



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
New Haven, Connecticut

**NEW HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION FINANCE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING**

Monday, October 2, 2023

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Mr. Matthew Wilcox, Dr. Orlando Yarborough, Ms. Yesenia Rivera  
**Staff:** Dr. Madeline Negrón, Dr. Paul Whyte, Dr. Michael Finley, Mr. Thomas Lamb, Ms. Patricia DeMaio, Ms. Kristina DeNegre, Mr. Pedro Mendia, Ms. Florence Crisci, Dr. Michelle Baker, Ms. Typhanie Jackson, Ms. Peggy Moore, Mr. Daniel Bonet, Ms. Medria Blue-Ellis, Mr. Frank Fanelli, Attorney Elias Alexiades, Erik Patchofsky  
**Guest:** Mr. Steven Winter, Executive Director, Climate & Sustainability, City of New Haven

**Call to Order:** Mr. Wilcox called the meeting to order at 4:24 p.m.

**Recusal:** Mr. Wilcox recused himself from deliberation and voting on Action Item Agreement #3 with United Way of Greater New Haven. He explained that his wife has applied for a position with the organization.

**Summary of Motions - Three motions as follows:**

1. **Motion to Approve Agreement with United way of Greater New Haven:** A motion by Dr. Yarborough, seconded by Ms. Rivera to Recommend Approval of Action Agreement #3 with United Way of Greater New Haven, passed by Roll Call Vote: Ms. Rivera, Yes; Dr. Yarborough, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Recused.
2. **Motion to Recommend Approval of Remaining Action Items:** A motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Dr. Yarborough, to Recommend Approval of 9 Abstracts, 4 Agreements, 2 Purchase Orders and 1 Contract, passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Dr. Yarborough, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.
3. **Motion to Adjourn:** A motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Dr. Yarborough to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 p.m., passed by Roll Call Vote: Dr. Yarborough, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes (Ms. Rivera left the meeting at 6:00 p.m. to attend another meeting and was not present for the adjournment motion and vote)

**I. INFORMATION ONLY AND ACTIO ITEMS:**

**A. INFORMATION ONLY – The following Information Only Items were approved by the Superintendent.**

1. Agreement with cARTie to provide six enrichment days to introduce art museum enrichment activities for Worthington Hooker students in grades K-2, from October 11, 2023 to June 15, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$2,000.00.  
Funding Source: ARP ESSER III Carryover Program Acct. #2553-6399-56694-0038
2. Agreement with Elm Shakespeare, Co to provide an after-school Shakespeare theater program for students in grades 4-8 at Mauro-Sheridan School, from October 9, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not

- to exceed \$4,000.00.  
Funding Source: Interdistrict Magnet Program Acct. #270-433-56697-0019
3. Agreement with Schlechty Center to provide Bishop Woods leaders with technical assistance and consultation on utilizing The Schlechty Center framework and toolkits to develop professional learning sessions, from October 10, 2023 to June 24, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00.  
**Discussion:** In response to committee member questions, Ms. Crisci presented the Agreement and explained that the contractor qualifies as Sole Source due to ownership of the toolkits and resource materials and approach. Ms. DeMaio indicated that the district will apply for Sole Source status through the City of New Haven.  
Funding Source: ARP ESSER III Carryover Program Acct. # 2553-6399-56694-0043
  4. Agreement with The Consultation Center to provide screening, triage, referral and mental health services to students attending New Haven Adult Education, from October 12, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00.  
Funding Source: State Adult Education Program Acct. #2503-5014-56694-0053
  5. Agreement with Laura Goldblum, LCSW, to provide supervision of 4 master's level Social Work Interns at Worthington Hooker School, from September 12, 2023 to June 15, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$18,000.00.  
Funding Source: ARP ESSER III Carryover Program Acct. #2553-6399-56694-0038
  6. Agreement with CT Yankee Council of Boy Scouts of America, to provide Scouting skills and hands-on STEM based experiments including a focus on engineering, forensics, chemistry and robotics, and a full day fishing excursion for students at Truman School, from October 16, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00.  
Funding Source: ARP ESSER III Carryover Program Acct. #2553-6399-56694-0029
  7. Agreement with Scenarios Learning, LLC dba Vector Solutions to provide vector training, and the wellness library collections 1-3 and includes annual subscription, from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$16,836.82 was presented by Dr. Baker who reviewed a presentation on the training programs. In response to questions, she explained that the increase in price from last year relates to additional training modules.  
Funding Source: Title IVA 2023 Acct. #: 2511-6291-56697-0000
  8. Purchase Order with Learning A-Z to renew school subscriptions for Learning A-Z licenses, from September 13, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$17,780.00.  
Funding Source: 2023-2024 Operating Budget Acct. # 190-49000-56694

## B. ABSTRACTS:

1. Title III English Language Acquisition Grant in the amount of \$532,050.00 for July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 was presented by Mr. Pedro Mendia. Funding Source: Connecticut State Department of Education

2. Title III Immigrant Grant in the amount of \$13,750.00 for September 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 was presented by Mr. Mendia. Funding Source: Connecticut State Department of Education
3. State Bilingual Education, in the amount of \$365,835.00 for July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 was presented by Mr. Mendia. Funding Source: Connecticut State Department of Education
4. Alliance District Grant in the amount of \$22,531,420.00 for July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 was presented by Ms. Jackson. Funding Source: Connecticut State Department of Education
5. Priority School District Grant in the amount of \$4,412,124.00 for July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 was presented by Ms. Jackson.  
Funding Source: Connecticut State Department of Education
6. School Readiness Infant and Toddler Expansion Grant, in the amount of \$796,500.00 for July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 was presented by Ms. Diaz-Valencia.  
Funding Source: State of Connecticut Office of Early Childhood  
**Discussion:** Dr. Yarborough and Mr. Wilcox noted a math error on page 5 of the abstract. Ms. Diaz-Valencia will submit corrected document to Ms. DeMaio.
7. School Readiness – Priority COLA Grant, in the amount of \$557,966.00 for July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 was presented by Ms. Diaz-Valencia  
Funding Source: State of Connecticut Office of Early Childhood
8. School Readiness – Priority Enrollment Grant in the amount of \$807,360.00 for July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 was presented by Ms. Diaz-Valencia.  
Funding Source: State of Connecticut Office of Early Childhood
9. School Readiness- Priority Administrative Funds Enhancement Grant, in the amount of \$120,423.00 was presented by Ms. Diaz-Valencia.  
Funding Source: State of Connecticut Office of Early Childhood

### C. AGREEMENTS:

1. Non-Financial Agreement with Greenskies Clean Energy to finance, design, install, commission and maintain solar parking carport canopies over parking spaces at Hill Central School and Beecher School. The solar canopies are projected to generate enough electricity to power 20% of Hill Central's electricity consumption and 33% of Beecher's electricity consumption. With the conservative assumption that the historic rate of electricity bill increases continue at 3% annually, the solar canopies are forecast to save ~\$275,000 over the term of the power purchase agreement from August 15, 2023 to August 15, 2043 was presented by Mr. Lamb, who introduced Mr. Winter, City of New Haven to answer questions about the program.  
**Discussion:** Mr. Wilcox asked Mr. Lamb to prepare a memo for the Board of Education packets that details the power generation benefits and savings.
2. Agreement with Common Ground to create an outdoor learning space at Celentano School, and provide an embedded naturalist one day per week to support use of the space, from October 11, 2023 to June

30,2024, in an amount not to exceed \$20,170.00 was presented by Dr. Whyte and Ms. DeNegre on behalf of Ms. Jones-Generette.

Funding Source: ARP ESSER III Carryover Program Acct. #2553-6299-56694-0048

3. Agreement with United Way of Greater New Haven, to provide a full-time School Readiness Liaison, responsible for the coordination, program evaluation and administration of the School Readiness Grant, and serves as liaison between the School Readiness Council and the CT Office of Early Childhood, from October 11, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$80,000.00 was presented by Ms. Diaz-Valencia. Funding Source: School Readiness Program Acct. #2523-5384-56697-0442  
**Discussion:** Ms. Diaz-Valencia explained that the agency was selected through a process by the Early Childhood Council and that the district serves as a pass through for the grant.
4. Agreement with Higher Heights Youth Empowerment Program, Inc., to provide a college preparatory program for Hillhouse High School seniors, from October 12, 2023 to June 7, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$33,000.00 was presented by Ms. Moore and Mr. Bonet, who discussed participation data from last year's program.  
Funding Source: ARP ESSER III Carryover Program Acct. #2553-6399-56694-0062
5. Agreement with Magalis Martinez, to facilitate the redesign of the Digital Media Arts and Technology department at ESUMS, including consultation on curriculum for 2 DMAT courses, producing a curriculum map and learning framework for DMAT as well as rubrics for DMAT courses, from October 11, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00 was presented by Ms. Blue-Ellis who explained that the contractor was founder of the program and that as a result of the specialized area of expertise, she co-teaches classes.  
Funding Source: ARP ESSER III Carryover Program Acct. #2553-6399-56694-0017
6. **WITHDRAWN** Agreement with Public Good, LLC to develop, design and produce all creative content for the 2023 Head Start Recruitment Campaign, from July 25, 2023 to June 30, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$47,575.00 was withdrawn by Dr. Negrón.  
Funding Source: Head Start Program Acct. #2532-5279-56694-0443

#### D. PURCHASE ORDERS:

1. Purchase Order with Lexia Learning to provide Lexia Core5 Reading/Power Up Literacy Student Subscription to develop phonological awareness, phonics, oral language, reading, spelling and writing skills from September 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$66,000.00 was presented by Ms. Jackson.  
Funding Source: IDEA Program Acct. # 2504-5034-56903-0490
2. Purchase Order with under State Contract #18PSX0319 Sports Construction of CT LLC to repair the damaged areas on the track at the Floyd Little Athletics Center, from October 2, 2023 to December 30, 2023, in an amount not to exceed \$98,903.32 was presented by Mr. Fanelli and Mr. Patchofsky.  
Funding Source: 2023-2024 Capital Projects Acct. # 3C24-2461-58101  
**Discussion:** A discussion ensued about the timing of the project and impact on the operation of the Center if the damaged areas of the track were not repaired.

**E. CONTRACTS:**

1. Award of Contract 21890 with Tucker Mechanical to replace the Beecher School Air Cooled Chiller Unit from October 2, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$670,456.00 was presented by Mr. Fanelli.  
Funding Source: ARP ESSER III Carryover Acct. #2553-636399-56697-0474

**II. DISCUSSION:**

- **ESSER Fund Spending and Plans for Remaining Funds:** Dr. Negron reviewed the presentation. She asked Mr. Lamb to present sections related to operations and planned use of funds for facilities. The presentation will be available in the Board of Education packets. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**
- **FY23 “Not to Exceed” Change Order Report:** Mr. Lamb reviewed the report noting a decrease from previous year. A discussion ensued. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**
- **FY23 Legal Contract Expenditure Report:** Mr. Lamb reviewed the legal spend report and a discussion ensued. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**
- **Update F&O Climate Change Resolution Items:** Deferred until first meeting in November. Mr. Wilcox asked Ms. DeMaio to update the calendar to reflect this change. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**
- **Update Electric Bus Grant:** Mr. Lamb reported that the Federal Government announced the release of the rebate program for January 2024. Updates will be provided at future meetings. Dr. Yarborough asked to see the application when it is released; Mr. Lamb will forward the link to the form. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**
- **Series 3000 Policies:** Mr. Wilcox reported the Board of Education will have a second reading of the policies previously sent to Governance Committee. Staff will coordinate a meeting for a review of Series 3000 policies related to Student Data Protection and Information Security and related policies. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**

**Adjournment:** A motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Dr. Yarborough to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 p.m., passed by Roll Call Vote: Dr. Yarborough, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.

(Ms. Rivera left the meeting at 6:00 p.m. to attend another meeting and was not present for the adjournment motion and vote)

Respectfully submitted,  
Patricia A. DeMaio