



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Haven, Connecticut

NEW HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION FINANCE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, November 16, 2020

MINUTES

VIRTUAL MEETING

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

Staff: Dr. Iline Tracey, Mr. Phillip Penn, Dr. Paul Whyte, Attorney Michael Pinto, Attorney Elias Alexiades, Ms. Patricia DeMaio, Ms. Keisha Redd Hannans, Dr. Paul Whyte, Ms. Ivelise Velazquez, Dr. Michele Sherban, Ms. Denise Duclos, Mr. Marc Potocsky, Ms. Carolyn Ross Lee, Mr. Matthew Brown, Ms. Gemma Joseph Lumpkin, Mr. Carl Jackson, Mr. Thomas Smith, Mr. Joseph Barbarotta

Closed Captioner

Call to Order: Mr. Wilcox called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m.

Motions:

Motion to Amend the Agenda: A motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Mr. Conaway to Amend the Agenda to include an Agreement with Morris, Duffy, Alonso & Faley New York Litigation to represent the Board in litigation pending in New York State Court in which the Board of Education is a named defendant for the period of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 was unanimously approved by Roll Call Vote: Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Conaway, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.

Recusal: Mr. Wilcox recused himself from deliberation and discussion related to Section C, Agreements, Item #1 Amendment with Clifford Beers. Ms. Rivera chaired the meeting for the discussion and vote for this Agreement.

Motion to Recommend Approval of Action Items: After presentation as noted below, the Action Items were approved in two motions:

Motion #1: A motion by Ms. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Conaway to **Recommend Approval** of Item #1 Amendment with Clifford Beers, passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Mr. Conaway, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Wilcox Recused.

At the conclusion of the vote, Mr. Wilcox resumed chairing the meeting.

Motion # 2: A motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Mr. Conaway to Recommend Approval of **1 Abstract, Agreements 2-10, 2 Purchase Orders** and **1 Change Order**, passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Mr. Conaway, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.

Adjournment: A motion by Mr. Conaway, seconded by Ms. Rivera, to adjourn the meeting at 6:07 p.m. passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Mr. Conaway, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.

I. INFORMATION ONLY AND ACTION ITEMS

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

1. Agreement with Michelle DellaCamera, to provide early childhood education coaching services for Pre-K programs funding under the School Readiness grant, from December 14, 2020 to June 30, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$16,000.00.
Funding Source: Quality Enhancement Program **Acct. #2523-5385-56697-0442**
2. Agreement with Sophy Abrue to provide weekly on-site and virtual support to School Readiness funded programs, including professional development and meetings with teachers, from December 14, 2020 to June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$16,800.00.
Funding Source: Quality Enhancement Program **Acct. #2523-5385-56697-0442**
3. Agreement with Connecticut Children’s Museum to provide weekly professional development training and resources at the Early Childhood Resource Center, from September 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00.
Funding Source: Quality Enhancement Program **Acct. #2523-5385-56697-0443**
4. Amendment #1 to Agreement #965279532 with Management Information Technology, USA Inc. d/b/a ChildPlus to increase funding of \$10,000.00 by \$7,150.00 to \$17,950.00 for customized follow-up training for Head Start staff.
Funding Source: Head Start Basic Program **Acct. #2532-5279-56694-0443**
5. Agreement with Monique Forsey to provide maintenance and repair of computer hardware for the Title I Non-Public Schools, All Saints Catholic Academy and St. Martin de Porres schools, from November 17, 2020 to June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$4,950.00.
Funding Source: Title I Non Public (Pending Receipt of Funds)
Acct. # 2531-5264-56658-NP 23
Acct. #2531-5264-56658-NP 16
6. Agreement with Wellbilt FSG US Holding, LLC to provide a Trial Double Stack Convention Oven to Brennan Rogers/Café for the period of November 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 a value of \$7,500, that will be of no cost to the District once trial is completed.

ACTION ITEMS:

B. ABSTRACTS:

1. Family Resource Center Grant in the amount of \$406,120.00 for July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 was presented by Ms. Joseph Lumpkin. **Funding Source:** Connecticut State Department of Education

C. AGREEMENTS:

1. Amendment #1 to Agreement # 95278546 with Clifford Beers to change funding account # from Head Start Program acct. #2532-5278-56694 to Head Start Program, acct. #2532-5279-56694-0443, with no change in funding amount was presented by Mr. Penn and Ms. DeMaio.
Funding Source: Head Start Program **Acct. #2532-5279-56694-0443**
2. Agreement with Great Schools Partnership to provide professional development to staff at High School in the Community for Project Based Learning and support thematic curricular and school-wide Magnet School program development, from November 9, 2020 to June 18, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$60,500.00 was presented by Mr. Brown.
Funding Source: Magnet School Assistance Program **Acct. #2517-6255-56694-0066.**
3. Non-Financial Agreement for NHPS with Pacific Education Group d/b/a Courageous Conversations, to provide comprehensive equity literacy training and professional development for key stakeholders, administrators, teachers, parents and students to identify and rectify bias and inequity within district systems, policies and practices, at a cost of \$111,450.00 funded by William Casper Graustein Memorial Fund Equity Transformation Grant, and paid by fiscal sponsor, Higher Heights Youth Empowerment Program, from December 10, 2020 to December 31, 2021, was presented by Ms. Ross Lee
4. Agreement with Panorama Education, Inc. to provide stakeholder Climate Surveys aligned to the district's strategic goals for students, staff and families from December 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, in an amount not to exceed 80,000.00 was presented by Ms. Ross Lee
Funding Source: Title IVA Program **Acct. #2511-6269-56694-0000**
5. Amendment #8 to Agreement #A20-0283 with Giordano Construction Company for the new Strong/Barack H. Obama Magnet School, to decrease funding amount of \$36,799.447.00 by \$-786,453.00 to \$36,012,994.00 was presented by Mr. Smith and Attorney Pinto.
Funding Source: Capital Projects
Discussion: Mr. Smith reported that the amendment concludes work on the Strong/Barack H. Obama School. The State will conduct an audit and forward documentation for Board approval.
6. Agreement with Artis Energy Intelligence, LLC to provide Energy Monitoring Services to various New Haven Public Schools for the period of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$94,860.00 was presented by Mr. Barbarotta.
Funding Source: Capital Projects
7. Agreement with Flow Tech, Inc. to provide Aircurity Annual Maintenance Service to MBA for the period of December 1, 2020 to November 30, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$6,750.00 was presented by Mr. Barbarotta.
Funding Source: Capital Projects
8. Agreement with City of New Haven Corporation Counsel to provide a dedicated staff attorney time to the Board of Education and NHPS for legal matters from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00 was presented by Attorney Pinto.

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

Discussion: Attorney Pinto explained that the Agreement was tabled at the Board of Education meeting on November 9, 2020 for language clarification and a change in the end date of the Agreement. The language has been clarified and the end date of the Agreement was changed to June 30, 2020. The Agreement is renewable. A discussion ensued.

9. Agreement with Stuart W. Mattison to assist in the upkeep of the fish production area and provide maintenance and staff coverage at Sound School, from November 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$51,952.50 was presented by Marc Potocsky

Funding Source: 2020-2021 Operating Budget **Acct. #**190-429-56694

Discussion: Mr. Wilcox noted that these types of employee Agreements are discouraged. Mr. Potocsky explained that work was underway to create a position but it was interrupted due to a change in principals. He anticipates that the position will be resolved for the upcoming school year.

10. Agreement with Morris, Duffy, Alonso & Faley New York State Litigation to represent the Board in litigation pending in New York State court in which the Board of Education is a named defendant for the period July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 was presented by Attorney Pinto.

Funding Source: 2020-2021 Operating Budget **Acct. #**190-477-00-56696

Discussion: Attorney Pinto reported that the Board of Education was named as a defendant in a case that dates back to 1984 relating to an employee who is now deceased. A discussion ensued.

D. PURCHASE ORDERS:

1. Purchase Order with PowerSchool Group, LLC to provide annual subscription for the Unified Talent Perform, a customized performance evaluation software system, from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$25,400.71 was presented by Dr. Sherban.

Funding Source: 2020-2021 Operating Budget **Acct. #**190-419-00-56694

2. Purchase Order with SHI International Corp. under State Contract 13PSX0280, to provide access to Microsoft Desktop Education with Enterprise Client Access Licenses (CAL) and Software Assurance from November 1, 2020 to October 31, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$84,768.70 was presented by Attorney Pinto.

Funding Source: Capital Projects **Acct #** 3C202075-58704

E. CHANGE ORDERS:

1. Change Order #1 to Contract #21623-2-2 with Filter Sales and Services for On Call Filter Services to upgrade all filters where possible district wide to Merv 13, to increase funding amount from \$50,000.00 by \$221,290.34 to \$271,290.34, for the period of July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021 was presented by Mr. Barbarotta.

Funding Source: Capital Projects **Acct #** 3C202073-58708 (\$50,000.00)

Funding Source: ESSERF Program **Acct. #** 2550-6342-55570 (\$221,290.34)

II. DISCUSSION:

- **October 2020 Monthly Financial Report and Outlook for FY2021:** Mr. Penn reviewed the Projection Report indicating that as of October 2020 there is a projected surplus of \$2.7 million. This number is preliminary and will change going forward based on school opening and projected grant awards. He will provide a monthly status report. Mr. Penn also reviewed the detailed October 2020 Budget report. A discussion ensued. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**
- **Update: Impact of Continued Remote Learning, Financially and Operationally:** Mr. Penn reviewed information from the financial report. Attorney Pinto answered questions about the impact on Food Service. Mr. Wilcox requested an updated budget report for Food Service for the January meetings. **No Motion was made and no vote was taken.**
- **Update: First Student:** Attorney Pinto reported that we continue to work with First Student. As of Friday, November 13, 2020 there were 27 positive cases of Covid at the company. The New Haven Health Department required a corrective action plan from the company; this plan has been submitted. Per the contract, the district is required to pay 50% for 10 days of the shutdown because the shutdown was ordered by a governmental agency. Attorney Pinto reported that workers will be paid for 12 days. He also noted that the service is set to resume on Wednesday, a limited service because the Charter Schools have opted for remote learning and Special Education will go remote as of next week. A discussion ensued. **No Motion was made and no vote was taken.**
- **Board of Education Series 3000 Policies for Business & Non-Instructional Operations:** Committee members and staff discussed the process of policy review. Mr. Penn recommended waiting until March because of the focus on the FY21 Budget. Dr. Tracey also requested a delay due to a shortage of staffing support. Mr. Wilcox noted that there were several policies that could be updated quickly and he will review and report back. He asked that the topic remain on the agendas for future meetings. A discussion ensued. **No Motion was made and no vote was taken.**

Adjournment: A motion by Mr. Conaway, seconded by Ms. Rivera, to adjourn the meeting at 6:07 p.m. passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Mr. Conaway, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. DeMaio