



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

CONNECTICUT
 Board of Education Committee
 Regular Meeting Minutes
 January 10, 2022 via Zoom

I. Called to Order	The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m. by Mayor Justin Elicker who presided over the initial portion of the first meeting of 2020.
Attendees Present	<p>Ms. Yesenia Rivera, President Mr. Matthew Wilcox, Vice President Dr. Edward Joyner, Secretary Mayor Justin Elicker Mr. Anthony Fiore Ms. Ma'Shai Roman Dr. OrLando Yarborough III Dr. Abie Benitez</p>
Absent	Mr. Darnell Goldson
II. Pledge of Allegiance	Pledge of allegiance was led by Dr. Joyner
III. Oath of Office for New Members: Dr. Abie Quiñones-Benitez and Dr. OrLando Yarborough	<p>Mayor Elicker officiated the Oath Office ceremony for two new members, Dr. OrLando Yarborough III and Dr. Abie Benitez officers to the New Haven Board of Education.</p> <p>Both officers were introduced and welcomed to the Board.</p>
IV. Election of Board of Education Officers	<p>Mayor Justin Elicker opened the floor for nominations to elect officers for the New Haven Board of Education for year 2022.</p>
i. 001-22 President	<p>Dr. Edward Joyner nominated Ms. Yesenia Rivera for the office of President, New Haven Board of Education for year 2022.</p> <p>Roll call of votes: Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Fiore, yes; Ms. Roman; Dr. Joyner, yes; Dr. Benitez, yes; Dr. Yarborough, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes. (Passed)</p>



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<p>ii. 002-22 Vice President</p>	<p>Dr. Edward Joyner nominated Mr. Matthew Wilcox, for the office of Vice President, New Haven Board of Education for year 2022.</p> <p>Roll call of votes: Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Fiore, yes; Ms. Roman; Dr. Joyner, yes; Dr. Benitez, yes; Dr. Yarborough, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes. (Passed)</p>
<p>iii 003-22</p>	<p>President, Yesenia Rivera nominated Dr. Edward Joyner, for the office of Secretary, New Haven Board of Education for year 2022.</p> <p>Roll call of votes: Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Fiore, yes; Ms. Roman; Dr. Joyner, yes; Dr. Benitez, yes; Dr. Yarborough, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes. (Passed)</p> <p>Mayor Elicker relinquished the office as chairperson. President Yesenia Rivera then commenced office as President, New Haven Board of Education for the year 2022.</p>
<p>Public Participation</p>	<p>Channel Name: BOE TV You Tube Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qEY46ioJn9U</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leslie Blatteau • Hope McFadden
<p>VI. Action Items i. 004-22 Approval of Minutes</p>	<p>On the Motion by Mr. Wilcox to approve the minutes of December 13, 2021 seconded by Dr. Joyner.</p> <p>Dr. Benitez, yes; Dr. Yarborough, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Fiore, yes; Ms. Roman; Dr. Joyner, yes. (Passed)</p>
<p>ii 005-22 Personnel Report Dr. Tracey</p> <p>a) 006-22 COVID-19 COVID Testing Update <i>Director Bond</i></p>	<p>On the Motion by Mr. Wilcox to approve the Superintendent's Personnel Report including the Blue Sheet, seconded by Dr. Joyner.</p> <p>Dr. Tracey recognized staff who were retiring from the school District and expressed appreciation for their service.</p> <p>Dr. Benitez, yes; Dr. Yarborough, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Fiore, yes; M Dr. Joyner, yes. (Passed)</p> <p>On the Motion by Dr. Joyner to add Director Bond to the agenda to speak on COVID-19 issues seconded by Mr. Wilcox.</p>



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	<p>Dr. Benitez, yes; Dr. Yarborough, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes; Dr. Joyner, yes. (Passed)</p>
<p>iii 007-22</p> <p>Finance and Operations <i>Mr. Wilcox</i></p>	<p>On the Motion by President Rivera to approve item #6, Agreement with Arts for Learning CT to provide an after-school arts program at Clemente and Conte schools, from January 10, 2022 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$4,999.95, seconded by Dr. Joyner.</p> <p>Dr. Benitez, yes; Dr. Yarborough, yes; Mr. Wilcox, recused; Mayor Elicker, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes; Dr. Joyner, yes. (F & O Passed)</p>
<p>V. Student's Report</p>	<p>Mr. Fiore and MS Romans expressed students concern requesting remote learning for a two-week time period due to the increase COVID-19 cases among students in schools.</p>
<p>VI. Teaching and Learning Report Dr. Edward Joyner</p>	<p>Overview Create policies that address evident based practices in Teaching & Learning Revise policies dated back to the 1990s Test person entering school buildings Implemented COVID-19 Tests in schools Get solutions that ensure safe instruction Implement mitigating protocols for testing Give teachers the needed tools be effective Create building blocks of Reading</p> <p>Notices sent to principals not to accept vandalism in school as it will not be tolerated as it prevents the optimal learning climate</p>
<p>VII. Superintendent's Report • Reflection on the week of January 3, 2022/Testimonies</p> <p>• Attendance Report (Student) Dr. Michele Sherban</p>	<p>Vision and mission of the school District was reiterated. Dr. Tracey reported abnormal staff absences across the school District. It escalated to 624 in one day. This resulted in staff being stretched thin. This was due to the uncertainties in the rapid increase COVID-19 cases in across the schools.</p> <p>Dr. Sherban gave a breakdown of students' absenteeism across the District and made a comparison between the first week of December 2021 and first week of January 2022. There was a 24% (an average of over 600 students increased in January) increase in</p>



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NHPS Resignation Data Subject Area 2017- Present Ms. Lisa Mack and Mr. John Ngueyen 	<p>absenteeism, not attributed to one factor, however the increase in covid cases had impacted attendance. It was suggested that Dr. Sherban compared absenteeism data to pre-pandemic statistics. Dr. Tracey reported that there was a concern to identify each student reason and support them.</p> <p>Ms., Hannans spoke on staff absences for January school re-opening. It was reported that there was staggering teachers' shortage across the district including administrative staff. January 4, 2022 Statistics had been high, however there have been improvement in the staff attendance which affected the District enormously. Students were in the best environment possible. Appreciation was extended to the staff for their team and individual efforts.</p> <p>716 resignation since July 2017- compared to December 2021. Highest resignation was 2019 with a total of 168 resignations and 2021 it was 153. which puts us below. Ideas to retain staff was discussed and revealed that teacher leave the school District for varied reasons. Dr. Tracey commended all staff and teachers who have given long and current service to the District.</p>
<p>COVID-19 Update</p>	<p>Dr. Bond spoke gave COVID-19 updates regarding the Department of Health protocols for the NHPS Health and Safety Mitigation Efforts. The overview discussed NHPS Test and stay process, test kit distribution plan and NHPS active cases and illustrate student and staff COVID-19 reporting cases.</p> <p>Adopted from the mass testing pilot program – provide testing for eligible children who are exposed and remain asymptomatic. # different tiers of protocol to enable school administration to identify those who need meet eligibility criteria</p> <p>Positive and symptomatic individuals will receive rapid test kits for 5 consecutive testing days so they can remain in school. Families in home will be made available with test kits to provide testing outside the school. These test mechanisms will be effective for Monday, January 17, 2022. Mitigation strategies are in place and school administrations are expected to ensure that these are enforced. Vaccine and boosters are been promoted among the schools by the Health Department. Director Bond urged families to have their children take the COVID-19 booster vaccine.</p> <p>Rapid tests are provided for teachers and staff who are asymptomatic or are exposed</p> <p>Dr. Yarborough expressed appreciation to Director Bond for the Health Department efforts to create a safe environment for staff and students.</p>



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<p>Budget Update – Ms. Linda Hannans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on School Threats • Summation Looking Ahead 	<p>Ms. Hannans reported on Projection of available funds. Covered budget mitigation plan. A projected budget deficit of \$4M. Current projected expense for 2021 – 2022. Cost drivers are tuition and transportation, salary increases (least 2%) Full review of full-time staff to determine accurate staffing roster. Mayor Elicker suggested thorough dig deep to uncover eligibility regarding federal funds usage</p> <p>Dr. Tracey expressed concern the loss of learning effects on our students since the pandemic and encouraged everyone to refocus of students’ learning academically. Also, to ensure teachers have the appropriate tools to execute instruction. Students will have to cultivate the skills to master their grade level.</p>
<p>IX. Head Start Report – Mr. Matthew Wilcox</p>	<p>Next meeting January 20, 2022 Policy council for Head Start require a parent body. At last meeting, 28 individuals represented by all Head Start classroom, kicked off recruitment for parent body. Plans are progressing for the health clinic to open in the Mayo school.</p>
<p>X. Citywide School Building Committee Report – Mr. Wilcox</p>	<p>Meet next Thursday. Extensive report posted on the website for city wide stewardship group covers major issues in the district (capital improvements etc.).</p>

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<p>XI. Finance & Operations Report – Mr. Matthew Wilcox</p>	<p>Finance and operation meeting will be next Monday</p>
<p>XII. Governance Report Ms. Jackson</p>	<p>Governance committee met with CAPE re updating policies and how to execute them. Policy proposal will be presented to the Board re important issues in the District</p>
<p>XIII. Food Service Task Group Report</p>	<p>Sub-group to address Food gap issues when the school District cannot provide food for students.</p>
<p>XIV Adjournment 008-22</p>	<p>On the Motion by Mr. Wilcox to adjourn the meeting seconded by Dr. Joyner, it was voted by roll call to adjourn the meeting at 8:02pm.</p> <p>Dr. Benitez, yes; Dr. Yarborough, yes; Mr. Wilcox, recused; Mayor Elicker, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes; Dr. Joyner, yes. (Passed)</p>

"A video of this meeting is available the NHPS website, NHPS.net, Public Meeting

*Respectfully Submitted
Myrtis Mason
Recording Secretary*

