



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Haven, Connecticut

NEW HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION FINANCE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING

Tuesday March 5, 2024

Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

Present: Mr. Matthew Wilcox, Dr. Orlando Yarborough, Ms. Yesenia Rivera
Staff: Dr. Madeline Negrón, Dr. Michael Finley, Dr. Paul Whyte, Mr. Thomas Lamb, Ms. Linda Hannans, Ms. Patricia DeMaio, Ms. Keisha Redd-Hannans, Ms. Kristina DeNegre, Ms. Viviana Camacho, Ms. Typhanie Jackson, Ms. Dina Natalino, Ms. Christine Bourne, Ms. Adela Jorge, Mr. Frank Fanelli, Ms. Monica Joyner, Ms. Teddi Barra
Ms. Vanessa Diaz-Valencia, Mr. Jamar Alleyne, Ms. Mary Derwin, Mr. Erik Patchkofsky
Guests: Mr. Greg Corbin, Ms. Hannah Pease, Mr. Kyle Krow

Call to Order: Mr. Wilcox called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m. He noted that the order of discussion will change to allow discussion on the FY25 Budget and the Transportation Contract.

Summary of Motions:

1. **Motion to Recommend Approval of the Transportation Contract:** A motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Dr. Yarborough, to **Recommend Approval** of the First Student Transportation Contract in the amount of \$124,856,051.31 from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2028, passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Dr. Yarborough, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.
2. **Motion to Recommendation Approval of Action Items:** A motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Dr. Yarborough to **Recommend Approval of 1 Abstract, 11 Agreements, 1 Contract, 2 Purchase Orders, and 1 Change Order**, passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Dr. Yarborough>
3. **Motion to Adjourn:** A motion by Dr. Yarborough, seconded by Ms. Rivera, to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 p.m., passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Dr. Yarborough, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.

Summary of Action Item Corrections and Withdrawn Items:

1. **Purchase Order #1** with Lexia Learning: the item was moved to the Agreement category
2. **Contracts #1-3 Withdrawn**
3. **Change Order #2 Withdrawn**

I. INFORMATION ONLY & ACTION ITEMS:

A. Information Only: Committee members did not have questions about the following Information Only items approved by the Superintendent:

1. Purchase Order under Sole Source 29172X with Severin Intermediate Holdings, LLC dba Power School Group LLC to provide Powerschool load balancer upgrade which includes a new kemp technologies load balancer, from March 1, 2024 to February 28, 2025 in an amount not to exceed \$1,250.00.
Funding Source: 2023-2024 Operating Budget Acct. # 190-47200-56694
2. Purchase Order under State Contract 19PSX0088 with Utility Communications, Inc. to provide Wooster PI security enhancements from March 11, 2024 to June 30, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$15,559.69.
Funding Source: 2023-2024 Capital Projects Acct. # 3C24-2461-58101
3. Agreement with Tanaeya Ervin, LCSW, to provide social and emotional support for students attending St. Thomas Day School under the Title IVA Non-Public Grant, from March 12, 2024 to June 28, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$5,400.00.
Funding Source: Title IVA Program Acct. #2511-6291-56905-NP07
4. Agreement with Southern Connecticut State University, School of Nursing, to provide a career exposure opportunity to students at Nathan Hale School, from March 12, 2024 to May 31, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$5,107.74.
Funding Source: ARP ESSER III Carryover Program Acct. #2553-6399-56694-0116

B. ABSTRACT:

1. Educators Rising Mini-Grant to expand the program to include Wilbur Cross High School, in the amount of \$5,000.00 for February 5, 2024 to June 30, 2024 was presented by Ms. Natalino.
Funding Source: Connecticut State Department of Education

C. AGREEMENTS:

1. Agreement with Smart Start Education, LLC, to provide math tutors to ten schools, one tutor per school for grades 6th-8th, at Barnard, Betsy Ross, Celentano, Conte, Daniels, Fair Haven, Hill Central, Jepson, King Robinson, and Truman, from March 12, 2024 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$222,187.68 was presented by Ms. Joyner.
Funding Source: ARP ESSER III Carryover Program Acct. #2553-6399-56694-0410
2. Agreement with Curriculum Associates, LLC to provide i-Ready professional development will be provided to all teachers of math, over a five-month period from February 16, 2024 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$55,000.00 was presented by Ms. Adela Jorge.
Funding Source: School Improvement Grant (SIG) Acct. # 2531-6458-56694
3. Non-Financial Agreement with Dalkia Solutions for the shared energy savings agreement for replacement of heating units for pools at Conte school, Hillhouse, Cross, Martinez, Career and Sound School from March 11, 2024 to June 30, 2024 was presented by Mr. Fanelli.
4. Agreement with Catholic Charities, Inc., Archdiocese of Hartford, to provide 164 full day/full year School Readiness spaces, from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$127,811.00 was presented by Ms. Diaz-Valencia.
Funding Source: School Readiness COLA Program Acct. #2523-6428-56697-0442
Discussion: Mr. Wilcox asked that the listing change to reflect the COLA increase, which is a supplement to earlier Agreements for School Readiness. Ms. DeMaio will make the change for the Board of Education

Action Items.

5. Agreement with Clifford W. Beers Child Guidance Clinic, Inc., to provide 60 full day/full year School Readiness spaces, from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$46,760.00 was presented by Ms. Diaz-Valencia.
Funding Source: School Readiness COLA Program Acct. #2523-6428-56697-0442
6. Agreement with LULAC Head Start to provide 118 full day/full year School Readiness spaces, from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$77,933.00 was presented by Ms. Diaz-Valencia.
Funding Source: School Readiness COLA Program Acct. #2523-6428-56697-0442
7. Agreement with Montessori on Edgewood, to provide 31 full day/full year School Readiness spaces, from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$24,159.00 was presented by Ms. Diaz-Valencia.
Funding Source: School Readiness COLA Program Acct. #2523-6428-56697-0442
8. Agreement with Morning Glory Early Learning Center, to provide 10 School Readiness full day/full year School Readiness spaces, from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$14,028.00 was presented by Ms. Diaz-Valencia.
Funding Source: School Readiness COLA Program Acct. #2523-6428-56697-0442
9. Agreement with Yale New Haven Hospital Day Care Center, to provide 22 full day/full year School Readiness spaces, from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$17,145.00 was presented by Ms. Diaz-Valencia.
Funding Source: School Readiness COLA Program Acct. #2523-6428-56697-0442
10. Agreement with BRD Builders LLC to provide estimating services for Hillhouse Highschool and FLAC projects from March 11, 2024 to June 30, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$36,750.00 was presented by Mr. Fanelli.
Funding Source: 2023-2024 Capital Projects Acct. # 3C24-2461-58101

Pause in presentations: The review of Action Items paused at 5:37 p.m. in order to allow time for presentation of the FY25 Budget and the Transportation Contract, as detailed below in Discussion Items. The review of Action Items resumed at 6:10 p.m.

D. CONTRACTS

1. **WITHDRAWN** Award of Contract 21924 with Tucker Mechanical, Inc. for preventative maintenance of air-cooled equipment/chillers from March 11, 2024 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$26,000.00 was withdrawn by Mr. Alleyne.
Funding Source: 2023-2024 Capital Projects Acct. #3C24-2461-58101
2. **WITHDRAWN** Award of Contract 21925 with Tucker Mechanical, Inc. for corrective repairs of air-cooled equipment/chillers from March 11, 2024 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$19,375.00 was withdrawn by Mr. Alleyne.
Funding Source: 2023-2024 Capital Projects Acct. #3C24-2461-58101

- 3. **WITHDRAWN** Award of Contract 21916 with Tucker Mechanical, Inc. for corrective boiler repairs from March 11, 2024 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$15,875.00 was withdrawn by Mr. Alleyne.
 Funding Source: 2023-2024 Capital Projects Acct. #3C24-2461-58101

- 4. Award of Contract 21919X with Irwin Seating Company for the replacement and installation of the bleacher system for the Floyd Little Athletic Center from March 11, 2024 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$1,385,660.29 was presented by Mr. Fanelli.
 Funding Source: 2023-2024 Capital Projects Acct. # 3C22-2266-58101 (\$1,200,000.00)
 2023-2024 Capital Projects Acct. # 3C20-2084-58101 (\$185,660.29)

E. PURCHASE ORDERS

- 1. Purchase Order under TIPS Contract 210301 with Lexia Learning Systems, LLC to provide early childhood curriculum of 4 modules for comprehensive professional learning from March 12, 2024 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$63,990.00 was presented by Ms. Derwin.
 Funding Source: Head Start Basic Carryover Acct. # 2532-6326-56697-0443

- Correction: MOVE TO AGREEMENT CATEGORY** Ms. Derwin indicated that the item was miscategorized; it should have been listed under Agreements. Ms. DeMaio indicated that the original submission was incomplete and that staff was uncertain how to categorize it as resubmission did not meet posting deadline. The item will be moved to the Agreement category for the Board of Education Action Items.

- 2. Purchase Order under PEPPEM 2022 Contract 536202-023 with CDW Government to provide Google for Education from February 19, 2024 to February 17, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$112,500.00 was presented by Mr. Lamb.
 Funding Source: 2024-2025 Capital Projects Acct. # 3C22-2263-58704

- 3. Purchase Order under State Contract 23PSX0149 with Obrien & Sons to provide playground surface equipment and installation at Nathan Hale School from March 11, 2024 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$180,575.20 was presented by Mr. Fanelli.
 Funding Source: 2023-2024 Capital Projects Acct. # 3C24-2461-58101

F. CHANGE ORDERS

- 1. Change Order 1 to Contract 21852 for on call drywall painting services with New Haven Painters to increase funding amount from \$300,000.00 by \$120,001.41 for a total amount of \$420,001.41 to cover costs incurred for the remainder of the fiscal year was presented by Mr. Fanelli.
 Funding Source: 2023-2024 Capital Projects Acct. # 3C22-2261-58101 (\$300,000.00)
 2023-2024 Capital Projects Acct. # 3C19-1988-58101 (\$43,486.41)
 2023-2024 Capital Projects Acct. # 3C24-2461-58101 (\$76,515.00)

- 2. **WITHDRAWN** Change Order 3 to Contract 21679-4-4 with CT Controls Corp to increase funding amount from \$240,000.00 by \$95,000.00 for a total amount of \$335,000.00 to cover increased service for HVAC repairs due to loss of HVAC vendor was withdrawn by Mr. Alleyne.
 Funding Source: 2023-2024 Capital Projects Acct. # 190-47400-56624 (\$200,000.00)
 2023-2024 Capital Projects Acct. # 3C24-2461-58101 (\$40,000.00)
 2023-2024 Capital Projects Acct. # 3C24-2461-58101 (\$95,000.00)

- II. **DISCUSSION:** Discussion items for FY25 Budget and the Transportation Contract were presented during a pause from review of Action Items, as noted above.
4. **Transportation Contract – Discussion and Possible Action:** Dr. Negron provided an overview of the bid process, follow-up and collaboration with City Purchasing and asked the Committee to move the contract forward to the full Board of Education for approval as the contract must also be presented to the Board of Alders. Mr. Lamb and Ms. Barra reviewed highlights of the 4- year contract with 2 options for renewal, noting that each option has fixed pricing. The contract includes plans for bus electrification. The district is seeking approval of a contract award to First Student, in the total amount of \$124,856,051.31. A discussion ensued. Mr. Wilcox asked Mr. Lamb to provide an update memo for the Board of Education, which should be sent to committee members no later than Friday, March 8, 2024.
- Motion:** A motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Dr. Yarborough, to **Recommend Approval** of the First Student Transportation Contract in the amount of \$124,856,051.31 from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2028, passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Dr. Yarborough, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.
- **FY 24-25 Budget Update:** Ms. Hannans and Ms. Bourne presented a draft of the FY2024-2025 General Fund Budget, which detailed anticipated cost increases and grant revenue decreases. Ms. Hannans reported that projected deficit of \$8 million. She noted that the district will need to explore new sources funding opportunities and continue mitigation efforts which may result in a reduction of services, programs and operations. Ms. Hannans reported that the Budget will be presented at the upcoming Board of Education meeting and to the Board of Alders on April 11, 2024. A discussion ensued. Mr. Wilcox asked that a new category be added on slide 5 to reflect special education and homeless students. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**
 - **Defining the Gap/Staff Guidelines:** Ms. Redd-Hannans reviewed the report, updated as of March 2024, which included need, new staff, cost and proposed new staff for FY25. To date, 10 new staff have been added in the categories of 5 Bilingual Classroom teachers, and 5 PPT Facilitator, for a total cost of \$750,000.00. Ms. Redd-Hannans noted need for an additional 17 positions for FY25, for a total cost of \$1,115,000.00. A discussion ensued. Committee members identified questions that could help complete the report, including adding narrative to explain how new positions were identified and budget impact. Members also suggested that the documentation contain a link to the previous report provided earlier in the year. Dr. Yarborough thanked Ms. Redd-Hannans and her team for preparing the extensive report. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**
 - **Process for Rescinding Previously Approved Contracts:** Mr. Wilcox deferred that the discussion to a future meeting, noting that Attorney Alexiades should be present for the discussion. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**
 - **Series 3000 Policies – Discussion and Possible Action:** Mr. Wilcox noted that these policies should be reviewed at the next meeting. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**
 - Policy 3516 Safety
 - Policy 3517 Security of Building and Grounds

Adjournment: A motion by Dr. Yarborough, seconded by Ms. Rivera, to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 p.m., passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Dr. Yarborough, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. DeMaio