



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Haven, Connecticut

BOARD OF EDUCATION FINANCE AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, September 16, 2019

Gateway Center – 2nd floor Board Room

Meeting called to order: 4:30 p.m.
Adjournment: 6:13 p.m.

Present: Ms. Yesenia Rivera, Mr. Matt Wilcox, Mr. Darnell Goldson

Staff: Mr. Michael Pinto, Ms. Patricia DeMaio, Mr. Matthew Brown, Ms. Sue Peters, Mr. David Diah, Ms. Mandy Bonz, Ms. Lori Kozlowski, Dr. Glynis King-Harrell, Mr. Stephen Ciarcia, Ms. Tiffany Rauch, Ms. Jennifer Oliwa, Ms. Lynn Brantley, Mr. Glen Worthy, Mr. Tom Smith, Dr. Iline Tracey, Ms. Keisha Hannans, Dr. Paul Whyte, Ms. Lisa Mack, Chief T. Reddish, Mr. William Zesner

Guests: Mr. Bryan Ryan, Seymour Ambulance, Mr. Brian Zahn, New Haven Register; Ms. Valerie Pavilonis, Yale Daily News; Ms. Jill Kelly, NHP SA

MINUTES

I. ACTION ITEMS

A. INFORMATION ONLY

1. The Superintendent approved an Agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and Great Schools Partnership, to provide professional development, coaching and leadership development to staff at HSC, from September 24, 2019 to November 15, 2019, in an amount not to exceed \$12,100.00.
Funding Source: Magnet School Assistance - HSC Program
Acct. # 2517-6262-56694-0066

Mr. Goldson asked how much of the Magnet grant is geared toward teach support and how much is geared toward students. He requested a copy of the Magnet grant application.

On a motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Mr. Goldson, the following items were recommended for approval:

B. ABSTRACTS

1. Oral Health Grant, in the amount of \$36,000.00 for FY 2019-2020.
Funding Source: CT Department of Public Health
2. School Improvement Grant, (SIG 1003), in the amount of \$113,949.00 for FY 2019-2020.
Funding Source: CT Department of Education
3. Commissioner’s Network Grant, Wexler-Grant School, in the amount of \$780,000.00 for FY 2019-2020.
Funding Source: CT Department of Education

C. AGREEMENTS

1. 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 \$36,000.00.
Funding Source: Oral Health Program
Acct. #2512-900-6239

2. 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.
Funding Source: 2019-2020 Operating Budget
Acct. #190-5034-56903

3. 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 \$40,000.00.
Funding Source: Interdistrict Magnet – Hill Regional - Program
Acct. #270-433-63-56694

The Committee discussed funding of EMT/EMR testing for students. Although Interdistrict grant funds courses, it does not cover testing fees. Members recommended that school staff consider fundraising to assist students with fees or include the costs in grant applications.

4. 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 \$68,010.00.
Funding Source: Priority Schools Program
Acct. #2579-5319-56694-0000

Mr. Wilcox requested a listing of current ACES agreements. Ms. DeMaio will provide.

5. 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.
Funding Source: Commissioner's Network – Wexler Grant – Program
Acct. #2547-6293-56697-0032

6. 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.
Funding Source: Commissioner's Network - Wexler Grant Program
Acct. # 2547-6293-56697-0032

7. Agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and John Hinrichs, 9 Burton Street, 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.

Funding Source: 2019-2020 Operating Budget
Acct. #190-43362-56694

8. Agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and Lisa Rodriguez, 21 Barrows St., Stratford, 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 \$82,074. Total reimbursement to be provided by the Army shall be \$39,537.

Funding Source: 2019-2020 Operating Budget
Acct. #190-43362-56694

D. PURCHASE ORDERS

1. Purchase Order under State Contract #17PSX0217 to The Mercury Group, 300 Avon 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.

Funding Source: Capital Projects #3078-17GG-58001

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

Funding Source: Capital Projects #3078-17GG-58001

3. Purchase Order under State Contract #13PSX0280 to Digital Back Office, 192 Naugatuck 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.

Funding Source: Capital Projects #3078-17GG-58001

4. Purchase Order under City Sole Source #28011x to Apple, Inc., 5505 W. Palmer Lane, 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

Funding Source: Capital Projects #3078-17GG-58001

II. DISCUSSION

Ms. Rivera reported that the Budget report was not included on the agenda because the City is closing out its fiscal year and the Munis reporting system is down. Ms. DeMaio confirmed that the system will be down for at least another week. A Budget Report will be available at the second committee meeting of the month, on October 21, 2019.

- **CFO Search Process Update:** Ms. Mack reported that the Internal Search Committee is the process of interviewing four candidates; two candidates through WeSource, and two candidates who applied online the Applitrax system. The committee is comprised of two members from Finance, a representative of the Teacher's Union, one HR staff person, the Chief Operating Officer, and one Assistant Superintendent. After interviews are complete, the Search Committee will recommend two candidates for Superintendent review. A discussion ensued. Mr. Goldson stressed that the interview and selection process should remain within the Board of Education, without external involvement.
- **Budget Mitigation Recommendations:** Dr. Kelly reviewed the committee's recommendations. A discussion ensued. The committee concurred that Recommendation # 5 required further review and discussion and will move it forward to the full Board without recommendation.

On a motion by Ms. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Wilcox, it was recommended for approval Budget Mitigation Items 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7. Item # 5 will be reviewed by the Board without recommendations.

1. We recommend that the Board analyze how the district can better use its under-utilized real estate assets to defray other district costs. This would involve a cost-benefit analysis of various scenarios for potentially relocating one or more floors of Central Office, as well as possibly Adult Education; selling the district's share in 54 Meadow Street; evaluating at least 4 sites as possible space (375 Quinnipiac Ave., 69 Grand Ave., 21 Wooster Pl., and 130 Orchard St.; and exploring the building of a warehouse facility near the Central Kitchen.
2. We recommend, both at the point in the year when contracts come up for renewal and right now, that the district approach large vendors (such as Gateway Center, Eco-Urban, GoTo, Xerox, and various tech platforms) to request a reduction in annual cost.
3. We recommend district leadership create a 10% reduction in the Central Office administrative budget. We suggest it be accomplished by declining to fill any open executive management positions (except CFO), and wherever appropriate, hire from within and explore savings associated with leaving the abandoned position vacant.
4. We recommend the district reopen furlough discussions with all unions.
5. We recommend researching savings as a result of putting an 8th year cap on new teacher hires outside of shortage areas.
6. In preparation for the 20-21 school year, we recommend that F&O appoint a working group to explore the financial and academic/programmatic implications of school closures and consolidations, suburban tuition and the magnet program generally.
7. We recommend the district explore beginning a transportation campaign to ask families for their explicit opt-in or opt-out of district transportation services. For this year, we suggest the district formally ask families to communicate when they do not require transportation and encourage alternatives