



**NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT**

**Minutes – Board of Education Meeting – September 28, 2020**

The meeting was called to order at 5:34 p.m. by Mrs. Yesenia Rivera, President. The meeting was held via Zoom.

**Present:** Mrs. Y. Rivera, President; Mr. M. Wilcox, Vice-President; Dr. E. Joyner, Secretary; Mr. L. Conaway, Dr. T. Jackson- McArthur, Mayor J. Elicker, Mr. D. Goldson, Dr. Tracey, Mr.

**Absent:** Ms. L. Arouna, A. Fiore

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Dr. Joyner led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Mrs. Rivera reminded Board members to observe the meetings norms, raise your hand and she will call on you to speak only after you have been recognized by the Chair and mute yourselves so that we are not hearing your background when you are not speaking.

Mrs. Rivera mentioned that she may have to leave the meeting at some point due to a family emergency and so she wants to move some items around. She wants to start with the minutes and then the President’s report, the Superintendent’s Report, specifically Item #5 and then the Governance Report.

Mrs. Rivera noted that regarding the approval of the minutes and because there are so many she feels it is going to take a while so, in the interest of time, please review the minutes and email Dr. Joyner your corrections and then Dr. Joyner can email Atty. Alexiades and give Ms. McHugh the corrections and we can discuss the corrections at the next meeting.

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**President’s Report**  
*Pay Equity Committee*

Mr. Goldson called a point of order. Mrs. Rivera recognized him and he commented that he thought we were going to approve the minutes first.

Mrs. Rivera explained to him that she said to please send your corrections to Dr. Joyner and we will deal with them at the next meeting in the interest of time because there are so many. The way we moved the agenda around is the President’s Report, the Superintendent’s Report, specifically item #5, and then Governance.

Mr. Goldson noted that they still have not approved the June 22<sup>nd</sup> minutes and asked when they are going to be added to the agenda. Mrs. Rivera asked Atty. Alexiades if he has any idea of when Ms. McHugh is going to have those ready for us.

Atty. Alexiades suggested that we follow the same procedure that you just outlined. The corrections should be submitted to the Board’s Secretary, Dr. Joyner, and then he can send them to the recording secretary, with a copy to me, so that we can get those in order.



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As Board members will recall, we have spent a lot of time on the minutes at each meeting so this is his recommendation for a more efficient process to try to gather all the corrections in advance and have corrected draft minutes for the meeting in which to act on.

Mr. Goldson remarked for the record, that he has submitted his recommended changes twice, once in an email and once at a meeting and he doesn't intend to do it a third time.

Dr. Joyner commented that we should be more compassionate tonight because our Chair is dealing with a very serious personal tragedy, so let's try to be on our best behavior and show some compassion.

Mrs. Rivera reported on the Equity Committee and noted it is just a reminder of who the subcommittee members are. The members are Mr. Phil Penn, Ms. Lisa Mack, Mr. Larry Conaway, Ms. Sequella Coleman, SAA, Ms. Hyclis Williams and Ms. Cheryl Alexander from the Paraprofessionals Union. She never heard back from the Food Services Union President, Ryan DeCaprio, so she will reach out to him again as a reminder. Meetings are to convene after October 1<sup>st</sup>. This will be a subcommittee to Finance & Operations. The meetings will begin in the next week or two.

*Tinley, Renehan & Dost, LLP Investigation*

Mrs. Rivera remarked in terms of the Tinley, Renehan & Dost, investigation, she would like to make a motion to postpone the agenda item regarding this discussion to a certain date of October 13<sup>th</sup>. She added this agenda item because at a previous meeting it was postponed to a certain date which is today. She has not received the attorney's report and since it involves an ongoing investigation, which is still unsubstantiated allegations, she would like to move to postpone the discussion until October 13<sup>th</sup> and upon the conclusion of the investigation, it may then be appropriate to report to the Board, possibly in an Executive Session under #12006A.

Dr. Jackson-McArthur said to Mrs. Rivera that whatever is going on she is praying for her and she hopes that all at this meeting will be mindful and that everything works out for her.

Dr. Jackson-McArthur also spoke to the matter at hand and commented that it seems like it has been months since we were notified of this and either there is something there or there isn't. We can't have people continuously trying to dig up something on someone. She feels we should address this sooner rather than later and she doesn't feel we should keep dragging this out. She wanted to know how much we have already spent on this.

Mrs. Rivera answered that she doesn't have an expenditure report on that at this moment. All she knows right now is that the attorney has been reaching out to different Board members to ask questions. It is still an ongoing investigation and it is still as far as she knows unsubstantiated and in order to protect both Mr. Goldson and whoever made the allegations.



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Dr. Joyner called a point of order, Mrs. Rivera recognized him. Mr. Goldson then called a point of order and Mrs. Rivera recognized him. Mr. Goldson commented that a Board member doesn't have the right to question whether or not a fellow member can ask questions about an item on the agenda that we are voting a motion on. Mr. Goldson remarked that this constant interruption of speakers using a point of order is getting really annoying.

Dr. Joyner advised according to Roberts Rules of Order on a point of order: "the member will state his point of order; the member will be able to state how the rules were broken and the Chair rules. If the Chair rules that the point of order is well taken, we move on." There was a motion on the floor and we ended up having a discussion on the very item we wanted to table and that is out of order. Mr. Goldson interrupted and said that is not out of order. Mrs. Rivera told Mr. Goldson to please mute himself unless he is recognized by the Chair. Dr. Joyner continued to explain. The motion was not to discuss the item but to postpone it. Dr. Jackson-McArthur said for her it is a matter of clarity so that she can vote on it. Dr. Joyner called a point of order and Mrs. Rivera recognized him. He explained the rule in more detail. Mrs. Rivera ruled on the point of order as well taken.

Mr. Goldson remarked that this motion and this item is specifically directed towards him and this is the second time this has happened, on this Board, where I have been attacked because of my political view and my advocacy and my outspokenness and it's causing me some real consternation and some real problems in my home. This time it is causing more problems because he has not been told what he is being accused of. For the record, Mr. Goldson stated that this is causing him some serious issues, physically, mentally and psychologically and to have this hanging over him for the last several months and for you to suggest that you don't know what it is about is silly. If you don't know put the Superintendent on because she is the one who contracted with the contractor to do this investigation in the first place. To continue to postpone this and have it hanging over his head, an accusation that he doesn't know anything about is unfair to him. He went on at length.

Dr. Joyner commented that we can either rule that the point of order is well taken or not well taken. If it is well taken, it means that we move on the motion or they appeal it. This is way out of line. Mrs. Rivera again told Mr. Goldson to mute himself. Dr. Joyner explained you rule one way or the other and if they appeal and they get the majority vote and once the vote is made we are obligated as a Board to follow the ruling. This is way out of line. Mrs. Rivera, again, told Mr. Goldson to mute himself. Mrs. Rivera said we will move forward with the vote.

Mr. Goldson called a point of order. Mrs. Rivera recognized him and he stated that she is calling a point of order to stop the debate. He commented that it is fair and right for Board



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members to ask why you are tabling this. Mrs. Rivera stated she has said why it is being tabled. Mr. Goldson continued his comments.

Dr. Jackson-McArthur asked if they could get some preliminary information about what the investigation is. We should know much more than we do. She would feel a lot better with tabling this if she knew more about it. We should know the premise and the players to make an informed decision.

Dr. Joyner asked if the point of order is taken or well taken. Mrs. Rivera said that the point of order is well taken and we will move on and vote. Dr. Joyner told Dr. Jackson-McArthur that her point of order is inappropriate at this time. Mrs. Rivera explained to her that the point of order is well taken so the discussion ends and we move on to vote. For the record, Dr. Jackson-McArthur asked Atty. Alexiades for his recommendations.

Atty. Alexiades commented that his recommendations are consistent with what Madam President already said and Dr. Joyner’s point of order has merit because what we heard was extensive discussion on the substance of the underlying agenda item rather than on the motion to postpone the agenda item to a certain date.

**678-20  
Approve to Postpone  
Discussion re Tinley,  
Renehan & Dost  
Investigation**

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**On the motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Wilcox, it was voted by roll call to approve to postpone the discussion re the Tinley, Renehan & Dost Investigation to a certain date of October 13<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Goldson, no; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Mr. Conaway, no; Dr. Jackson, abstained; Mayor Elicker, yes; Dr. Joyner, yes; Mrs. Rivera, yes. Motion passed.**

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Mrs. Rivera stated we will go back to the regular agenda after this report and at some point she is going to ask Mr. Wilcox to take over so that she can leave.

**Superintendent’s Report**

*School-based Health Clinic Proposal – presented by Ms. Sue Peters*

Ms. Peters commented that she sent a request and the materials to Board members to have some discussion and approval from the Board to allow our School-Based Health Centers and Dental Clinics to see students in person, during remote learning only, and she gave several reasons for that. Tonight she is going to share a few more comments that weren’t in the materials so that the Board could have a better understanding of what they are talking about.

Ms. Peters remarked that they have many people on-call from our community health partners, Yale New Haven Hospital, Cornell Scott Health Center, Fair Haven Community Health Center, Clifford Beers Clinic and our Dental Director, etc., to respond to any questions Board members may have.



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Ms. Peters remarked that our 16 School-Based Health Centers are staffed by providers from our Community Health Partners, the ones I just mentioned, and the New Haven Health Department also oversees one School-Based Health Center at Brennan and our Dental Clinics are staffed by New Haven Public School dental hygienists and our Dental Director who provides dentistry.

Since the pandemic forced the schools to close in March and switch to remote learning, our school's health center staff has been continuously seeing many of their student caseloads through Telehealth especially for behavioral health visits and they are currently holding Telehealth visits for our enrolled students. This is literally hundreds to thousands that we have in our district that are enrolled in our School-Based Health Centers. This has proven extremely beneficial to our students and families that are dealing with increased stress and anxiety during the shutdown and during the last few months when they weren't able to see or get preventative care in many community agencies.

Since early August, our partners and the Board of Ed have been collectively preparing the School Health Centers and the Dental Clinics to open safely for in-person visits for the start of the school year. Ms. Peters explained in detail the preventive measures and protocols that they have put in place for physical visits.

Ms. Peters commented that once they learned that New Haven Public Schools were going to operate remote learning for ten weeks they continued the Telehealth visits, but recognized the harsh reality that without access to physical visits they couldn't give needed immunizations and perform physical exams to our students who require it for school entry, which the health centers have historically done every September and October to bring hundreds of our students into compliance and allowing them to attend school and also to protect the school community from disease outbreaks.

Ms. Peters commented that Telehealth, while it's good for some things, many of our families still have trouble accessing Telehealth or they don't have the capability to access it. She went on to say that since most primary care and dental practices are not scheduling preventative visits for many months, we know that the need for these visits has drastically increased as will the number of students being non-compliant for school entry. The DPH came out with several recommendations which are ongoing. The last one she had from this summer from the commissioner shows that the COVID 19 pandemic has resulted in sharp declines in outpatient pediatric visits and fewer vaccine doses being administered, leaving children at risk for vaccine preventable diseases. Ms. Peters continued in detail.

Ms. Peters commented that our Dental Director, Dr. DelVecchio, described that his practice is seeing far more dental problems among kids because regular care has been delayed for months. Ms. Peters remarked that the CDC and DPH has also stressed that this year is



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particularly important for everyone to receive a flu vaccine as the COVID pandemic continues with real threats for sudden outbreaks as cooler weather approaches and people congregate indoors. Ms. Peters also noted that they received Executive approval from NHPS to see students in-person during remote learning as well as the commitment from our partner agencies to prepare for in-person visits in August should schools still be in remote learning and she explained the protocols and procedures that are in place for these in-person visits.

Ms. Peters in closing stated that these are her additional comments, and their request is to allow the School Health Centers and the Dental Clinics to see students, by appointment only, for preventative care while schools are in remote learning mode once sites are fully equipped and ready, so that students can get the immunizations that they need.

Mr. Goldson thanked Ms. Peters for her memo to them. It answered all his questions and made it easy for him to make a decision.

Mr. Conaway also thanked Ms. Peters for her report. He asked if staff has visited the sites and has she gone to visit them herself and she answered, yes she has. She explained this phase to him in detail.

Mr. Conaway asked if they will be doing COVID testing as well. Ms. Peters said, yes, she has reached out to all the agencies. Yale-New Haven and Cornell Scott already have many testing facilities in the community. However, they are not going to be doing testing in the School-Based Health Centers for a number of reasons. One is that we are only allowed, per our grant requirements, enrolled students in the clinics and if they see one of our students who are enrolled and they want a COVID test they will order the test and when they get the results and then share and work with the family. She explained this phase in detail.

Ms. Peters mentioned that Fair Haven Community Health Center said that they would be doing testing in the School-Based Health Centers for staff and students.

Mr. Conaway thanked Ms. Peters for her thorough report.

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Mr. Goldson commented that he would move on the resolution suggested by the Superintendent with the caveat that as long as the safety protocols they have listed are in place. Dr. Joyner asked if that includes dental clinics as well, and the answer was, yes.

Dr. Joyner restated the motion: to reopen in-person health services in School-Based Health and Dental Clinics during remote learning with the underlying support of the protocols mentioned.



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Dr. Jackson-McArthur thanked Dr. Peters. She said these are vital services for the people who use these clinics, they are their lifeline. She wanted to know if they are making sure that the school buildings have passed the safety checklist. Ms. Peters wanted to know which checklists she was referring to and Dr. Jackson-McArthur said the facilities checklist. Ms. Peters commented, Mr. Pinto could speak to that better than she can.

Mr. Goldson noted that that was his concern as well. He read the document and he was impressed with the protocols that were listed. Ms. Peters assured him that those protocols have been created by the healthcare professionals involved in this project.

Mr. Wilcox noted that he is abstaining himself from voting on this item because his spouse works for Clifford Beers.

**679-20  
Approve to Reopen  
School-Based  
Health & Dental  
Clinics**

**On the motion by Mr. Goldson, seconded by Dr. Joyner, it was voted by roll-call to approve to reopen in-person health services in School-Based Health and Dental Clinics during remote learning with the underlying support of the protocols mentioned. Mr. Goldson, yes; Mr. Wilcox, abstained; Dr. Jackson-McArthur, yes; Mr. Conaway, yes; Dr. Joyner, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Mrs. Rivera, yes. Motion passed.**

*Superintendent's Personnel Report*

Dr. Tracey requested approval of the Personnel Report.

**680-20  
Approve Personnel  
Report**

**On the motion by Dr. Joyner, seconded by Mr. Wilcox, it was voted by roll-call to approve the Superintendent's Personnel Report.**

Mr. Goldson stated that he wants to vote on the bluesheet but he has to abstain from the transfer of Paraprofessional, Shana Gaither. For the record, he is not voting on that item but he is voting for the rest of the report.

Atty. Alexiades commented that for a point of clarity if there is one motion to approve he doesn't think a member can abstain from one item. Mr. Goldson agreed and said he would abstain from the entire report.

**680-1-20  
Approve Personnel  
Report**

**On the motion by Dr. Joyner, seconded by Mr. Wilcox, it was voted by roll-call to approve the Superintendent's Personnel Report as presented. Mr. Goldson, abstained; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Dr. Jackson-McArthur, yes; Dr. Joyner, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Mr. Conaway, Mrs. Rivera, yes. Motion passed.**

*New Haven's Teacher of the Year and Semi-Finalist for  
Connecticut's Teacher of the Year for 2020-2021*

Dr. Tracey introduced Ms. Kristen Mendoza, New Haven's Teacher of the Year and a Semi-Finalist for Connecticut's Teacher of the Year for 20-21. Dr. Tracey remarked that



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Ms. Mendoza believes teaching is not just a service professional job but it is the pillar of society. Kristen has dedicated herself to students, colleagues, and the community in a selfless manner. Her passion for human life coupled with love for teaching and learning is the heartbeat of this district. Dr. Tracey congratulated Kristen on all of her accomplishments especially on being New Haven Public Schools 2020-21 Teacher of the Year and a semi-finalist for the Connecticut Teacher of the Year Award.

Mr. Goldson called a point of order. He asked Dr. Tracey to explain to them how a teacher is chosen as a teacher of the year. Dr. Tracey explained the process in detail.

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Ms. Mendoza thanked Dr. Tracey and the Board for this honor. She learned early in her teaching career to value teamwork. She proceeded to talk about teamwork at its best. She commented that it is hard to believe that just a year ago at Wilbur Cross we found ourselves responding to an unprecedented emergency when our student, Mario, was taken into immigration custody. We found ourselves in a scary fight that caught the attention of the national media and went on for months and ultimately we did get Mario released from immigration detention because of our team; the principal, the administrators, teachers, students and many community partners. We had all been working at some level before the crisis happened trying to support undocumented students, so we had a network that was ready to jump into action. We have staff members with the necessary language skills and trust within the immigrant community, so Mario and his relatives could openly tell us what was really going on.

Ms. Mendoza went on to say that the students mobilized and organized and showed courage and passion. We were supported by Connecticut Students for a Dream, New Haven Legal Assistance Assoc., the Immigrant Bail Fund and many others every step of the way. Ms. Mendoza remarked, most importantly, we had strong leadership coming from our principal, Edith Johnson, from our Assistant Principal, Brianna Day, as well as our entire administrative team who showed they were not afraid of a little publicity and cared about doing the right thing. We got Mario home and two months later we found ourselves in a pandemic. It was quite a school year for us. Ms. Mendoza remarked that she believes we need to keep the spirit of teamwork alive in spite of the isolation and social distancing that's going on right now. She continued to present her thoughts and suggestions in detail on how to engage English Learners more fully. She read her wish list to Board members.

Ms. Mendoza thanked the Board for listening to her wish list and for this honor, she is very proud to be the Teacher of the Year and she is very optimistic about our City and the future we can build for all of our students.

Dr. Tracey commented now you see why she is the Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Rivera congratulated her. Mayor Elicker congratulated Ms. Mendoza and asked her to share with them the four items she referred to at the end of her presentation. Mayor Elicker again



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congratulated her and commented that it is a hard time to be a teacher. Mr. Conaway also congratulated Ms. Mendoza.

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*Monthly Financial Report presented by Mr. Phil Penn, COO*

Mr. Penn presented what they now think are the final numbers for the fiscal 2019-20 year. It reflects what is in, what they call, the pre-audit report that the City has. We did wind up with a surplus for the full year of \$865. Mr. Penn explained how this came about. A lot of hard work went into that, influenced by the pandemic. He commented on special funds and pointed out two items that came in at the end of the year, Youth Services Prevention Grant and ESSER, which is CARES Act money. He explained this in detail. Mr. Penn commented that this was the key driver for us to hire a grant writer and he has been very happy with what she has done in the first two weeks on the job. He anticipates her bringing in a lot more funding.

Mr. Penn continued to explain the remainder of the budget in detail including transportation and teacher payroll figures.

For the record, Mr. Goldson referred to a comment made by Dr. Jackson-McArthur that the surplus came on the backs of our students and our lower paid employees. Mr. Goldson went on to talk about this year's budget specifically teachers' salaries, administrative hiring, etc. He also pointed out that he sees that paraprofessionals are the same as last year and he asked if it is because we have less paras or we are not giving raises to paras this year. Mr. Penn remarked we have anticipated a 2½ percent increase for paras and maintenance. Mr. Goldson continued to question Mr. Penn on related items and Mr. Penn answered in detail.

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*Fall Sports Update presented by Mr. Eric Patchkofsky, Athletic Director*

Mr. Patchkofsky referred to the packet he sent to Board members which indicated the sports they are playing and the ones they are not. They are going to be playing soccer on a modified schedule and those games will be played at Bowen Field with no fans and Cross Country is also going on at this time.

We will be doing swimming competing in virtual meets against other schools and officials will keep score. Volleyball is outside only and we are hoping to get some outside games between Southern and Branford. Our football teams are doing conditioning and practicing. The league has put together a proposal for flag style football that is recommended by the Department of Public Health. When he receives the proposal he will send it on to their public health team and once they vet it, he will give the Board an update.

Dr. Tracey thanked Mr. Patchkofsky for his report. Dr. Tracey shared some good news that they received from the State Department of Education that we are getting an additional



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\$2million from them that is going to allow us to get controllers on our buildings so that we can have proper internet access for all of our families. Dr. Tracey gave this report in detail.

At 6:55 Mrs. Rivera announced that she is going to leave and she asked Mr. Wilcox to please take over the meeting. Mr. Wilcox agreed and asked Dr. Tracey to continue.

*Remote Learning Updates*

Dr. Tracey called on Ms. Typhanie Jackson to give an update on bringing students back into 11 buildings. Ms. Jackson remarked that we began with 125 student's total, 5 students per school to start. She continued to explain this phase of the plan in detail.

Dr. Michele Sherban then reported on attendance for the first week of remote school. We had over 5,000 students that had not connected in any way. In the third week of school that was reduced to about 1,500 students and she explained in detail.

Ms. Jemma Joseph-Lumpkin reported on reaching out to disengaged students. They have been doing a lot of in-person home visit outreach. She noted, as Dr. Sherban reported, a lot of the issues are connectivity and they are making sure that they work on those issues. They are also working with families that are struggling with managing at this point and we are reaching out to them to give them support. She continued in more detail.

Dr. Tracey remarked that they are dealing with a lot and at this stage we have reached out to a lot of families and the schools are also helping out in reaching out to families. She continued to explain that if New Haven stays steady as it is today, we will be able to move seamlessly into a hybrid model. She continued to explain what is being done to make sure the schools are safe to move into and in October they will be doing another inspection. This is a concerted effort with the City of New Haven and the Department of Public Health to make sure that we are ready to welcome our students back in a timely manner.

Dr. Jackson-McArthur began a discussion regarding teachers getting COVID testing, who would be in charge, etc., and she wanted to know how many teachers have participated. Dr. Velazquez explained this process. Dr. Bond commented that once they start formalized testing with our partners, including the school-based health centers, they will be having aggregate data to share, and that will be forthcoming. Dr. Jackson-McArthur thanked Director Bond and noted that type of data is important to her.

Dr. Jackson-McArthur then asked a question about the learning hubs that are throughout the City and wanted to know how they are communicating with parents. Dr. Tracey and Mayor Elicker joined this discussion and it continued at length.

Mr. Goldson followed up on Dr. Jackson's question on testing and he explained his concerns. Dr. Tracey, Director Bond, Ms. Typhanie Jackson and others joined this discussion and answered questions to the best of their ability. Mr. Goldson also asked questions about the



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SATs and PSATs and Ms. Jackson answered to his satisfaction. Ms. Jackson continued to give a more in-depth report on the SATs and PSATs.

Dr. Jackson-McArthur wanted to know what will children whose families choose to continue with virtual learning do when the district goes hybrid. Dr. Ivelise Velazquez explained that in the hybrid model people that are in remote and in-person get the same instruction. Dr. Velazquez explained in detail and answered Dr. Jackson-McArthur's questions fully and to her satisfaction.

Mr. Wilcox commented that he would be supportive if this topic was on the next agenda.

*Update re Status on U.S. Department of Education  
Magnet School Assistance Program Grant*

Ms. Michelle Bonanno gave an update on this item. She remarked that after our special meeting with the Board they followed up directly with OCR and submitted our new set of assurances that we agreed to move forward with. Those were accepted and we received email notification from the Office of Civil Rights that the assistant secretary has certified New Haven's funding and has sent it to the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education to go through administrative processes to release the funding to New Haven. This afternoon she had correspondence with the program office regarding the release of the funding to us and that process is not complete. Ms. Bonanno noted that we know that this administrative process often takes a few weeks and they do understand they had to do it with urgency. They have confirmed that the notification needs to be received by September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Bonanno went on to say the official award letter indicating the funding has not been released to New Haven but we are under the impression that it is just simply going through the administrative process. Our attorney has been informed and is on top of it and sent additional correspondence this afternoon. We should have something in our inbox on Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, in order to reconcile this completely.

Mr. Conaway commented he did have two questions on the report for Typhanie Jackson. He asked if all of the 11 schools opened. The answer was yes. Are we all set with the protective gear for all the students and teachers? The answer was yes. The next question was do we have the volunteers for the SAT and PSAT and are we still planning to open all the high schools. Ms. Jackson answered yes. One of the schools did call her about proctoring support and that is being addressed. This discussion continued. Dr. Whyte added that we are making contingencies to have enough proctors across the City.

**“This discussion can be viewed in its entirety on NHPS.net, Public Meetings”**

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Dr. Jackson-McArthur excused herself from the meeting because of a family emergency.

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**Public Participation**



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Name \* Markiel Emory

Email \* [markielemonist@gmail.com](mailto:markielemonist@gmail.com)

Comments \*

It concerns me that reopening before the 10 weeks continues to be pushed by some people at this point. We see other districts beginning to catch up to us! We were the trendsetters, ahead of the curve! The BOE was able to let us get a head start on this and we're working through the issues, and yet there is a persistent drive by some to put us in reverse. Whether the remote start was right at the beginning or not (it was right btw coming from a scientist), why would the trends now change our course of action whatsoever? Returning people to buildings will cause more disruption in learning, not less. And when the districts around us with BOE's less prudent than our own finally realize they should have been remote too and rush to go remote, are we going to be sending kids into buildings? This continued push to reopen prematurely is dangerous and worrying.

Name \* Tricia Palluzzi

Email \* [tpalluzzi@comcast.net](mailto:tpalluzzi@comcast.net)

Good Evening,  
Are there dates in place for the 10 week remote learning? What happens after the 10 weeks - do we go hybrid, do you reassess? How far ahead will you let the parents know, so we can acclimate to a new school schedule?  
Regarding special education, after the two week period of the first group of students being back in class, what are the next steps? What is the date that will be evaluated?  
Thank you.

Ms. Anne Marie, East Rock PreK parent, talked about her daughter's teacher having to leave and they got a new teacher and now she has a third teacher and it is her understanding that she is only an assistant teacher. Her concern is that her original teacher's job wasn't posted and she would like to know why. Dr. Whyte told her to email him so that he can assist her. Ms. Claudette Kidd, Clifford Beers, we are starting community hubs and earlier I heard that the New Haven Board of Ed and the City of New Haven are doing their own things separately; she was under the impression that we were working together as a community. Dr. Whyte suggested she send him an email and he will give it to the appropriate person; Rev. Steven Cousins, pastor, thanked them for the dedication and effort they are putting into opening our schools and keeping our children safe. He thanked them and encouraged them to keep doing what they're doing and he really appreciates their hard work on these issues.

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### Finance & Operations Committee Report

Mr. Wilcox reported that in their packets and posted on the website are the Information Only Items approved by the Superintendent. Mr. Wilcox also noted that the meeting was held on Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup>. The minutes outline some of the things that were



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mentioned earlier. We are going to get some information related to the Corp Counsel reimbursement expenses and the Jeffrey Bagnold expense at our next meeting. Staff is researching the exact answers to make sure we are passing on definitive information.

**681-20**                    **On the motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Mr. Conaway, it was voted by roll call to approve the following FINANCE AND OPERATIONS-RELATED ITEMS as noted on the amended agenda:**

**ABSTRACTS**

**682-01**                    **Child Day Care Grant**, in the amount of \$1,033,933.07 for July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021

**AGREEMENTS**

**683-20**                    An agreement with American Evaluation Services, Inc. to conduct the annual evaluation of  
**Federal Magnet**                    the Federal Magnet School Assistance Program grant from October 12, 2020, 2020 to  
**School Grant**                    June 20, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.

**684-20**                    An agreement with Sugehitted Rodriguez, LCSW to provide social and emotional supports  
**Sugehitted Rodriguez**                    for students attending St. Martin de Porres Academy, from September 22, 2020 to June  
18, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$25,258.

**685-20**                    An agreement with Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company to provide professional  
**Houghton Mifflin**                    development sessions to staff at Wexler Grant School on the Math Solutions program, from  
**Harcourt Publishing**                    September 15, 2020 to March 31, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$32,400.

**686-20**                    An agreement with Frontline Education to provide software modules from Frontline  
**Frontline**                    Technologies to aid in recruiting of certified staff and to move to electronic processing of  
**Technologies**                    new hire forms, from October 1, 2020 to June 30, 2024 in an amount not to exceed  
\$61,776 FY2021; \$82,593.90 FY22; \$86,723.59 FY2023 and \$91,059.78 FY 2024.

**687-20**                    An agreement with Fuss & O’Neill for building reopening consulting services related to  
**Fuss & O’Neill**                    heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems at multiple locations in New  
Haven, Connecticut during the COVID-19 pandemic from September 17, 2020 to June 30,  
2021, in an amount not to exceed \$120,000.

**CONTRACTS**

**688-20**                    An award of Contract #50532 for Tim’s Enterprises, LLC for Painting and Repairs to Sound  
**Tim’s Enterprises**                    School from July 13, 2020 to September 30, 2020 in an amount not to exceed \$124,320.

**Teaching & Learning Committee Report**



**NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT**

**Minutes – Board of Education Meeting – September 28, 2020**

Dr. Joyner mentioned that they are awaiting the minutes of their meeting so he will report at our next Board meeting.

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**Head Start Committee Report**

Mr. Wilcox reported that the subcommittee met and their next meeting will be October 15<sup>th</sup>. At this meeting they discussed the different enrollment levels and they think that we are on track to meet our enrollment targets that have been adjusted by Head Start due to COVID. Mr. Wilcox remarked, as you may recall we were under a corrective action for an active supervision incident and Head Start folks are going to be meeting with district folks on October 8<sup>th</sup> about what the district has been doing to correct those deficiencies. Mr. Wilcox also mentioned that they did receive a letter of non-compliance which is not as severe as a corrective action but it is related to not completing all of the health screenings in a timely fashion and he explained in detail. They also wanted us to know that all of the classrooms are utilizing Google classrooms. They're teaching live four times a day and it is going pretty well.

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**Food Service Task Force Report**

Mr. Conaway commented that he wasn't at the meeting because of the emergency Board meeting. Mr. Wilcox noted that they did have that meeting without us and a few people met and discussed some of the things related to food service in these COVID times. The next meeting will be on October 14<sup>th</sup>.

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Mr. Wilcox thanked everyone for being here tonight. He appreciates the people who take the time to participate in these meetings.

689-20  
Adjournment

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**On the motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Dr. Joyner, it was voted by roll call to adjourn at 7:53 p.m. Mr. Conaway, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Mr. Goldson, yes; Dr. Joyner, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Ginger McHugh*

Ginger McHugh  
BOE Recording Secretary

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