



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
New Haven, Connecticut

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

Monday, May 17, 2021

MINUTES

VIRTUAL MEETING

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

**Staff:** Dr. Iline Tracey, Mr. Phillip Penn, Mr. Thomas Lamb, Dr. Paul Whyte, Ms. Ivelise Velasquez, Ms. Keisha Redd-Hannans, Ms. Typhanie Jackson, Attorney Elias Alexiades, Ms. Michelle Bonora, Ms. Patricia DeMaio, Ms. Sue Peters, Ms. Denise Duclos, Ms. Gilda Herrera, Mr. Marvin Bivens, Ms. Cheryl Alexander, Ms. Hyclis Williams, Ms. Lisa Mack

**Closed Captioner**

**Call to Order:** Mr. Wilcox called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.

**Recusal:** Mr. Wilcox recused himself from discussion and voting on Abstract #3 School Based Health Center Grant and Agreement #5 with Clifford Beers. He asked Ms. Rivera to lead the discussion and voting on these items.

**Summary of Motions:**

**Motion to Amend Information Only Items:** A motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Ms. Rivera to amend the Information Only section of the Action Items to include an Amendment to Agreement with Tinley, Renehan & Dost LLP, passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Conaway, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.

**Motions to Recommend Approval of Action Items:**

1. A motion by Ms. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Conaway to **Recommend Approval of Abstract #3** for School Based Health Center Grant **and Agreement #5** with Clifford Beers, passed by Roll Call Vote: Mr. Conaway, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Wilcox Recused.
2. A motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Ms. Rivera to **Recommend Approval of 3 Abstracts** (#1, 2, and 4), **14 Agreements** (#1-4 and #6 -15) **and 1 Contract**, 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 at 6:26 p.m. passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Conway, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.

**I. INFORMATION ONLY & ACTION ITEMS:****A. INFORMATION ONLY - Superintendent Approved:**

1. Amendment to Agreement with Tinely, Renehan & Dost was presented by Attorney Alexiades.  
**Discussion:** Mr. Wilcox asked Attorney Alexiades to provide the back- up documentation for the Board of Education demonstrating a decrease in the invoice amount.

Committee members did not have questions about the following Information Only items:

2. Agreement with Stephen Updegrave, MD, to consult with district wellness initiatives and medical clinical consult and compliance oversight as Medical Director for Riverside Academy School-based Health Clinic, from August 20, 20221 through June 30, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$8,000.00.  
**Funding Source:** School Health Center Program **Acct. #** 2512-5124-56694-0000
3. Agreement with Dr. Richard DeVecchio to serve as Dental Director for the NHPS School Dental Program and to provide on-site dental care to enrolled students at Barnard, King Robinson, Troup, Hill Central, Truman and Brennan Rogers schools, from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00 and half of reimbursement payments minus 8% billing service fee.  
**Funding Source:** Medicaid Program **Acct. #** 2534-5408-56694-0000

**B. ABSTRACT**

1. New Haven Adult Education & Continuing Education Grant, in the amount of \$4,800,000.00 for July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 was presented by Ms. Bonora.  
**Funding Source:** Connecticut State Department of Education
2. Literacy Volunteers of Greater New Haven Grant, in the amount of \$43,603.00 for July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 was presented by Ms. Bonora who explained that the District serves as a pass through for this grant to the Literacy Volunteer organization.  
**Funding Source:** Connecticut State Department of Education
3. School Based Health Center Grant, in the amount of \$1,344,594.00 for July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 was presented by Ms. Peters. **Note:** Mr. Wilcox recused himself from discussion and vote on this Abstract.  
**Funding Source:** Connecticut State Department of Public Health
4. Oral Health Grant, in the amount of \$50,000.00 for September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2022 was presented by Ms. Peters. **Funding Source:** Connecticut Department of Public Health

**C. AGREEMENTS:**

1. Agreement with National SAM Innovation Project, (SAM), to provide a cloud-based software of tools and resources, including professional development support for school leaders, from July 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020 in an amount not to exceed \$9,900.00 was presented by Dr. Whyte who explained circumstances for the late submission.  
**Funding Source:** Wallace Foundation Grant Program **Acct. #**190-454-00-56694

2. Amendment # 1 to Agreement # 96276583 with June R. Levy, to change funding acct. # from School Improvement Grant – Celentano Program, Acct. #2531-6276-56694-0048 to School Improvement Grant – Celentano Program, Acct. # 2531-6297-56694-0048, with no change in total funding amount of \$20,000.00 was presented by Mr. Penn on behalf of Ms. Grace Nathman.  
**Funding Source:** SIG – Celentano Program **Acct. #2531-6297-56694-0048**
3. Amendment to Grant Agreement with Connecticut Office of Early Childhood to increase funding of \$2,163,101.60 by \$10,429.50 to \$2,173,531.10 for the term of the grant, from October 5, 2020 to June 30, 2022 was presented by Ms. Duclos.
4. Amendment # 2 to Agreement # 91331335 and Agreement # 96108553 with Area Cooperative Educational Services, (ACES), to split funding source between Alliance Program, Acct. #2547-6108-56694-0000 and 2020-2021 Operating Budget, Acct. # 190-410-00-56694 as follows with no change in total funding amount of \$1,479,075.00 was presented by Ms. Jackson.  
**Funding Sources:** Alliance Program **Acct. # 2547-6108-56694-0000** (\$1,458,764.00)  
2020-2021 Operating Budget **Acct. # 190-410-00-56694** (\$ 20,311.00)
5. Agreement with Clifford Beers Guidance Clinic to provide two licensed Social Workers to School Health Centers at Clinton Avenue and Fair Haven schools, from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$83,958.00 was presented by Ms. Peters. **Note:** Mr. Wilcox recused himself from discussion and voting on this Agreement.  
**Funding Source:** School Health Center Program **Acct. # 2512-5124-56694-0000**
6. Agreement with Medical Billing of CT, to process and submit all dental and medical claims for reimbursement and resolve and resubmit denied claims, in the amount of \$2.99 per claim and 8% of gross insurance reimbursement services, from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 was presented by Ms. Peters.  
**Funding Source:** Medicaid Budget **Acct. # 2534-5408-56694-0000**
7. Agreement with Cornell Scott Hill Health Center to provide medical, behavioral and office staff and licensure compliance for 7 school based health centers, Roberto Clemente, King Robinson, Truman, Troup, and Lincoln Bassett, from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$402,400.00 was presented by Ms. Peters.  
**Funding Source:** School Health Center Program **Acct. # 2512-5124-56694-0000**
8. Agreement with Fair Haven Community Health Center to provide medical, behavioral and office staff, and licensure compliance for 3 DPH funded school based health centers, Fair Haven School, Clinton Avenue School and Wilbur Cross High School; 1 non-DPH funded clinic at John Martinez School and 5 non-DPH funded school dental clinics at John Martinez, Clinton Avenue, Fair Haven, Columbus and Bishop Woods schools from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$195,843.00 was presented by Ms. Peters.  
**Funding Source:** School Health Center Program **Acct. # 2512-5124-56694-0000**
9. Agreement with Yale New Haven Hospital to provide medical, behavioral and office staff, and licensure compliance to 4 DPH funded school based health centers, Mauro-Sheridan, Barnard, Hillhouse and Troup, and for 1 non-DPH funded site at Career High School, from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$372,289.00 was presented by Ms. Peters.  
**Funding Source:** School Health Center Program **Acct. # 2512-5124-56694-0000**

10. Second Option to Renew Agreement with H. D. Segur Insurance to provide Student Accident Insurance coverage to NHPS, from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$51,000.00 was presented by Mr. Penn on behalf of Mr. Carl Carangelo  
**Funding Source:** 2021-2022 Operating Budget **Acct. #** 190430-56683
11. Agreement with Silver, Petrucelli & Associates to provide architectural services for the replacement of the roof of the Foote building at the Sound School in and amount not to exceed \$18,900.00 was presented by Mr. Penn.  
**Funding Source:** Non-Priority School Construction Grant - Pending Receipt of Funds
12. Non-Financial Agreement with Yale New Haven Health for the use of Strong School Lot 130 Orchard St for Covid Testing Center from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 was presented by Mr. Lamb.
13. Agreement with Erate Online, LLC for Consulting Services to secure federal Erate funding for Network refresh and internet service discounts from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00 was presented by Ms. Herrera.  
**Funding Source:** 2021-2022 Operating Budget **Acct. #**19047200-56694
14. Agreement with PowerSchool Group, LLC for the district Student Information System yearly renewal including backup and disaster recovery for PS Cloud Services, maintenance/support, and licensing, from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$155,526.90 was presented by Ms. Herrera.  
**Funding Source:** 2021-2022 Operating Budget **Acct. #**190-47200-56694
15. Agreement with Verizon Wireless for Telecom Network Services – PRI and Long Distance Services under State Contract 17PSX0072 from July 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00 was presented by Ms. Herrera.  
**Funding Source:** 2021-2022 Operating Budget **Acct.#**19047200-52260

#### D. CONTRACTS:

1. Change Order #1 to Contract # 50527B-1-5 with Lior Excavating, LLC for On-Call Sidewalk Repairs to increase funding amount of \$25,000.00 by \$1,375.08 to \$26,375.08 was presented by Mr. Bevin on behalf of Mr. Joseph Barbarotta.  
**Funding Source:** Capital Projects **Acct. #**3C20-2071-58101 (\$25,000.00)  
**Funding Source:** Capital Projects **Acct. #**3C20-2083-58702 (\$1,375.08)

#### II. DISCUSSION:

- **April 2021 Budget Report:** Mr. Penn reviewed the Monthly Financial Report, as posted on the website. He noted higher than expected Special Education tuition costs; increased utility expenses due to in-person instruction; lower than expected other contractual services, higher certified salaries and, increased part-time payroll costs as schools returned to in person instruction. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**
- **Proposed 2021-2022 General Fund Budget Mitigation Plan:** Mr. Penn reviewed strategies to mitigate the budget deficit which included aggressive leveraging of State grants in conjunction with the

new Math rollout; management of turnover and new hire salaries; and, ARP grant funds, some of which can be used to offset operations. The projected deficit after mitigation efforts is \$2,054,748.00, which can be further mitigated without programmatic or staff cuts. A discussion ensued. Mr. Wilcox noted that this would be Mr. Penn's last budget presentation. He and committee members thanked Mr. Penn for his service. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**

- **American Rescue Plan Grant:** Ms. Redd-Hannans presented a report detailing fund spending strategies and focus. A discussion ensued. Ms. Redd-Hannans answered Committee member questions about how staff will include stakeholders in new focus group efforts. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**
- **Food Service Deficit Update:** Mr. Penn noted the memo from Mr. Michael Gormany, posted on the website, which provides a detailed explanation as requested by the Board of Education. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**
- **Series 3000 Policies:** Mr. Penn reported that the district has an arrangement with CABA for review of policies. Committee members discussed the review process and agreed to modify drafts before sending to CABA. Mr. Wilcox asked that the topic remain on the next meeting agenda so that the committee can discuss establishment of a subcommittee to perform a page by page review of policies. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**
- **Pay Equity Committee:** Mr. Conaway, chair of the committee, reported on the committee's work to date and introduced subcommittee members Ms. Williams, Ms. Alexander and Ms. Mack. Ms. Williams reviewed a presentation focused on equity issues related to Para Professionals which focused on 1) competitive salaries, 2) providing an annual stipend to Paras for additional work; 3) a freeze on medical insurance; and, 4) Regrouping. Mr. Conaway reported that these changes would cost \$500,000 to \$600,000 and he proposed funding these changes through the budget surplus. A discussion ensued. Mr. Wilcox recommended that the subcommittee begin conversations with the union and administration regarding Para equity. Mr. Conaway asked that the Board clarify the subcommittee charge if non-union equity issues will be addressed. Mr. Wilcox noted the Federal Minimum Wage increase might begin to address equity issue for the non-union employees but that the Board would clarify next steps. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**

**Adjournment:** A motion by Ms. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Conaway to adjourn at 6:26 p.m. passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Conway, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. DeMaio