



**New Haven Board of Education
Governance Committee**

**Monday, March 7, 2022
5:30 p.m.**

Minutes

Meeting convened 5:36 pm

**Attendees - Typhanie Jackson, JoAnne Wilcox, Jasmine Oang, Abie Benitez,
Gemma Joseph Lumpkin, Cameo Thorne, Matt Wilcox**

1. Reviewed Minutes from February 22nd Meeting

- a. The Committee approved the minutes.

2. Old Business/New Business

a. CAFE Policy Manual

- i. Ms. Jackson is in the process of acquiring the CAFE Policy Manual to continue updating NHPS policies. Ms. Jackson is also working with the webmaster to update the already passed policies on the NHPS website.

3. Transgender/ Nonconforming Youth guidance document update

- a. Ms. Jackson and Ms. Oang have completed a draft of the Guidance document. Ms. Jackson presented the document to the NHPS Executive team and implemented their suggestions and comments to include policies regarding shower use in the document. They will be meeting with the LGBTQ Taskforce on March 22 to include their feedback and concerns in the finalized draft.

4. Update BOE Bylaw 9160-Student Board Representatives

- a. Mr. Wilcox gave a quick update stating that the BOE Bylaw on Student Board representatives is still being worked on.

5. Re-Entry from Suspension Draft Proposal

- a. Ms. Joseph Lumpkin presented a draft of the Re-Entry from Suspension Plan. The plan will be centered around building a community. Ms. Thorne has been helping Ms. Joseph Lumpkin with this aspect.
- b. The Restorative Practices Theoretical Framework focuses on creating a process for students to return to school and reconnect them within the community. It is centered around building an inclusive community.
- c. This plan is intended not to be an alternative to suspension, but rather a resource to connect schools, families, and students in the process.

- d. There are five steps:
 - i. Student Identification/Referral
 - ii. Family Outreach - schools cannot do this work alone, family connections are vital
 - iii. Community Building circles and Problem-Solving Circles as key strategies for re-entry
 - 1. Family Only Circles
 - 2. Student Only Circles
 - 3. Student and Family combination circle
 - iv. School Welcoming Students - students will be encouraged to participate in a re-entry circle that welcomes them back to the community in addition to a student accountability conference
 - 1. Needed resources:
 - a. Bus transportation provided for students
 - b. Packed lunches
 - c. Parent sign-off
- e. Ms. Joseph Lumpkin hopes to present this plan on a BOE agenda and meet with principals to present this plan.
- f. Ms. Jackson suggested including a similar process for the return of a child that has been expelled.
- g. The committee discussed concerns of time constraints and staffing.
- h. Ms. Wilcox added that community building should be the goal from the beginning, and not just during re-entry. She also suggested including affinity groups to familiarize groups with this practice so that they are ready to incorporate this process.