



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
New Haven, Connecticut

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

Monday, December 6, 2021

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Mr. Matthew Wilcox, Mr. Larry Conaway  
**Staff:** Dr. Paul Whyte, Dr. Michael Finley, Mr. Thomas Lamb, Ms. Linda Hannans, Mr. Justin Harmon, Attorney Elias Alexiades, Ms. Patricia DeMaio, Ms. Keisha Redd-Hannans, Ms. Ivelise Velazquez, Ms. Michele Bonanno, Ms. Typhanie Jackson, Mr. Marquelle Middleton, Ms. Gemma Joseph Lumpkin, Mr. Joseph Barbarotta, Ms. Cari Strand, Dr. Glen Worthy, Dr. Michelle Kelly-Baker, Ms. Lisa Mack, Rosalyn Diaz-Ortiz, Ms. Ann Brillante  
**Guest:** Mr. A.m. Bhatt, District Arts & Education

Closed Captioner

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

**Recusal:** Mr. Wilcox recused himself from Abstract #1 Title I grant and asked Mr. Conaway to lead discussion and deliberation.

**Summary of Action Item Motions:**

**Recommend Approval of 1 Abstract:** Mr. Conaway recommended moving Abstract #1 Title I grant to the full Board of Education for approval. Mr. Wilcox recused.

**Motion to Recommend Approval of Remaining Action Items:** A motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Mr. Conaway, to **Recommend Approval of 1 Abstract (Title IIA), 20 Agreements and 4 Change Orders approved by Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Conaway, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.

**I. INFORMATION ONLY & ACTION ITEMS:**

**A. INFORMATION ONLY:** Committee members did not have questions about the following items approved by the Superintendent:

1. Agreement with Howard Blas to provide professional development and coaching for teachers at the Yeshiva Gedolah Rabbinical Institute and The Cedar School, from December 14, 2021 to June 25, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$2,296.00.

**Funding Source:**

Title IIA Non Public Carryover Program **Acct. #2511-5722-56905-NP14** (\$2,223.19)  
Title IIA Non Public Carryover Program **Acct. #2511-5722-56905-NP27** (\$ 72.81)

2. Amendment #1 to Agreement #95385167 with Sheryl Sadinsky, to increase funding of \$15,000.00 by \$4,500.00 to \$19,500.00 for 60 additional hours of on-site and virtual coaching and program assessment for School Readiness staff, from December 14, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

**Funding Source:** Quality Enhancement Program **Acct. #2523-5385-56697-0042**

3. Amendment #1 to Agreement #91344249 with Common Ground/New Haven Ecology Group, to increase funding of \$8,000.00 by \$7,000.00 to \$15,000.00 for one additional day of program, weekly, at John C. Daniels School, in order to open the outdoor program to additional grade levels and students, from November 2021 to June 30, 2022.  
**Funding Source:** Interdistrict Magnet Program                      **Acct. #270-433-56697-013**
  
4. Agreement with Interservice Clubs Committee of New Haven, Inc., to provide use of Camp Cedarcrest ropes course, hiking trails and facilities for New Haven Public School students who participate in the Project Pride program, from October 13, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00.  
**Funding Source:** Alliance Program    **Acct. #2547-6107-56694-0000**
  
5. Amendment #1 to Agreement with 3Prime Web Solutions to update funding source account, with no change in total amount.  
**Funding Source:** Alliance Program    **Acct. #25476107-56694**
  
6. Agreement with RYASAP d/b/a Public Allies Connecticut, to provide an AmeriCorp member to facilitate student projects including Guest Artist Program and student voice events at Edgewood School, from September 7, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$16,300.  
**Funding Source:** 2021-2022 Operating Budget                                      **Acct. #190-433-56694-0012**

**B. ABSTRACT:**

1. Title I Part A Grant in the amount of \$12,100,572.00 (\$11,961,705.13 Public/\$138,866.87 Non Public) for July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 was presented by Ms. Redd-Hannans.  
**Funding Source:** Connecticut State Department of Education  
**Recusal:** Mr. Wilcox recused himself from discussion and deliberation on this item. Mr. Conaway moved the Title I Abstract to the full Board of Education for approval.
  
2. Title IIA Grant in the amount of \$1,093,786.00 (\$988,641.82 Public/\$95,144.18 Non Public) for July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 was presented by Ms. Redd-Hannans.  
**Funding Source:** Connecticut State Department of Education

**C. AGREEMENTS:**

1. Amendment #1 to Agreement #95385166 with Michelle Della Camera to increase funding of \$15,000.00 by \$5,850.00 to \$20,850.00 for 78 additional hours of on-site and virtual coaching and program assessment for School Readiness staff, from December 14, 2021 to June 30, 2022 was presented by reviewed by committee in the absence of Ms. Duclos.  
**Funding Source:** Quality Enhancement Program                                      **Acct. # 2523-5385-56697-0442**
  
2. Agreement with Foundation of Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce for the coordination and administration of the Annual New Haven City-wide Science Fair program for New Haven Public School students, from December 14, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$28,000.00 was presented by Ms. Velazquez on behalf of Dr. Therrien.  
**Funding Source:** Priority Program    **Acct. #2579-5319-56694-0000**

3. Agreement with #ThaTeam Podcast, LLC, to provide a program for Hillhouse students who will learn podcast production from producing content, audio engineering, recording and hosting, from December 13, 2021 to June 17, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$23,540.00 was presented by Dr. Worthy.  
**Funding Source:** Title I Program (Pending Receipt of Funds) Acct. #2531-0062-56694-0062
4. Agreement with Devon Alexander, d/b/a Paraclete Partnerships, to provide virtual racial equity coaching and consultation for 27 teachers and 2 building leaders at HSC, from December 14, 2021 to June 30, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00 was presented by Ms. Strand.  
**Funding Source:** Magnet 17-22 HSC Program **Acct. #2517-6255-56694-0066**
5. Agreement with Panorama Education, Inc., to provide districtwide stakeholder climate surveys for students, staff and families, from November 10, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$80,000.00 was presented by Dr. Kelly-Baker and Ms. Ivelise Velazquez. In response to questions, Ms. Velazquez explained that the survey questions are selected by a committee representing each stakeholder group. Due to the pandemic, the survey was not sent out last year. The committee will meet to review questions selected last year and update them as needed.  
**Funding Source:** Title IVA Program **Acct. #2511-6291-56694-0000**
6. Agreement with CV Media, Inc., to provide management of all media-purchases to support the district's 2022 school choice process, including media planning, media contracts, strategic media negotiating and buying, from December 14, 2021 to April 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$85,000.0 was presented by Ms. Bonanno. **Funding Source:** Magnet 17-22 Central Office Program **Acct. #2517-6251-56694-0000**  
**Discussion:** Ms. Bonanno explained that in the past, the District entered into Agreements with individual media/communications companies, a labor intensive process. CV Media is more cost effective as the company has greater purchasing power due to volume. She explained that CV Media will handle purchasing only; content of advertising will be handled by another contractor. A discussion ensued. Mr. Wilcox asked Ms. Bonanno to provide a memo for the Board of Education outlining cost savings from last year.
7. Agreement with Coppola Photography to provide commercial videography and photographs that highlight New Haven Public Schools, to be used in the 2022 Choice & Enrollment catalog, from January 11, 1022 to April 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$33,150.00 was presented by Mr. Middleton.  
**Funding Source:** Magnet 17-22 Central Office Program **Acct. #2517-6251-56694-0000**
8. Amendment #1 to Agreement #91344257 with EBS Health Care, to increase funding of \$89,180.00 by \$68,600.00 to a total of \$157,780.00 to support increased Speech-Language staff person to remain State compliant from November 15, 2021 to June 30, 2022 was presented by Ms. Jackson.  
**Funding Source:** 2021-2022 Operating Budget **Acct. #190-490-56694 (\$89,180.00)**  
ESSER II Program **Acct. #2552-6363-56697 (\$68,600.00)**
9. Amendment #1 to Agreement #95034187 with Center for Pediatric Therapy, to increase funding of \$96,200.00 by \$184,171.00 to \$280,371.00 to provide 2 additional Speech Language staff to cover 5 additional schools from November 15, 2021 to June 30, 2022 was presented by Ms. Jackson.  
**Funding Source:** IDEA Program **Acct. #2504-5034-56903-0000 (\$96,200.00)**  
ESSER II Program **Acct. #2552-6363-56697-0000 (\$184,171.00)**  
**Discussion:** In response to questions about Items #8 and #9, Ms. Jackson explained that there is a continued shortage of speech therapists and an increased need for services. A discussion ensued.

10. Agreement with Arte, Inc., to provide afterschool arts, crafts and physical fitness programming for K-8 students at Family Academy of Multilingual Exploration, from November 29, 2021 to June 3, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00 was presented by Ms. Joseph-Lumpkin  
**Funding Source:** ESSER II Program **Acct. #2552-6363-56697-0041**
11. Agreement with Little Scientists to provide science programming for up to 15 students at Family Academy of Multilingual Exploration, from November 29, 2021 to June 3, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$10,500.00 was presented by Ms. Joseph-Lumpkin  
**Funding Source:** ESSER II Program **Acct. #2552-6363-56697-0041**
12. Agreement with Kidz Kraze to provide after school programming for 75 students from Wexler Grant School and up to 40 students at East Rock School, from December 14, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$64,153.62 was presented by Ms. Joseph-Lumpkin.  
**Funding Sources:**  
 ESSER II Program **Acct. #2552-6363-56697-0032 (\$9,920.00)**  
 ESSER II Program **Acct. #2552-6363-56697-0046 (54,233.62)**
13. Agreement with New Haven Reads Community Book Bank, to provide after school tutoring programs for up to 50 students who are below reading grade level, from November 14, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$49,967.84 was presented by Ms. Joseph-Lumpkin.  
**Funding Source:** ESSER II Program **Acct. #2552-6363-56697-0000**
14. Agreement with Upon This Rock Ministries, to provide an extended hours tutoring, arts and crafts and wellness program for up to 25 students, as well as a once per month Saturday Academy for up to 60 students, from December 13, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00 was presented by Ms. Joseph-Lumpkin.  
**Funding Source:** ESSER II Program **Acct. #2552-6363-56697-0000**  
**Discussion:** Committee members asked Ms. Joseph-Lumpkin to prepare a memo for the Board detailing where students in the program are coming from, in terms of schools and neighborhoods.
15. Agreement with Boy Scouts of America, CT Yankee Council, to operate summer camps and programs for up to 190 students, from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$94,700.00 was presented by Ms. Joseph-Lumpkin. **Funding Source:** ESSER II Program **Acct. #2552-6363-56697-0000**
16. Agreement with Convergence Consulting Group, Inc. to provide leadership development system from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$88,000.00 was presented by Dr. Whyte.  
**Funding Source:** Wallace Foundation **Acct. #19045400-56694**
17. Agreement with Innovated Engineering Solutions to provide engineering services for Boilers at schools, from July 1, 2021 from June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00 was presented by Mr. Barbarotta.  
**Funding Source:** Capital Projects **Acct. # 3C202071-58101 (\$25,000.00)**  
**Funding Source:** Capital Projects **Acct. # 3C202074-58101 (\$25,000.00)**  
**Correction:** Mr. Barbarotta noted a correction to the end date of the Agreement, from June 30, 2021 to June 30, 2022.
18. Agreement with the City of New Haven for New Light Investigations, LLC to provide investigative services, from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, costs for agreement split with City in an amount not to exceed

\$99,000.00 was presented by Mr. Lamb and Ms. Mack.

**Funding Source:** General Account (City) **Acct. # 11331340-56696 (\$49,000.00)**  
**Funding Source:** 2021-2022 Operating Budget (BOE) **Acct. # 19045100-56694 (\$50,000.00)**

**Correction Request:** Mr. Wilcox requested that staff edit the action item listing because it is confusing in that the wording implies that the Board of Education payment portion is \$99,000.00 rather than \$50,000.00. The action item was edited as follows:

**Correction:** Agreement with the City of New Haven for New Light Investigations, LLC to provide investigative services, from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, with costs for Agreement split with the City in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00 for New Haven Board of Education.

**Funding Source:** General Account (City Portion) **Acct. # 11331340-56696 (\$49,000.00)**  
**Funding Source:** 2021-2022 Operating Budget (BOE) **Acct. # 19045100-56694 (\$50,000.00)**

19. Agreement with District Arts & Education to provide one of three semesters for a computer science certification program for 50 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students from December 14, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00 was presented by Ms. Velazquez and Ms. Diaz-Ortiz  
**Funding Source:** ESSER II Program **Acct. #2552-6363-56697-0000**  
 (Discussion - See Below)
20. Agreement with District Arts & Education to provide two of three semesters in a computer science certification program for 50, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12 grade students, from July 1, 2022 to December 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00 was presented by Ms. Velazquez and Ms. Diaz-Ortiz.  
**Funding Source:** ESSER II Program **Acct. #2552-6363-56697-0000**  
**Discussion for Items #19 and #20:** Ms. Velazquez provided an overview of the program offering for students, explaining that Agreement 20 is a continuation of Agreement 19. She explained that the educational program will be offered to Cross students first and then all high school students on a first come-first serve basis to fill the 50 slots. In response to committee questions about how the program will be evaluated, Mr. A.M. Bhatt, CEO of District Arts & Education explained that there are 16 portfolio projects and 16 milestones for completion. A discussion ensued.

#### D. CHANGE ORDER

1. Change Order #1 with Filter Sales and Services to add a funding source for an increase of the contract amount from \$125,000.00 by \$125,000.00 to \$250,000.00 was presented by Mr. Barbarotta.  
**Funding Source:** 2021-2022 Operating Budget **Acct. #19047400-56624 (\$125,000.00)**  
**Funding Source:** Capital Projects **Acct. #3C202074-58101 (\$125,000.00)**
2. Change Order #1 with Goody's Hardware to add a funding source for an increase of the contract amount from \$25,000.00 by \$25,000.00 to \$50,000.00 was presented by Mr. Barbarotta.  
**Funding Source:** Capital Projects **Acct. #3C222261-58101 (\$25,000.00)**  
**Funding Source:** Capital Projects **Acct. #3C202071-58101 (\$25,000.00)**
3. Change Order #1 with M&M Total Construction, LLC to add Montessori School to the contract, with no change in funding amount of \$261,198.00 was presented by Mr. Barbarotta.

**Discussion:** Mr. Barbarotta explained that the expenses are reimbursable.

4. Change Order #1 with Tim's Enterprises LLC to add a funding source for an increase of the contract amount from \$25,000.00 by \$40,000.00 to \$65,000.00 was presented by Mr. Barbarotta.

**Funding Source:** Capital Projects **Acct. #3C222261-58101 (\$25,000.00)**

**Funding Source:** Capital Projects **Acct. #3C202071-58101 (\$40,000.00)**

## II. DISCUSSION:

- **Work Order Report:** Mr. Lamb provided an overview of the work order data base system now in place to track worker order progress. He indicated that the system, once fully operational, will provide productivity reports. A discussion ensued. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**
- **Teacher Retention Data:** Ms. Mack indicated that teacher resignations had not significantly increased from previous years: 17 teachers resigned as of November 2020 and there were 27 resignations as of November 2021. The Human Resource Department is utilizing exit interviews, however, some employee choose not to participate even though the exit interview tool can be anonymous. Ms. Mack noted that there were vacancies in Special Education and substitutes, and that there is a national shortage of teachers in certain areas. Committee members discussed the validity of exit interviews and interpretation of data. Ms. Redd-Hannans cautioned that the staff must be careful about interpretation of data and that it is important to also look at schools that have high retention rates as well as schools with turnover. A discussion ensued. Mr. Wilcox asked that staff prepare a written report that provides details. He agreed that goal was to work to retain staff. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**
- **Transportation Update and Financial Implications:** On advice of Counsel, Mr. Lamb indicated that the discussion should be held during executive session. Mr. Wilcox and Mr. Conaway concurred that the executive session should be held during a full Board of Education meeting rather than a committee meeting, so that all members could participate in the discussion. Mr. Wilcox will forward the request for executive session for the Board agenda. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**
- **Series 3000 Policies:** Mr. Wilcox reported a report will be provided at the next meeting. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**
- **F&O Calendar for 2022:** Mr. Wilcox noted that the draft calendar reflects the schedule the standard for Finance & Operations meetings. Ms. DeMaio noted that the committee calendar must be approved with all meeting calendars at the Board of Education meeting. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**

**Adjournment:** Mr. Conaway noted that this is his last meeting as a member of the Finance & Operations Committee. He expressed his appreciation for work with the committee and staff during his tenure. Mr. Wilcox and staff thanked Mr. Conaway for his service. A motion by Mr. Conaway, seconded by Mr. Wilcox to **adjourn the meeting at 6:36 p.m.**, passed by Roll Call Vote: Mr. Conaway, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.

Respectfully submitted,  
Patricia A. DeMaio