



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Haven, Connecticut

NEW HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION FINANCE AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, March 16, 2020

via Zoom

MINUTES

Call to Order: 4:33 p.m.
Adjournment: 5:43 p.m.

Electronic Attendance: Mr. Matthew Wilcox, Chair; Ms. Yesenia Rivera, Mr. Darnell Goldson

Staff: Dr. Iline Tracey, Interim Superintendent, Dr. Paul Whyte, Mr. Phillip Penn, Mr. Michael Pinto, Ms. Patricia DeMaio, Ms. Keisha Redd-Hannans, Ms. Sue Peters, Ms. Michele Bonanno, Ms. Elizabeth Gaffney

A motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Ms. Rivera, recommended **approval of 1 Abstract and 3 Agreements**

I. Action Items:

A. Abstract

1. To approve the Abstract, Open Choice, in the amount of \$518,220.00 for July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.
Funding Source: CT State Department of Education

B. Agreements

1. To approve an Agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and Clifford Beers, to provide Mental Health Clinicians at the Dr. Mayo School, Fair Haven, Lincoln Bassett, Truman, Martinez and Jepson schools, from March 10, 2020 to June 30, 2020 in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00.
Funding Source: Head Start Program
Acct. # 2532-5278-56694-0443
2. To approve Amendment #1 to Agreement #95408327 with Elicia Lupoli, to change funding accounts by reducing salary of \$55,202.00 by \$15,202.00 to \$40,098.00 from Medicaid Reimbursement Program, Account # 2534-5408-56694 and to fund \$15,202.00 from the Seal CT! Program, Acct. # 2512-6239-56694.
Funding Source: Medicaid Reimbursement Program
Acct. # 2534-5408-56694 (\$40,098.00)
Seal CT! Program
Acct. # 2512-6239-56694 (\$15,202.00)
3. To approve Amendment #1 to an Agreement with Berchem, Moses & Devlin, PC, to increase funding of \$80,000.00 by \$40,000.00 to \$120,000.00 to cover the increased costs associated with legal services for Special Education students and three outstanding litigation matters.

**Funding Source: 2019-2020 Operating Budget
Acct. # 190-47700-56696**

II. Discussion:

- **February 2020 Financial Report/2019-2020 Deficit Mitigation:** Mr. Penn reviewed the financial report, noting key changes which include an improvement in management salaries after an error regarding a one-time payment was corrected and new vacancies occurred. The transportation outlook improved significantly as several months of bills were processed simultaneously. In terms of deficit mitigation, plans will be impacted by the current health crisis, but he anticipates further reductions in transportation, utilities, subs and overtime. Mr. Penn noted that Other Contractual Services were broken out in the report, as requested. Grant revenue reports were adjusted by eliminating carryover funds because these funds were revenue from last year.
- **2020-2021 Budget Mitigation:** Mr. Penn reviewed the 2020-2021 Budget Report, noting that we requested \$199,019,490 from the City. Mayor Elicker is proposing \$191,718,697, which leaves a deficit of \$7,300,793. Mr. Penn discussed mitigation strategies which include shrinking staffing levels through attrition, furlough days, transportation savings, and more aggressive management of turnover and hiring. Committee members discussed the proposal to make bell changes for K-8, which would reduce transportation.
- **Pay raises for various positions:** Mr. Penn reviewed a memo sent previously, which details salary increases for Paraprofessionals, Bus Monitors and Substitute Teachers. The memo included a breakdown of increases based on the recommendation of the Board. Mr. Wilcox requested that Mr. Penn provide more detail, comparing and contrasting the two proposals. He also requested that the changes be included in the total proposed budget so that it reflects total costs.
- **Legislative Update:** Mr. Penn reported that the District's lobbyist, Mr. Nuñez, is seeking to extend the moratorium on racial isolation for the magnet schools. We are seeking to replace racial isolation criteria with socio-economic criteria.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. DeMaio