what made us decide that we had to take more money out of transportation when it seemed that things were not going well. She is just wondering why we thought we had to take more money out of the transportation budget.



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes –Board of Education – September 23, 2019

Mr. Pinto noted that these were the directives that were in the works before he became COO. Dr. Goldson asked Dr. Birks to explain. Dr. Birks explained that \$2 million was our target. There was no charge to take \$4 million out of the budget and it was not given as a directive by me. A lengthy discussion ensued.

Mr. Goldson asked again were you ever made aware that stops would be reduced from 8,800 to 4,000 stops. Dr. Birks explained in detail. In answer to his question, Dr. Birks commented no, she did not know they would cut the bus stops in half; it was not reported to her.

Mayor Harp remarked it appears that this was done poorly and as Dr. Jackson-McArthur commented we have to figure this out because as the time changes it is already getting dark at an earlier hour. Mayor Harp continued to explain her thoughts. She suggested they take another look at this with an eye on safety and if we have to go back to what we did last year, we should go back because it worked.

Dr. Jackson-McArthur shared her experience of getting the school bus early in the morning. She noted that she is horrified that kids have to be at a bus stop at 5:30 in the morning in the dark. This needs to stop and, hopefully within 48 hours. She remarked that this is unacceptable and she is ashamed that we would even do that.

Mr. Wilcox wanted to know how many requests they still have outstanding and Mr. Pinto noted there are about 200. Mr. Wilcox asked what the process is for those people who have not heard from the district yet. Mr. Pinto commented they should check through the call center and email him; if he can't answer, he can forward them to the transportation department. Mr. Wilcox asked Mr. Pinto if it is correct that we are picking up New Haven children as well as children from other cities and Mr. Pinto answered, yes. Mr. Wilcox stated he always likes to look at outliers when he looks at the data. He explained in detail.

Mr. Goldson seconded Dr. Jackson-McArthur's sentiments that we should reach out to every family. He explained. He feels that they should setup a system to make sure that our parents are satisfied, whatever it takes.

Mr. Goldson commented that at our last meeting there was a question about children who missed days because of this bus issue. He wanted to know what is being done about that and what we can do legally. Dr. Birks said there is no report on that tonight. Mr. Goldson asked her to please have it ready by the next meeting. Mr. Goldson also asked if she can make sure that the bus monitor issue is also being resolved. He explained in detail.

Dr. Birks noted from her perspective as Superintendent she has given her team the charge for students to be safe and to add the routes they need to add and she wanted to say that publicly. We have sent people out to two particular bus stops and we are also partnering with the city for additional crossing guards as well as having the police department riding around the city bus stops. She publicly stated that if we have to add the money back to the budget, that's what we will do to make sure the children are safe.



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes –Board of Education – September 23, 2019

Mr. Goldson asked Dr. Birks if she had a budget report this evening. Dr. Birks noted there is a report but we did not bring it because we did not present at the Finance & Operations Committee. A discussion ensued. Dr. Birks said they will present a budget at the next Finance & Operations meeting.

Food & Nutrition Update

Dr. Birks stated, as you know we have had some challenges with our food and nutrition this academic year and once we took a look at it as a team, we enlisted support from the State Board of Education to assist us in ensuring that we are keeping our food and nutrition safe for all of our learners. Dr. Birks called on the Food & Nutrition team to tell where we are in terms of interventions that we have put in place and to talk about our practices and protocols and some additional learning that they will receive.

Ms. Typhanie Jackson commented that before we introduce Ms. Gail Cairns-Sharry, executive director, we wanted to make sure we briefed everyone on where we stand with our Food Allergy Policy and some of the conversations we have been having in our Governance meetings, and then we will talk about what we plan on doing moving forward.

Ms. Jackson, with a PowerPoint presentation, explained in detail the NHPS Food Allergy Policy. This is a policy that we as a team put together looking at our food allergy policies, along with a guidance document, because we felt the policy alone was not enough to address our needs. We had to make sure that there is education and training and there is a medical emergency plan in place for those students with life-threatening allergies and, in some instances, a 504 plan for our students with life-threatening allergies as well. In April of 2017, the provisions and changes in the law were that the drivers have to be trained in the administering of an Epi-pens, which is what we have done. Ms. Jackson commented that even though our policy meets state standards, we need to go beyond that specific to our schools, and she explained in detail.

Ms. Jackson noted that the nursing supervisor was at our last meeting, but was unable to be here tonight because of another commitment. Ms. Jackson gave a description of what the Nursing Department does in detail.

Ms. Jackson invited Ms. Gail Cairns-Sharry, executive director, who explained the role at the school once that information from the nurse is received, in detail. She also explained lunch room protocols. Ms. Cairns-Sharry remarked that we consult with the school-based staff and nursing staff to determine safe foods based on student allergies. Service staff is provided identification of those students in an effort to familiarize themselves with the student; this is very important to us. Individual meetings with our registered dietician, as well as other relevant staff are also held. Some of the protocols that we put in place fell through, especially with the nuts. Since this occurred, they have tightened the protocols on the inspections. She explained in detail.

A lengthy discussion took place between Board members and the Food Service presenters expressing their thoughts and solutions to address this very important issue. This discussion continued at length.



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes –Board of Education – September 23, 2019

Ms. Jackson remarked that one of the things they talked about was having a check list of what the procedures are and making sure there is a sign-off to ensure that everyone who touches this child understands those protocols and procedures. There is also the opportunity for us to have software to really look at the food ingredients and putting them up on the website. The state is also coming in to do some training with the folks. The other thing that we have to make sure of is that we do this on an annual basis making sure the people are following the procedures.

Dr. Joyner stated that we also have to document the roles of the parent and the child. We need a major educator campaign and he also suggested some kind of identifier that the child wears.

Dr. Jackson-McArthur said she would like a timeline or date of when something can be done from when the child steps into the building. Ms. Jackson said we have a timeline. For the record, it is very important when this is put in place we make sure all the leaders in the building understand how important this issue is. She likened this to the Unified Code of Conduct.

Ms. Jackson commented that they are going to add the communication guideline to the Timetable they have established.

Dr. Joyner thanked them for being responsible and for owning this.

Mayor Harp seconded what Dr. Joyner said and added that she wanted them to know how important their jobs are and how much we depend upon them and how important what they do every day is for the lives of children. She hopes that they feel proud of what they do on behalf of our young people.

In answer to a question by Mr. Wilcox about how many meals they serve, Ms. Cairns-Sharry answered we serve 15,000 lunches, over 10,000 breakfasts, over 1,000 afterschool snacks per day and we will be starting suppers, which will be about 1,000 per day. We also do this on Saturdays and all summer long. She believes we're over one million meals during the school year.

Mayor Harp pointed out that New Haven Food Service has been lauded as one of the best food service systems in the State. She is sure other districts have these same problems but they don't handle them like you do. The fact that you serve breakfast, lunch, and for some children suppers, these children would go hungry if you didn't do that. Mayor Harp thanked them again for doing that.

Dr. Birks commented that the State Board of Ed is supporting us and some of our team will be going to a statewide meeting, on the 25th, to look at best practices and food service production and food allergies and at some point they will come into our district to provide support to our team and look at our policies and procedures.



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes –Board of Education – September 23, 2019

Personnel Report

Dr. Birks invited Ms. Lisa Mack, Director of Human Resources and Labor Relations, to join her at the podium.

Dr. Birks announced that they have one interim appointment to Fair Haven School. She announced that Mr. Robert Manghnani is going to join the team at Fair Haven as Interim Assistant Principal. He has been an educator in our school system for 21 years; he grew up in New Haven and attended West Hills, Wilbur Cross High School, and he has previously taught at HSC, COOP and Katherine Brennan School as well as being an administrative intern at Edgewood School and Benjamin Jepson School.

**629-19
Approval of
Superintendent's
Personnel Report**

On the motion by Dr. Joyner, seconded by Ms. Rivera, it was unanimously voted to approve the Superintendent's Personnel Report.

Mr. Goldson asked how many years Mr. Manghnani was a teacher, and Dr. Birks answered 21 years as a student, teacher, coach and administrator. Mr. Goldson wanted to know how long he was an administrator; Dr. Birks answered 2½ years and 9 years as a teacher.

Dr. Birks stated we are happy to introduce Mr. Robert Manghnani as the Interim Assistant Principal of Fair Haven School. Mr. Manghnani was acknowledged by a round of applause. Dr. Birks commented that Mr. Manghnani said he is thankful and grateful that you the Board said yes.

Mr. Manghnani thanked the Board for giving him this opportunity. Growing up in New Haven and going to New Haven Public Schools, this has been a dream of his. He also has a lot of family that are New Haven public school educators and this is something he feels very fortunate to do; he looks forward to going to Fair Haven.

Mr. Wilcox asked for an update on the playgrounds. Dr. Birks called on Mr. Barbarotta, Director of Facilities, to join her. Mr. Barbarotta remarked that we are mandated by the state to have a certified inspector do an annual inspection of our 35 playgrounds and they started in July. They give us an in-depth written report. This year they found six fencing items, one at Truman, one at Bishop Woods and one at John Daniels as well as Fair Haven. This year we put in three new playgrounds. Mr. Barbarotta continued to explain in detail. A lengthy discussion took place, which included comments from Mayor Harp, Mr. Pinto and Chief Reddish. Mr. Goldson also asked some questions of Dr. Birks.

Finance & Operations Committee Report

Ms. Rivera reported the committee met on September 16 and discussed three abstracts, eight agreements and four purchase orders for the Board's approval. Ms. Rivera mentioned the For Information Only item.



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes –Board of Education – September 23, 2019

630-19 On the motion by Ms. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Wilcox, it was unanimously voted to approve the following FINANCE AND OPERATIONS-RELATED ITEMS:

ABSTRACTS

631-19 **Oral Health Grant**, in the amount of \$36,000 for FY 2019-2020

632-19 **School Improvement Grant, (SIG 1003)**, in the amount of \$113,949 for FY 2019-2020

633-19 **Commissioner's Network Grant**, Wexler-Grant School, in the amount of \$780,000 for FY 2019-2020

AGREEMENTS

634-19 **CT Department of Public Health** An agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and CT Department of Public Health, to provide a grant for provision of preventive dental health services in 6 school dental health clinics, from September 17, 2019 to August 31, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$36,000.

635-19 **Center for Pediatric Therapy** An agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and Center for Pediatric Therapy, to provide speech-language services to communicatively impaired students, from August 29, 2019 to June 30, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$96,190.64.

636-19 **Seymour Ambulance Association** An agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and Seymour Ambulance Association, to provide a certified EMT/EMR/CPR instructor to prepare 63 students from Hill Regional Career High School for State certification exams, from September 24, 2019 to June 30, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.

637-19 **ACES** An agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and Area Cooperative Educational Services, (ACES), to provide technical assistance and support to server and web-based technology, Achieve 3000, Lexia, READ 180, System 44, and Reading and Math Inventory, from September 3, 2019 to June 30, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$68,010.

638-19 **ConnCAT** An agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and ConnCAT, to provide Youth Arts programming in embedded day and after school programs for student at Wexler-Grant School, from September 24, 2019 to June 19, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$78,822.

639-19 **Kids Kraze** An agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and Kids Kraze, to provide an after school program for students at Wexler-Grant School, from October 7, 2019 to June 5, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$80,782.00.

640-19 **John Hinrichs ROTC Instructor** An agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and John Hinrichs, 9 Burton St., Bristol, CT to provide Junior ROTC Instruction at Hillhouse High School for the period of July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$104,577.60.20. Total reimbursement to be provided by the Army shall be \$50,788.80.



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes –Board of Education – September 23, 2019

641-19 An agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and Lisa Rodriguez, 21
Lisa Rodriguez Barrows St., Stratford, CT to provide Junior ROTC Instruction at Hillhouse High School for
ROTC the period of July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$82,074. Total
Instructor reimbursement to be provided by the Army shall be \$39,537.

PURCHASE ORDERS

642-19 Purchase Order under State Contract #17PSX0217 to The Mercury Group, 300 Avon
Mercury Group Street, Stratford, CT for the purchase of APC equipment for Strong/Barack H. Obama
Magnet University School, in an amount not to exceed \$44,555.

643-19 Purchase Order under State Contract #13PSX0280 to Advanced Office Systems, 296 East
Advanced Office Main St., Branford, CT for the purchase of PCs and Laptops for Strong/Barack H. Obama
Systems Magnet University School, in an amount not to exceed \$69,531.

644-19 Purchase Order under State Contract #13PSX0280 to Digital Back Office, 192 Naugatuck
Digital Back Office Ave., Milford, CT for the purchase of HP Chromebooks and Datamation Charging Carts for
Strong/Barack H. Obama Magnet University School, in an amount not to exceed
\$58,090.92.

645-19 Purchase Order under City Sole Source #28011x to Apple, Inc., 5505 W. Palmer La.,
Apple, Inc. Austin, TX for the purchase of iPads mini and charging carts for Strong/Barack Obama
Magnet University School, in an amount not to exceed \$63,559.80.

Ms. Rivera put forward the Budget Mitigation committee recommendations. Ms. Rivera made a motion to move Items, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7. They are holding up on Item #5 because they need more time to review and think about recommendations in order to move it forward.

Ms. Rivera moved items 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 of the budget mitigation committee recommendations. Dr. Jackson commented that she thought the budget mitigation committee was going to offer ideas on those recommendations to the Board. Ms. Rivera commented that these are those recommendations from the Finance Committee and we are moving them forward.

Mr. Goldson commented that he would like to keep these on the agenda for our next meeting in order to discuss them further. Dr. Joyner agreed and commented we need to have a very clear analysis of the impact that it would have on students. He explained in detail. A discussion ensued.

Ms. Rivera commented we were all at the Finance meeting and we made a decision to move these forward, so what is going to happen from here to next meeting to either kill it or move it forward? Mayor Harp offered some suggestions. Ms. Arouna noted that we also need a budget before we start making decisions on where we need to cut.



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes –Board of Education – September 23, 2019

Mr. Goldson reiterated, Ms. Rivera asked the question what are we doing right now and how are we moving it forward and he commented that it is not her responsibility it is the Board’s responsibility, which means it is his responsibility so he will make sure there is a way to deal with each and every item whether they are assigned to a committee or if we have a discussion at our next Board meeting.

Ms. Rivera continued her report and noted that they also discussed the fact that the district had several candidates for the CFO position and she explained the process. She commented that the candidates are in the process of being interviewed.

Dr. Birks added that they had a total of six candidates apply for the position four from WeSource Workforce Solutions and two candidates were recommended to her to interview and she has interviewed those candidates.

Governance Committee Report

Dr. Jackson-McArthur reported that she is reporting some calendar adjustments to their meeting schedule: November 13th needs to be changed to a half day; April 28th is the presidential primary, so we have to change it to a day off because we can’t have school in session while people are voting.

**646-17
Approve to Change
Meeting Schedule**

On the motion by Dr. Jackson-McArthur, seconded by Dr. Joyner, it was unanimously voted to change the Governance meeting schedule as presented.

Dr. Jackson-McArthur remarked she would like to change the Governance Committee meeting time from 4:30p to 5:30p on the 1st and 3rd Monday afternoon after the Finance & Operations meeting. This is being done to have more community partners to attend. Dr. Jackson-McArthur also mentioned that this will begin 30 days from today.

**647-19
Approve to Change
Governance
Meeting Time**

On the motion by Dr. Jackson-McArthur, seconded by Dr. Joyner, it was unanimously voted to change the Governance Committee meeting time from 4:30p to 5:30p to take place before the Board meeting on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month.

Mr. Goldson questioned Dr. Jackson-McArthur regarding the changes to the calendar. He remarked that we knew about this several weeks ago. He wanted to know if the April 28th change would interfere with our 180 days and if was cleared by the Unions. Dr. Jackson-McArthur assured him that it wouldn’t interfere and it has been approved by the Unions. It was brought to our attention because you can’t have school in session when people are voting. Ms. Rivera said that this seems to happen often with Governance probably because their meeting is right before the Board meeting. Mr. Goldson asked the administration and the staff to get information on the agenda when we know about it. He asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add those items. Mr. Goldson commented we have to list what our action items are 24 hours before the meeting on our website. He continued to explain.



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes –Board of Education – September 23, 2019

Dr. Birks clarified the November 13th date was a clerical error when the calendar was sent out to be printed.

648-19
Amend Agenda

On the motion by Dr. Jackson-McArthur, seconded by Mayor Harp, it was unanimously voted to amend the agenda to include the motions from the Governance Committee as presented in the Governance Committee Report.

Teaching & Learning Committee

Mayor Harp moved to amend the agenda to add three action items. They are accepting the recommendation from Hillhouse and Wilbur Cross regarding transition programs they need; the second item is to recommend to the Superintendent that she approves participation in the Sandy Hook Promise program and that she submits a revised MOU to the BOE for approval, and the third item is a list of future meeting dates.

649-19
Approval of
T&L Action Items

On the motion by Mayor Harp, seconded by Dr. Joyner it was voted by roll call, with one nay by Mr. Goldson, to approve amending the agenda to include three T&L Action Items from Teaching & Learning as presented.

Mayor Harp remarked, as you know the T&L committee has been working on transitioning students from 8th to 9th grade so we are working with our comprehensive high schools to determine what kind of resources they will need for a smooth transition and the minimum amount of students that we lose in the 9th grade. The following are their recommendations:

- Collect & Career Centers
- ALIVE Program
- Student-Led Conferences
- Summer Training for Teachers
- Planning & Programming Summer Funding
- Articulation Process for Middle and High Schools

Mayor Harp commented that both the high school principals recommend these programs and she explained in detail the functions of each of the proposed programs. She mentioned that the cost of these programs is less than \$200,000 but the impact is significant. She continued to explain.

Mayor Harp then explained in detail the Sandy Hook Promise recommendation is that the Board request the Superintendent to participate in this program, which helps our teachers and our students to have a call-in line to intervene on behalf of the young people who feel they are being bullied and want to commit suicide, and the third item is the T&L future meeting dates.

Mr. Goldson commented with all due respect to the T&L committee, he understands what they are trying to do and how important it is but he has two issues. One is a process issue and this committee, like all committees, has staff and they should have informed the superintendent that these items should have been put on the agenda. He explained the process of preparing the agenda. At this point he is going to have to vote no on these



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes –Board of Education – September 23, 2019

programs and his biggest concern is how we are going to fund it. He feels this should have gone through Finance. He explained in detail.

Dr. Joyner commented that he agrees with Mr. Goldson but he has reservations about the ALIVE Program. A lengthy discussion took place.

Mr. Goldson commented that he could support this two ways as long as the motion was amended that no money would be spent coming back to the Board and that these activities go through the normal RFP process. A discussion ensued.

650-19
Approve T&L
Proposed
Activities

On the motion by Mayor Harp, seconded by Dr. Joyner, it was unanimously voted to approve the six activities recommended by the Teaching & Learning Committee except that it has to go through the normal RFP process and then to the Finance & Operations Committee and we are not endorsing any particular program but the response to these needs in the schools.

651-19
Approval of T&L
Future Meeting Dates

On the motion by Mayor Harp, seconded by Dr. Jackson-McArthur, it was unanimously voted to approve the following future meeting dates:

**2019 – October 16 (special meeting); November 20 and December 18
2020 – January 16, February 12, March 18, April 22, May 20 and June 17**

Facility Naming Committee Report

Ms. Rivera reported this committee met earlier today and is making a motion to add an item to the agenda for vote consideration. A request to hang a banner on the Reginald Mayo Early Childhood School, on the Goffe Street side of the school, honoring the former State Treasurer Henry (Hank) Parker; it was recommended by Atty. Martyn Philpot.

652-19
Approve Banner on
Reginald Mayo
Early Childhood
School

On the motion by Ms. Rivera, seconded by Mayor Harp, it was unanimously voted by roll call vote, with one nay by Mr. Goldson, to approve hanging a banner on the Reginald Mayo Early Childhood School honoring former State Treasurer Henry (Hank) Parker.

Dr. Joyner wanted to know if it is going to be there all the time and Ms. Rivera answered, yes. He then commented that he wishes they could do something bigger than that for him because he had a great impact on urban politics in this City. Ms. Rivera commented it is also pending vetting the logos on the bottom. The Ashanti Club is paying for the banner, the installation fee and other associated costs.

Mayor Harp pointed out that Hank Parker and his wife Jan were the pioneers for early childhood learning in our community, so she feels this is appropriate.

Mr. Goldson wanted to know how long the banner would hang and Ms. Rivera commented until it falls down. Mr. Goldson asked if there was some insurance for this and Dr. Joyner added that he feels we need a process for this and he explained in detail.



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes –Board of Education – September 23, 2019

Food Service Task Force Report

Mr. Wilcox reported that food service related items have already been mentioned earlier in the program. He apologized that their September meeting was cancelled due to a special board meeting and he has to cancel their regularly scheduled meeting because it falls on a holiday. He is scheduling a special meeting for Tuesday, October 1st; time and location to be announced.

Mr. Wilcox remarked as you all know this Task Force takes a look at all things related to the food services that are provided to our children and how we deliver food to the students not only related to allergens, but keeping track of spoiling, quantity, etc., and he explained in detail.

School Construction & Stewardship Committee Report

Mayor Harp commented that unfortunately she has to announce another anomaly. She asked that we add to the agenda a motion to approve a recommendation that the Board of Education issue an RFP or RFQ to engage a consultant architectural engineering firm to prepare a comprehensive facilities master plan to identify the state of repairs in the school district's buildings and to identify maintenance priorities. Mayor Harp asked for a motion to place that on the agenda.

**653-19
Add to Agenda
to Request to Issue
RFP or RFQ**

On the motion by Mayor Harp, seconded by Ms. Rivera, it was voted by roll call with one nay by Mr. Goldson, to add to the agenda a recommendation for the BOE issue an RFP or RFQ to engage a consultant architectural engineering firm to prepare a comprehensive facilities master plan to identify the state of repairs in the district's schools and to identify maintenance priorities.

Mayor Harp reported that the Strong School, which will soon be called the Barack Obama School, is on schedule and will be ready for students to enter after Christmas vacation. As you know the Citywide School Construction Committee's name has been changed to the Citywide School Construction & Stewardship Committee because many of our buildings are now becoming older, 20-25 years old, and if we don't want to go through another \$1.7 billion construction program we are going to have to take care of major renovations to our schools. She went on to explain in detail. Mr. Wilcox wanted to know if we are approving funds. Mayor Harp answered, no. This will go through other committees and she explained the process in detail.

**654-19
BOE Issue an RFP or
RFQ to Engage an
Architectural
Consultant Firm**

On the motion by Mayor Harp, seconded by Dr. Jackson-McArthur, it was voted to have the BOE issue an RFP or RFQ to engage a consultant architectural engineering firm to prepare a comprehensive facilities master plan to identify the state of repair of the school district's buildings and to identify maintenance priorities.

Mayor Harp told Mr. Goldson that she appreciated him adding this item to the agenda.



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes –Board of Education – September 23, 2019

Head Start Committee Report

Mr. Wilcox announced that there are some Head Start related workshops coming up on Thursday the 26th; a workshop with technical support from the Regional Office coming in to work with us on some training and the Policy Council is also going to meet on the 26th at 9:15am at the Mayo Center. The Policy Council is the shared governance council that includes parents and district folks and he believes all are invited to this meeting. It is in competition with the March for Adult Education.

Mr. Wilcox remarked as you know we talked earlier in the meeting about playground safety and we did have an incident with a Head Start playground, which is a huge issue and he explained in detail. Mr. Wilcox clarified that the Board has instituted a Head Start Committee and this is part of that and this is serious in its nature. The Head Start committee, as approved at the last Board meeting, will be attending a Head Start conference in Boston. He was asked about the cost of this travel and the cost for the three Board members to attend is \$2,546.03, which is mostly related to the cost of hotels in Boston.

Mr. Goldson reiterated that these Head Start issues are of serious concern. Not too long ago we had to rebid for the grant because of these issues and once we got the bid back, some other issues occurred and we were put on probation. The Head Start people want to see that the Board is engaged, so it is important that we go and participate.

Mr. Wilcox mentioned that one thing important to the committee and the people involved in the process, while this is related to Head Start we are using this as a lever which will benefit all of our PreK and early childhood schools.

Mayor Harp added that the fact that we accept Head Start dollars means that this Board of Education has a responsibility not just New Haven Public Schools, so it is really important that you attend this meeting.

Mr. Wilcox added that we will be scheduling a Head Start Committee public meeting when we return from our conference when we have more information from that encounter and also the Regional Office will be coming down to do some training. The Committee will also discuss finding a time to schedule meetings regularly.

655-19
Convene
Executive Session

On the motion by Mr. Goldson, seconded by Ms. Rivera, it was unanimously voted to convene Executive Session at 9:05 p.m. to discuss the Superintendent’s performance and evaluation. Atty. Melinda Kauffman was also asked to attend.

656-19
Adjourn
Executive Session

On the motion by Mr. Goldson, seconded by Ms. Rivera, it was unanimously voted to adjourn executive session at 11:34 p.m.

657-19
Reconvene in
Public Session

On the motion by Mr. Goldson, seconded by Ms. Rivera, it was unanimously voted to Reconvene in Public Session at 11:38 p.m.



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes –Board of Education – September 23, 2019

658-19
Adjournment

On the motion by Mr. Goldson, seconded by Ms. Rivera, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 11:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ginger McHugh

Recording Secretary

“A video of this meeting is available at nhps.net”



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

Minutes –Board of Education – September 23, 2019

PERSONNEL REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

APPOINTMENTS – Administrator:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Robert Manghnani Quinnipiac University – 6 th Year	Interim Assistant Principal Fair Haven School General Funds 19044016-50113	October 07, 2019	\$118,565 (Group C, Step 1, 10 yrs. exp.)

APPOINTMENTS – Administrators: (Interim)

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Tiffany Rauch	Teacher-Magnet Resource Hill Regional Career Inter District Funds 27041563-50115	Interim Coordinator – 10 Mos. Hill Regional Career \$121,472 (Group A, Step MM, 17 yrs. exp.) General Funds 19044063-50113	August 27, 2019
Daniel Wajnowski	Teacher-English Wilbur Cross High General Funds 19041664-50115	Interim Coordinator – 10 Mos. Wilbur Cross High \$109,692 (Group A, Step 1, 10 yrs. exp.) General Funds 19044061-50113	August 27, 2019

TRANSFERS –Administrator: (Interim)

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Patricia Gantenbein	Interim Assistant Principal Fair Haven School General Funds 19044016-50113	Interim Assistant Principal Clinton Avenue School General Funds 19044006-50113	October 07, 2019

RESIGNATION – Teachers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Laura Dixon	Teacher – Grade 6 Wexler/Grant School General Funds 19041032-50115	September 30, 2019



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

Minutes –Board of Education – September 23, 2019

RESIGNATION – Teachers (Continued)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Dorothy Chavannes-Goosby	Teacher – Math Ross/Woodward Magnet School Inter-District Funds 27041110-50115	October 03, 2019
Thomas Woodard	Teacher – Social Studies Fair Haven School General Funds 19042016-50115	September 21, 2019

APPOINTMENTS – Teachers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Maria Steele Southern Connecticut State University – 6 th Year	Teacher – Special Education James Hillhouse High School Special Funds 25045034-50115	September 24, 2019	\$81,689 (Step P, 15 yrs. exp.)

APPOINTMENTS –Teachers: (Pending Certification)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Kevin Bermudez Southern Connecticut State University – BA	Teacher - Spanish John S. Martinez Magnet School General Funds 19041708-50115	September 24, 2019	\$45,357 (Step B, 0 yrs. exp.)

RECALLED FROM LAYOFF – Teacher

<u>Name</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Marguerite Hennessey	Teacher – Library Media Specialist Troup Magnet School General Funds 19042015-50115	September 16, 2019

TRANSFERS –Teachers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Melissa Frobels	Teacher – Art Truman School General Funds 19042129-50115	Teacher – Art East Rock Magnet School General Funds 19042146-50115	August 27, 2019



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

Minutes –Board of Education – September 23, 2019

TRANSFERS –Teachers (Continued)

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Valbona Karanxha	Teacher – Foreign Language John S. Martinez Magnet School General Funds 19041708-50115	Teacher – Foreign Language Wilbur Cross High School General Funds 19041761-50115	September 24, 2019

RESIGNATION – Paraprofessional:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Sean-Michael McAlpine	Assistant Teacher West Rock Stream Academy Inter-District Funds 27041049-50128	September 11, 2019
Lamara Brunson	Assistant Teacher Davis Street School Inter-District Funds 27041009-50128	October 23, 2019
Dawn Chamberlaine	Assistant Teacher Nathan Hale School Special Funds 25235808-50128	September 13, 2019

APPOINTMENTS – Paraprofessional:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Saige Bell Central Connecticut State University – BA	Assistant Teacher Beecher Magnet School General Funds 19041003-50128	September 24, 2019	\$22,313 (Group I, Step 1)
Shoneace Cunningham Para-Pro Test	Assistant Teacher Special Education Betsy Ross Arts Magnet School Special Funds 25045034-50128	October 01, 2019	\$22,313 (Group I, Step 1)
Melanie Hobson Para-Pro Test	Assistant Teacher Bishop Woods Executive Academy General Funds 19049061-50128	August 29, 2019	\$22,313 (Group I, Step 1)



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

Minutes –Board of Education – September 23, 2019

APPOINTMENTS – Paraprofessional (Continued)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Bennett Streets University of New Haven - BA	Assistant Teacher Ross/Woodward Magnet School General Funds 19049061-50128	September 24, 2019	\$22,313 (Group I, Step 1)

TRANSFER – Paraprofessional:

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Margaret Carpenter	Clerical – Social Worker 10 month Dr. Mayo ELC Local 884 Special Funds 25325279-50135	Assistant Teacher School Readiness Nathan Hale School Local 3429 Special Funds 25325279-50128	\$23,771 (Group I, Step 2)	September 13, 2019

RESIGNATION – Non-Instructional Staff:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Nadia Edmundson	General Worker John S. Martinez Magnet School Special Funds 25215200-50126	September 09, 2019

TEMP-PENDING TEST APPOINTMENT– Non-Instructional Staff:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Shelia Payne University of Connecticut – BS	Account Clerk IV Gateway Center – Transportation General Funds 19047100-50124	August 29, 2019	\$53,169 (Range 15, Step 1)

PROMOTIONAL APPOINTMENT – Non-Instructional Staff:

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Ann Casey	School Business Manager Gateway Center General Funds 190433000-50118 Local 3144	Accounting Manager Gateway Center \$81,646 (Range 8, Step 9) General Funds 19043000-50118 Local 3144	September 24, 2019



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes –Board of Education – September 23, 2019

CORRECTION/CHANGE ITEMS:

The following items are previous Board Actions approved. The action items below represent all the necessary changes and/or corrections.

CORRECTION OF NAME – Teacher:

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Effective Dates</u>
From: Shelle White	General Worker	4.00	General Worker	5.50	August 20, 2019
To: Shelle Waite	Hillhouse	9:00-1:00	Ross/Woodward	8:30-2:30	
	\$19.26/hour		\$19.26/hour		
	General Worker	1.5			
	Wilbur Cross	6:45-8:15			
	\$19.26/hour				