



**NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

CONNECTICUT  
 Board of Education Committee  
 Regular Meeting Minutes  
 December 13, 2021 via Zoom

<p><b>I. Called to Order</b></p>	<p>The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by Ms. Rivera</p>
<p><b>Attendees:</b></p>	<p>Present: Ms. Yesenia Rivera, President; Mr. Matt Wilcox, Vice-President; Mayor Justin Elicker, Dr. Tamiko Jackson-McArthur; Mr. Larry Conaway, Mr. Darnell Goldson, Mr. Fore.</p> <p>Absent: Dr. Edward Joyner, Ms. Roman</p>
<p><b>II. Pledge of Allegiance</b></p>	<p>Mr. Conaway led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.</p>
<p><b>III Public Participation</b></p>	<p>Channel Name: BOE TV        You Tube Link: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gEY46ioJn9U">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gEY46ioJn9U</a>        Public Participations (4 participants)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teresa Johnson</li> <li>• Robert Simon</li> <li>• Kirsten</li> <li>• Tony Criscuolo</li> </ul>
<p><b>IV. Action Items</b>        i.        197-21        Approval of Minutes</p>	<p><b>On the Motion by Mr. Conaway to approve the minutes of November 22, 2021 second seconded by Mr. Wilcox.</b></p> <p><b>Mr. Conaway, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Goldson, yes; Dr. Jackson-McArthur, yes; Mr. Fiore, yes. (Passed)</b></p>
<p>ii        198--21        Personnel Report        Dr. Tracey</p>	<p>On the Motion by Mr. Goldson to amend the Personnel Report to include Ms. Shafau Dabre - Southern CT University, MA, Grade 6, to Brennan Rogers Magnet School. General Funds (Salary - \$79,838.00, Step O, 13 years' experience, effective date 12.12.21 to the Blue Sheet, seconded by Mr. Wilcox.</p> <p><b>Mr. Conaway, yes; Mr. Goldson, yes; Dr. Jackson-McArthur, yes; Mr. Fiore, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes. (Passed)</b></p> <p><b>Three administrators will retire this year, also, 12 teachers and 2 para-professionals will resign.</b></p>



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

<p>iii <b>199-21 Finance and Operations Mr. Wilcox</b></p>	<p>On the Motion by President Rivera to approve Title I Part A Grant in the amount of \$12,100,572.00 for July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 seconded by Mr. Conaway.</p> <p><b>Mr. Conaway, yes; Mr. Goldson, yes; Dr. Jackson-McArthur, yes; Mr. Fiore, yes; Mr. Wilcox, recused; Mayor Elicker, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes. (Abstract 1 Passed)</b></p>
<p><b>200-21</b></p>	<p>On the Motion by Mr. Wilcox to approve item 18, Agreement New Life Investigations, Title IIA Grant in the amount of \$1,093,786.00 for July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 seconded by Mayor Elicker.</p> <p>Discussion Concern was raised how was the decision arrived at to hire the above company to do the investigations as well as the nature, management and supervision of work to be completed. Attorney Alexaides in clarification, stated the work will be assigned by the BOE and the City of New Haven and supervised by Human Resources and Director of Labor Relations respectively. Investigations will be directly related to employee misconduct for both entities and the funds will be utilized for this purpose.</p> <p><b>Mr. Conaway, yes; Mr. Goldson, yes; Dr. Jackson-McArthur, yes; Mr. Fiore, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes. (Abstract 2 Passed)</b></p>
<p><b>201-21</b></p>	<p>On the motion by Mr. Wilcox to approve 19 Agreements and 4 Change Orders seconded by Mr. Conaway.</p> <p><b>Mr. Conaway, yes; Mr. Goldson, yes; Dr. Jackson-McArthur, yes; Mr. Fiore, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes (Passed)</b></p>
<p><b>V. Student's Report Mr. Fiore</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Students are concerned about the unavailability of water for drinking in schools</li> <li>2. Ongoing drug problem usage and smell in bathrooms and hallways of most high schools in NHPS.</li> <li>3. Recent unanimous threat towards NHPS has caused increase, severe anxiety among students and as a result, students anticipated a mental health day off</li> <li>4. Students expressed concern of inadequacy, inefficiency and limited security in schools</li> <li>5. Metal detector checks are not thorough</li> </ol>
<p><b>VI. Teaching and Learning Report</b></p>	<p>No. Report</p>



**NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

<p><b>VII. Superintendent's Report</b></p>	<p>Dr. Tracey highlighted School District's mission, vision, and 5 priority areas as focal points for the District.</p>
<p><b>Budget Development Calendar 2022 – 2023</b></p>	<p>Operations Hundreds of students and parents passed through the Que House. Books and snacks were given to K4 families and students as gifts. Congratulation extended to Gemma Josephs and team for organizing.</p>
<p><b>COVID/Test and Staff – Dr. Paul Whyte COVID -19 Update in Schools</b></p>	<p>Upcoming budget deficit projected for the upcoming year. This information will be shared with at the next F &amp; O meeting and the Board.</p>
<p><b>Water Bottles</b></p>	<p>Increased cases of COVID-19 observed after thanks-giving in schools. Entire classes have been suspended in some schools (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades) and remote learning activated.</p>
<p><b>School Threats</b></p>	<p>Testing participation continues. Some schools testing have begun with approximately 325 tests administered. Weekly tests are encouraged. Reminder to families – if household members are being tested, students or siblings should remain home. Water filling stations is scheduled for delivery to the schools on February 1<sup>st</sup> 2022.</p>
<p><b>Teacher Retention</b></p>	<p>Difficulty was experienced as threats towards the different schools in the District became a crisis. Perpetrators were identified which caused Wilbur Cross School to be on lock-down and school closing. Threats flooded the schools with racial slur and arrests were made by the police.</p>
<p><b>Transportation Update Mr. Lamb</b></p>	<p>Analysis on teacher's retention resulted that between 2018 and 2021, approximately the same number of teachers left the District for varied categories and reasons. District continues make this a concern and pledge to do all to retain our staff. Dr. Tracey reported that various school Districts have offered salary increases and as a result the NHPS teachers are being poached. She encouraged the Board to enter into upcoming salary negotiations with an intent offer salary increase</p>
	<p>Monitored driver shortage and bus performance to achieve stable driver accommodation. Progress made in driver acquisition. 1 new hire to commence today. 15 passenger vans have been purchased by First Student bus company to provide additional transport. Routes have been delegated to serve. Bonuses to recruit new applicant continues. Customer service telephone lines established by First Student.</p>



**NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

	<p>Billing and Financial Implication: Received first billing for services. Billing rate for 2019- 2020 – 3% increase year over year. Another 3% increase will be experience for the upcoming year.</p>
<p><b>VIII. President’s Report – Ms. Yesenia Rivera</b></p>	<p>Proposed calendar dates for Board and committee meeting for review presented.</p> <p>On the Motion by Mr. Goldson to amend the agenda to add the 2022 – 2023 proposed Board of Education and Committee meeting dates for review seconded by Mr. Wilcox</p>
<p>202-21</p>	<p><b>Mr. Conaway, yes; Mr. Goldson, yes; Dr. Jackson-McArthur, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes (Passed)</b></p>
<p>203-21</p>	<p>On the Motion by Mr. Conaway to accept the proposed calendar dates 2022 – 2023 Board of Education and Committee meetings seconded by Mr. Wilcox.</p> <p><b>Mr. Conaway, yes; Mr. Goldson, yes; Dr. Jackson-McArthur, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes (Passed)</b></p>
<p><b>IX Head Start Report – Mr. Matthew Wilcox</b></p>	<p>Committee will meet this Thursday at 5:00pm</p>
<p><b>X. Citywide School Building Committee Report – Mr. Matthew Wilcox</b></p>	<p>Committee met last Thursday. Information available on website which gives update on major projects in the District</p>
<p><b>XI. Finance &amp; Operations Report – Mr. Matthew Wilcox</b></p>	<p>Report from Mr. Lamb re work order system received. Progress has been made so building leaders will find it more effective to</p>
<p><b>XII. Governance Report Dr. Tamiko Jackson-McArthur</b></p>	<p>Recognized the effort of the Governance team as they worked on the implementation of different policies (equity, code of conduct, procurement, gender affirming, opt out policies etc. Appreciation was expressed for team work and dedication as well as all who supported the committee to achieve its success.</p>
<p><b>XIII Food Service Task Group Report – Mr. Conaway</b></p>	<p>Mr. Conaway expressed gratitude to the team, community, Board members and others for their hard work and support from all for their dedication to as well as to everyone who supported the committee.</p>



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

<p>XIV.</p> <p><b>204-21</b></p> <p>Executive Sessions pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 1-200(6)(B)</p> <p>XV. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 1-200(6)(E) and § 1-210(b)(10)</p> <p>Re: strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims or pending litigation and to discuss exempt written communications and the information contained therein, privileged by the attorney-client relationship concerning transportation agreement,</p>	<p><b>On the Motion by President Rivera,</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. To enter into Executive Session pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 1-200(6)(B) re: strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims or pending litigation.</b></li> <li><b>2. To discuss exempt written communications and the information contained therein, privileged by the attorney-client relationship concerning transportation agreement, pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 1-200(6)(E) and § 1-210(b)(10) seconded by Mayor Elicker.</b></li> </ol> <p>Invited Participants Dr. Tracey, Mr. Lamb, Miss Hannans, Mr. Harmon, Mr. Finley and Attorney Alexiades was invited to be a part of the sessions.</p> <p><b>Mr. Goldson, yes; Dr. Jackson-McArthur, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; President Rivera, yes; Mr. Conaway, yes. (Passed)</b></p>
<p><b>XV</b></p> <p><b>Adjournment</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>205-21</b></p>	<p><b>No votes were entered in the Executive session.</b></p> <p><b>On the Motion by Mr. Goldson to adjourn the meeting seconded by Mr. Conaway, it was voted by roll call to adjourn the meeting at 8:33pm.</b></p> <p><b>Mr. Conaway, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Goldson, yes; Dr. Jackson-McArthur, yes. (Passed)</b></p>

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

*Respectfully Submitted  
Myrtis Mason  
Recording Secretary*