



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
New Haven, Connecticut

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

Monday, February 1, 2021

MINUTES

VIRTUAL MEETING

**Present:** Mr. Matthew Wilcox, Ms. Yesenia Rivera, Mr. Larry Conaway

**Staff:** Dr. Iline Tracey, Mr. Phillip Penn, Attorney Elias Alexiades, Ms. Patricia DeMaio, Dr. Paul Whyte, Ms. Keisha Redd-Hannans, Ms. Michele Bonanno, Ms. Jessica Haxhi, Ms. Elizabeth Gaffney, Mr. David Diah, Ms. Gemma Joseph Lumpkin, Mr. Arthur Edwards, Mr. Joseph Barbarotta, Ms. Typhanie Jackson, Ms. Gilda Herrera, Mr. Michael Gormany

**Closed Captioner**

**Call to Order:** Mr. Wilcox called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

**Summary of Motions:**

- **Motion to Recommend Approval of Action Items:** After presentation of the following Action Items, a motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Ms. Rivera, to **Recommend Approval of 10 Agreements**, passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Mr. Conaway, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.
- **Motion to Adjourn:** A motion by Ms. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Conaway to adjourn the meeting at 6:05 p.m., passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Mr. Conaway, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.

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

**A. INFORMATION ONLY:** The Superintendent approved the following Information Only Items.

1. Agreement with Dr. Delores Cole to provide leadership and instructional coaching for administration, leadership team and staff at Wexler Grant School, from February 8, 2021 to June 30, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$11,880.00.  
**Funding Source:** Commissioner’s Network – Wexler Program      **Acct. #2547-6293-56694-0032**
2. Agreement with NaTakallam, Inc., to provide 13 online presentations on Immigration and Life Stories of Refugees for students in grades 8-12, from February 9, 2021 to June 1, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$2,145.00 was presented by Ms. Haxhi, who answered committee questions about the agency and program.  
**Funding Source:** Qatar Arabic Grant Program      **Acct. #2528-6290-56694-0000**
3. Agreement with Yale University – Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence, to provide a six week interactive RULER professional development program for staff at Brennan Rogers School, from

February 8, 2021 to March 19, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$8,000.00.

**Funding Source:** School Improvement Carryover Program **Acct. #2531-6311-56694-0021**

## B. ACTION ITEMS:

1. Agreement with Cooperative Education Services (CES), to provide onsite direct cognitive and academic testing, rating scales assessment and social emotional rating scales assessments from February 8, 2021 to June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$37,500.00 was presented by Ms. Jackson. **Funding Source:**IDEA Program **Acct. # 2504-5034-56903-0000**
  
2. Amendment #1 to Agreement #96293541 with Center for Collaborative Classroom to change the start date of service from September 15, 2020 to August 31, 2020 with no change in funding amount was presented by Mr. Diah.  
**Funding Source:** Commissioner's Network – Wexler Program **Acct. #2547-6293-56697-0032**
  
3. Agreement with Connecticut Science Center to provide coaching support and a Next Generation Science Standards workshop to teachers at Davis and King-Robinson schools, from February 8, 2021 to June 30, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00 was presented by Ms. Bonanno who answered questions about the program and contractor. She explained that the contractor was selected when the grant was written and approved.  
**Funding Source: Magnet 17-20 Davis Carryover Program**  
**Acct. # 2517-6261-56694-0009** \$20,000.00  
**Magnet 17-20 King Robinson Carryover Program**  
**Acct. # 2517-6263-56694-0030** \$20,000.00
  
4. Amendment #1 to Agreement #96273555 with Eli Whitney Museum to increase the number of sessions at Wexler Grant School from 24 by 18 to 42; to provide 72 sessions at Brennan Rogers School and, to increase total funding of \$16,830.00 by \$17,440.00 to \$34,270.00 was presented by Ms. Joseph-Lumpkin who also provided an overview of after school programs and outreach efforts.  
**Funding Source: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Carryover Program**  
**Acct. # 2579-6345-56697-0032 Wexler** \$ 990.00  
**Acct. #2579-6345-56697-0032 Wexler** \$ 5,940.00  
**Acct. # 2579-6280-56694-0009 Davis** \$ 990.00  
**21<sup>st</sup> Century Program**  
**Acct. #2579-6325-56697-0032 Wexler** \$ 6,930.00  
**Acct. #2579-6273-56694-0009 Davis** \$ 7,920.00  
**Acct. #2579-6354-56697-0021 Brennan** \$11,500.00
  
5. Agreement with Ready, Inc., to provide academic, enrichment and basic need support for students at Wexler Grant School, from February 9, 2021 to June 30, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 was presented by Ms. Joseph-Lumpkin. **Correction:** Ms. Joseph-Lumpkin noted an error in the Memo for the length of time and weekly amount. However, the time and dollar amount for the Agreement is correctly stated.  
**Funding Source: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Carryover Program**  
**Acct. #2579-6345-56694-0032** \$ 8,750.00  
**Extended School Hours Program**  
**Acct. #2579-5326-56694-0000** \$11,250.00

6. Agreement with Connecticut Education Network (CEN) to provide Internet Services to the district from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$48,000.00 was presented by Ms. Herrera.  
**Funding Source:** 2020-2021 Operating Budget                      **Acct. #**190-47200-52265
7. Agreement with Total Communication, Inc. to provide a wireless upgrade to 15 schools from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$1,645,056.70 was presented by Mr. Penn on behalf of Ms. Herrera.  
**Funding Source:** 2020-2021 Capital Budget                      **Acct. #**C202075-58704
8. Agreement with Total Communications, Inc. to upgrade outdated cabling within Nathan Hale School from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$74,153.35 was presented by Mr. Penn on behalf of Ms. Herrera.  
**Funding Source:** 2020-2021 Capital Budget                      **Acct. #**C202075-58704
9. Agreement with State Education Resource Center to provide professional development and coaching to all Head Start staff on understanding the impact of race and culture on self, students, school environments, teaching practices and student achievement, from February 8, 2021 to June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$31,023.00 was presented by Ms. Gaffney who answered Committee questions.  
**Funding Source:** Head Start Program                      **Acct. #**2568-5315-56697-0443
10. Amendment # 1 to Agreement #96105571 with Frontline Technologies, LLC, to correct funding amount of \$61,775.71, increasing by \$5,100.00 to \$66,875.71 to reflect one time implementation fee for first year, as disclosed in the Agreement, with no change in funding Source was presented by Mr. Penn.  
**Funding Source:** Alliance - Operations Program                      **Acct. #**2547-6105-56697-0000

II. **DISCUSSION:** The discussion item order was changed from the Agenda to reflect availability of presenters.

- **Local 217 Unite Here Bargaining Agreement Update:** Mr. Gormany reported that the bargaining Agreement expired in June 2020 and was in negotiations. The negotiations focused on two areas: wage and health insurance. He explained that unlike Paraprofessionals, the Food Service workers do not have step increases built into their Agreements and did not have opportunity for increased hourly rates. In addition, Local 217 was under a different 3<sup>rd</sup> party health insurance plan than other bargaining units. Union and Management addressed these issues and reached a tentative four year Agreement, 2021-2024, with the following changes: General wage increase of 2.5% retroactive to July 2020 for year 2021; 2.75% for year 2022; 3.0% for year 2023 and 3.0% for year 2024. The wage increase costs will be offset by new health insurance options which lowers the City and District employer contribution, as well as the employee's contribution, while still providing comparable levels of coverage. Mr. Gormany and Mr. Penn reported that the Agreement will be presented to the Finance & Operations Committee and Board of Education for approval in an upcoming meeting. **No motion was made and no vote taken.**
- **Fuss & O'Neill Update:** Mr. Barbarotta reported that all required changes and recommended changes identified by the Fuss & O'Neill report have been implemented for safe reopening of K-8 schools. He

reported that work is currently underway on High Schools. A discussion ensued. **No motion was made and no vote taken.**

- **2021-2022 Budget Preview:** Mr. Penn reviewed the 2021-2022 General Fund Budget Initial Outlook report, noting that the budget is \$8.9 million above the approved budget for 2020-2021. He reviewed budget detail noting reasons for salary increases, as well as proposed new spending, including new spending that could be funded by grants. Mr. Penn also noted that the closure of West Rock and Quinnipiac schools were factored into the budget. He reviewed a proposed equity spending model for schools based on neighborhood versus magnet schools distribution. Building leaders will have the opportunity to review the model and provide feedback or different perspectives. A discussion ensued. **No motion was made and no vote taken.**

**Adjournment:** A motion by Ms. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Conaway to adjourn the meeting at 6:05 p.m., passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Mr. Conaway, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Patricia A. DeMaio