



**NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**CONNECTICUT**

Board of Education Meeting Minutes  
January 9, 2023 via Zoom

I. Called to Order	The meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm by Mayor Justin Elicker who officiated the election of officers for the New Haven Board of Education Executive Committee for the year 2023.
Board Members Present	Ms. Yesenia Rivera, President. Mr. Matthew Wilcox, Vice President Dr. Edward Joyner, Secretary Mayor Justin Elicker Dr. OrLando Yarborough III Mr. Darnell Goldson Dr. Abie Benitez
Board Members Absent	Ma'Shai Roman, Student Board Member Mr. Dave Cruz-Bustamante, Student Board Member
Others Present	Dr. Iline Tracey – Superintendent, NHPS Attorney Alexaides – Corporation Counsel, City of New Haven Attorney Sierra-Milan
II. Pledge of Allegiance	Dr. Joyner led the pledge of allegiance
III. Election of Board of Education Officers i. President  001-23	Mayor, Justin Elicker opened the floor for nominations to elect officers for the New Haven Board of Education for year 2023. A quorum was established.  <b>On the motion by Dr. Yarborough, seconded by Dr. Joyner to nominate Ms. Yesenia Rivera as President for the New Haven Board of Education for year 2023.</b>  <b>Dr. Joyner, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Dr. Benitez, yes; Dr. Yarborough, yes; Mr. Goldson, no vote. (Passed)</b>
ii. Vice President . Secretary 002-23	<b>On the motion by Dr. Benitez, seconded by Dr. Yarborough to nominate Mr. Matthew Wilcox as Vice President for the new Haven Board of Education for the year 2023.</b>  <b>Dr. Joyner, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Dr. Benitez, yes. Ms. Rivera, yes. Mr. Goldson, no vote. (Passed)</b>



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<p>003 - 22</p>	<p><b>On the motion by Ms. Rivera, seconded by Dr. Benitez to nominate Mr. Matthew Wilcox as Secretary for the new Haven Board of Education for the year 2023.</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Joyner, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Dr. Benitez, yes. Ms. Rivera, yes. Mr. Goldson, no vote. (Passed)</b></p>
<p>XVI. 004-23</p> <p>Discussion and Possible Action resulting from Executive Session regarding NHFT negotiations concerning compensation for Teachers in Before and After School Programs.</p> <p>005-23</p> <p>007-23</p>	<p>Mayor Elicker relinquished the chair to Ms. Rivera, President, New Haven Board of Education for 2023</p> <p><b>On the Motion by President Rivera, seconded by Mr. Wilcox to go into Executive Session regarding New Haven Federation of Teachers re negotiations concerning compensation for teachers before and after school program. Dr. Tracey, Attorneys Alexiades and Sierra-Nilan was invited to the session.</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Joyner, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Dr. Benitez, yes; Dr Yarborough, yes; Mr. Goldson, no vote (Passed)</b></p> <p>No votes taken out of executive session.</p> <p><b>On the Motion by President Rivera, seconded by Mayor Elicker to approve a Memorandum of Agreement between the Board of Education and NHFT regarding compensation for before and after school programs.</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Joyner, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Dr. Benitez, yes; Dr Yarborough, yes; Mr. Goldson, yes.</b></p> <p><b>On the Motion by Mayor Elicker, seconded by Dr. Joyner to authorize the Superintendent to sign the Memorandum of Agreement between the New Haven Board of Education and the New Haven Federation of Teachers.</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Joyner, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Dr. Benitez, yes; Dr Yarborough, yes; Mr. Goldson, yes.</b></p>
<p>IV. Public Participation</p>	<p>Channel Name: BOE TV You Tube Link: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qEY46ioJn9U">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qEY46ioJn9U</a></p>



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	<p><u>Testimonies</u></p> <p>Anna Marvin, Para-professional NHPS and student – Concerned for teacher shortage crisis, retention, recruitment. and certification.</p> <p>Darnell Goldson stated that he had not received the following requested information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Score sheet re approved cleaning contract</li> <li>• FOI emails between Board members and Communications Director which directly related to silencing Mr. Goldson.</li> <li>• Briefing of student transfers at Brennan Rogers School</li> </ul> <p>Suggested Board meetings be Hybrid.</p>
<p>V. 008-23 i. Approval of Board Minutes December 12, 2022 and December 22, 2022-Special</p> <p>009 - 23</p>	<p><b>On the Motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Mayor to approve the minutes for December 12, 2022.</b></p> <p><u>Amendments</u> Minutes should reflect Mayor Elicker in attendance</p> <p><b>Dr. Joyner, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Dr. Benitez, yes; Dr Yarborough, yes; Mr. Goldson, yes. (passed)</b></p> <p><b>On the Motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Dr. Joyner to approve the special Board minutes for December 22, 2022.</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Joyner, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Dr. Benitez, abstain; Dr Yarborough, yes; Mr. Goldson, yes. (passed)</b></p>
<p>ii. 010 - 23 Personnel Report – Dr. Iline Tracey</p>	<p>Dr. Tracey reported that there were 10 teacher resignations and 5 appointments. She expressed gratitude and commended the retirees for their longevity to support the District’s students. Dr. Tracey implored all to submit ideas for recruitment and retention.</p> <p><b>On the Motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Dr. Joyner to approve the action items of the Personnel Report.</b></p> <p>Discussion - Teacher shortage. Suggestion – exit interview when staff resign. Recruitment continues by staff.</p> <p><b>Dr. Joyner, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Dr. Benitez, yes; Dr Yarborough, yes; Mr. Goldson, yes. (passed)</b></p>



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<p>iv.</p> <p>011- 23 Finance and Operations Committee – Mr. Matthew Wilcox</p> <p>012 - 22</p>	<p><b>On the Motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Dr. Yarborough to amend the agenda to add Little Scientist agreement to provide a science exploration program for students at Brennan Rogers school from January 10 to June 30, 2023 in an amount not to exceed \$32,400.</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Joyner, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Dr. Benitez, yes; Dr Yarborough, yes; Mr. Goldson, No. (passed)</b></p> <p><b>On the Motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Mayor Elicker to approve Agreements 2, 3, 7 and 8 as listed on the agenda.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreement (2) with New Haven Collaborative to provide the Pathways/Riverside Collaborative Program to “at risk” students, from August 30, 2022 to June 30, 2023, in an amount not to exceed \$375,000.00.</li> <li>• Agreement (3) with Grinand Bare, LLC to provide student leadership programming and coaching for students at High School in the Community, from January 20, 2023 to June 30, 2023, in an amount not to exceed \$22,500.00</li> <li>• (7) Amendment #1 to Agreement #96399110 with Footsteps2Brilliance, Inc., to expand the Scope of Service to provide platform access to 250 students and 12 teachers participating in the NHPS Saturday Academy at Wexler, Clemente and Fair Haven schools, and to increase funding of \$80,843.00 by \$18,500.00 to \$99,343.00.</li> <li>• (8) Amendment #1 to Agreement #96363133 with Little Scientists to expand the Scope of Service to provide an afterschool program for 15 students at Hill Central School and 15 students at Nathan Hale School, and to increase funding of \$19,800.00 by \$18,900.00 to \$38,700.00</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion</b> – How these programs are evaluated  <b>Suggestion</b> - Collect data from contracts we already have in place to evaluate programs their effects as well as outcomes.  <b>Response:</b> Evaluation data was reviewed and will be reviewed in the future and is available for access.</p> <p><b>Dr. Joyner, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Dr. Benitez, yes; Dr Yarborough, yes; Mr. Goldson, No.</b></p>
<p>013 - 23</p>	<p><b>On the Motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Dr. Yarborough to approve the agreement with Littles Scientist to provide a science exploration</b></p>



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014-23	<p><b>program for students at Brennan Rogers school from January 10 to June 30, 2023 in an amount not to exceed \$32,400.</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Joyner, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Dr. Benitez, yes; Dr Yarborough, yes; Mr. Goldson, No.</b></p> <p><b>On the Motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Dr. Yarborough to approve 2 abstracts and remaining 7 agreements as listed on the agenda.</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Joyner, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Dr. Benitez, yes; Dr Yarborough, yes; Mr. Goldson, No.</b></p>
V. Student's Report	See attached.
VI. Teaching and Learning Report Dr. Edward Joyner	<p><u>Plans</u> Revised/amend policies for the 6000 Series - create a task list and timeline to accomplish by March 2023.</p>
VII. Facilities Naming Committee Report –Dr. Edward Joyner	<p>Dr. Benitez Amend policy to have the language change highlighted in red, to clarify existing report.</p>
VIII. Superintendent's Report Dr. Tracey	<p>Pilot for Math 6 through 8 is ongoing. Materials for reading pilot have been received. Teachers involved will receive teacher Staff were hired to do outreach for student absenteeism. Suggestion: Develop a benchmark/rubric for Superintendent's report.</p>
	<p>Mr. Goldson objected to President's Rivera's ruling – that he was out of order in comments re Superintendent's report. Appeal and roll call vote requested.</p> <p><b>Vote:</b> Dr. Joyner, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Dr. Benitez, yes; Dr Yarborough, yes; Mr. Goldson, No. (Chair's decision presided)</p>
IX. President's Report Ms. Yesenia Rivera	<p>Search team for Superintendent meeting postponed and will be-scheduled. Additional details will also be received from search firm and forwarded to members.</p>
X. Head Start Report Mr. Matthew Wilcox	<p>Head Start enrollment increased with further projection. Funded enrollment – 531 slots. Current enrollment 427 as of December 8. Forty-Seven partial applications are pending.</p>
XI. Citywide School Bldg. Report Mr. Matthew Wilcox	Date of next committee meeting - January 12, 2023 at 4:30pm.
XII. Finance & Operations Report Mr. Matthew Wilcox	<p>Committee met.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reviewed forms and documentation to reflect staff change requirements.</li> </ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data for next fiscal year, 2023-2024 budget process will be received. At next meeting then presented at next full Board session.</li> <li>• Team worked progressively with union to define gap for staff needs and quantity to service students</li> <li>• Updated Series 3000 policy as well timeline</li> </ul>
<p>XIII. Governance Report – Dr. Abie Benitez FIRST READING – Policies: 5112(a) Age of Attendance, 5131.1 Bus Conduct, 5131.7(a) Weapons and Dangerous Instruments Policy, 7551</p>	<p>Committee teams continue to update Series 5000, 3000 and 6000 polices.  Committee worked on the following policies and first reading was presented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy 5112(a) Age of Attendance</li> <li>• Policy 5131.1 Bus Conduct</li> <li>• Policy 5131.7(a) Weapons and Dangerous Instruments</li> <li>• Policy 7551 Name and Rename Facilities. Facilities naming committee gave recommendations.</li> </ul>
<p>XIV. Food Service Task Group Report – Dr. OrLando Yarborough</p>	<p>December break and pop-up food pantry report will be forward to the committee the Task Force group.</p>
<p>XVII. 015 – 23 Adjournment</p>	<p><b>On the Motion by Dr. Joyner, seconded by Dr. Yarborough the meeting was adjourned by roll call at 7:25pm.</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Joyner, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Dr. Benitez, yes; Dr Yarborough, yes; Mr. Goldson, yes.</b></p>

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

*Respectfully Submitted*  
*Myrtis Mason*  
*Recording Secretary*