



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes –Board of Education Meeting – December 9, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 5:50 p.m. by Mr. D. Goldson, President. The meeting was held at King/Robinson Magnet School Auditorium, 150 Fournier St., New Haven, Connecticut.

Present: Mr. D. Goldson, President; Ms. Y. Rivera, Vice-President; Dr. T. Jackson-McArthur, Secretary; Mr. M. Wilcox, Mayor T. Harp, Mr. N. Rivera, Ms. L. Arouna

Absent: Dr. E. Joyner

Mr. Rivera led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

775-19
Approve Minutes of
November 12, 2019

On the motion by Mr. Conaway, seconded by Ms. Rivera, it was unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of November 12, 2019 with one correction by Mr. Wilcox on page 4, 3rd paragraph, under Discuss Amendment to Procurement Policy, to strike the word opposed to read, he listed the issues he had with the amendment.

Acknowledgements

Mr. Goldson announced that today is our last meeting of the year and therefore the last meeting of our esteemed colleague and Board member Mayor Toni N. Harp. He commented that he has worked for and with several different mayors in this City on their political campaigns, as Aldermen. He thinks that she has been the best education mayor that this City has seen. He listed and explained some of Mayor Harp’s accomplishments in the education field. He went on in detail. He saluted Mayor Harp’s service to the City. Mr. Rivera presented Mayor Harp with a card and a bouquet of flowers. Mr. Goldson saluted her service to the City and wished her well.

Dr. Jackson-McArthur remarked to Mayor Harp that she is an example to her and she has always looked up to her. Dr. Jackson-McArthur thanked her for paving the road because she wouldn’t be where she is without women like her to pave the way

Mr. Conaway dittoed what Mr. Goldson and Dr. Jackson-MacArthur has said. He has known Mayor Harp since she was an Alderperson, State Senator, and Mayor. If it wasn’t for her, he wouldn’t be sitting here right now. He thanked her for her service and stated her legacy will live on.

Mr. Wilcox thanked Mayor Harp for the opportunity to serve on this Board. It has been the best, hardest job he has ever had and the level of work; it has been a lot of fun. He appreciated the fact that you have always consistently said that Teaching & Learning is the best committee and that is where the heart of all this is and it should be. He also appreciates the focus on the education and all of our alternative education and helping us not leave kids behind.



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Ms. Rivera thanked Mayor Harp for the opportunity to serve on this Board. It has only been a few months but it has been an honor to serve with you. In my time here, you have been very fair and you have never called me to vote on anything that I didn't agree with you, and I thank you for for that.

Dr. Tracey thanked Mayor Harp for elevating the need to work with our most challenging youth through the YouthSTAT Program that you have created in New Haven. More importantly, working with you on the Teaching & Learning committee and the tough questions you ask, for pushing us to not only talk about but actually do some of the things that were discussed in that committee. She thanked her for her service.

Ms. Arouna thanked Mayor Harp for her service and she thanked her for being such an exemplary woman.

Mr. Rivera thanked her because the first time he met her in her office taking that picture in uniform, you have been nothing but nice to me and my colleagues and my friends. You have set such a great example and helped kids understand that education is important and you have helped kids understand that making our City a better place is one of the top priorities that we need to be focusing on and that you are one of the strongest woman in our City.

Mayor Harp thanked everyone for the very kind remarks. She wants to say a couple of things about Connecticut education and about education in general. Most of you probably know that I've been around for a very long time and when I think about when I went to elementary school in the 50's in this country there wasn't a right to a free public education. As I grew up, I saw people who fought and died for the opportunity to learn, for the opportunity to have the kind of skills that would enable them to take care of their families. She told of her father growing up in Louisiana and running away from home when he was 9 years old. He ran away to Kansas City, KS and one of the things he did was find some people to care of him and they helped him go to school. Back then it was very difficult for black people to go beyond high school because there were quota systems in colleges and there were only a few African/American colleges around the country. Her father happened to be dark-skinned, and even in those colleges there was discrimination towards those that were darker. When he was a Pullman porter, he learned there was a school in Utah where they didn't discriminate, where it was just how well you tested to get into that system and that is why he moved there. He encouraged all of his children to get an education. He told them that no matter how unjust life may be if you are an African/American, if you are educated, just having an education is something that others can never take away from you, and he drilled this into our heads. She continued in detail.

Mayor Harp remarked that the work that the New Haven Public Schools and this Board of Education does is not just work for today but the work for tomorrow as well. It is the work



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for the future of the families who live in this community and it is important work and it is hard work and we can show the rest of the State how to do this work.

Mayor Harp thanked all of the teachers and administrators who often times suffer because we don't give them the tools they need to do their jobs but they find a way to do it anyway. She thanked the people who believe in our children who are most disengaged. Her mother always said, "That a chain is only as strong as its weakest link." So we cannot give up on our young people who are disengaged and let the streets of our urban cities raise them, we have to give them a way to believe in themselves and the importance that they have to the future of their families, their cities, and the state. This is the work that you do day-in and day-out but it is the work that builds this state and this country. Mayor Harp thanked everyone for giving her the opportunity to serve with all of them.

Public Participation

Dr. Jackson-McArthur reminded speakers of the three-minute rule.

Ms. Toni Criscuolo, ESUMS teacher, spoke about the maintenance and security at ESUMS; she told of repairs that still have to be done and she explained that a door that was taken down by a drunk driver last February, still has not been replaced and the 5th floor teachers room has no security PA system since they moved into the building; Ms. Hyclis Williams, Out-Reach Teacher, Dr. Mayo School; President Local 3429, gave her background and commented since she has become president, paras are not being treated properly especially the assistant teachers, she continued at length; she urged the Board to look into what is going on in the schools; Dr. Jill Kelly, parent, member NHPSA talked about the contract with Sergio Rodriguez and explained in detail her concerns about it; she referred to the new procurement form and commented we either have to take these forms seriously or not; her other concerns were with the Cross Sector Consulting contract to evaluate the quality of an afterschool program at one of the schools and she went on to explain her concerns; the last thing was about the Broad Institute donating \$100 million to Yale, which is very concerning and she explained this as well; she also suggested to the Board that they brace themselves and develop policies as to what they are going to do with respect to this organization; Ms. Caitlin Rose, spoke to the contract between the Board of Ed and Sergio Rodriguez and commented that she works for New Reach and chairs the Homeless Youth Initiatives on behalf of the Greater New Haven Region, and they have been working with Sergio Rodriguez since March of 2018 and she explained in detail how important it is to partner with the Board of Ed and Mr. Rodriguez; Ms. Kiersten Hopes-McFadden, ESUMS parent/teacher, thanked Mayor Harp for her service. Ms. Hopes-McFadden talked about their retirement plan and the companies they can deal with; she also talked about the bathrooms at ESUMS and, due to vandalism, the 5th floor boys bathroom has been closed since school opened, she continued to explain; Mr. Charles Elder, commented that he really appreciates what Mayor Harp has done; two people came up to talk about buildings and he remarked that he was an architectural engineer for the Federal Government for 15 years and a building supervisor for Prudential's Corporate



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facility in Roseland, NJ he remarked that they have to look at their buildings as major investments and they are letting their building equipment deteriorate. He explained in detail; Ms. Hazel Papas, retired matron, Title I representative, thanked the Mayor for what she has done for us in New Haven and at the State level; she commented that we have to care about our children and their safety and it is cheaper to fix things when they are first broken because our children have to be safe in all grades; Ms. Florence Caldwell, retired matron, Title I Advocate, remarked to Mayor Harp as a grandparent, parent, and a community leader she would like to offer her deep appreciation for all of the hard work and dedication that she has given to the City and the State of Connecticut. It takes a dedicated and committed person to take on those challenges and do a great job. She did set precedence because there was a time when a woman of color was not allowed to serve in those positions and she paved the way; Ms. Caldwell remarked that every single person that puts a foot in a New Haven Public School building is a stakeholder and as the commercial says, “If you see something, say something, do something”, because if you don’t do anything, you are just part of the problem.

Mr. Goldson thanked Dr. Jackson-McArthur and everyone who participated in this portion of the meeting.

Student Reports

Ms. Arouna reported that the Citywide Student Council meeting will be held next Monday, December 16th at New Haven Academy and it will be hosted by their Student Council; this is the last meeting of the year. Ms. Arouna remarked that during our last meeting she shared initiatives that she and Nico want to start among the students and they reported on feedback that they want from students and now they want to take some of the information from the Board of Ed meetings to the students in an effort to bridge the gap between the two entities. Ms. Arouna remarked that we are in the process of working towards the things from the last meetings, i.e., voting registry in schools, implementation of the HB7082 Bill, and the schools’ impact on climate. This week, at the Food Service Task Force meeting, we will be discussing students’ concerns of cafeteria food waste and plastic use and exploring composting in our schools.

Ms. Arouna stated that a few meetings ago the Board gave their support in issuing a letter being written in support of Mario Aguilar Castañon, a student at Cross High School who is being detained by ICE. The letter has been drafted and she thanked Mr. Goldson for helping them with this. The letter details Mario’s story and in it we are advocating for his release. We wrote the letter to President Trump seeing that many letters have been sent to the judge and have not garnered any answer. Today we are asking for the Board’s support on this letter.

776-19
Approve Letter re

On the motion by Mayor Harp, seconded by Dr. Jackson-McArthur, it was unanimously voted to approve the letter in support of Mario Aguilar Castañon to be



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Mario Castañon released by ICE.

Ms. Arouna gave a special shout-out to the student group, Cross in Action, which has been continuing to fight for Mario. They have held many fundraisers in all New Haven Schools and have garnered over \$1,000 for his support. They have planned a rally outside of the Milford Courthouse tomorrow and she just wanted to thank them publically for the support they have been giving Mario. She also thanked the Board for their support.

President's Report
Ethics Committee

Mr. Goldson commented that as you all know we passed a set of revised Bylaws last May and, as part of those revised Bylaws, we instituted a new updated Code of Ethics as well as the start of an Ethics Committee. He has been looking for volunteers to sit on this committee and we finally have three volunteers who have agreed. The resumes of the three candidates are in your packets for your review. It is his expectation that we are going to set-up some training from the City and the State to get this up and running as soon as possible.

Mr. Goldson asked for the Board's approval of Rev. Philippe Andal of Community Baptist Church in New Haven and a graduate of the Yale Divinity School; Ms. Camille Ansley who is a parent and a stakeholder in our school system as well as a long-time employee of Sikorsky Aircraft as a Master Data Project Coordinator who has been involved in organizing and advocating for parents for many years; and Mr. Alexander Taubes, an Attorney in the City and a graduate of Boston University and Yale Law School.

777-19
Approve Ethics
Committee
Appointees'

On the motion by Dr. Goldson, seconded by Mayor Harp, it was unanimously voted to approve the appointments of Rev. Philippe Andal, Ms. Camille Ansley and Mr. Alexander Taubes to the Ethics Committee.

Mr. Wilcox wanted to know if there is a term for these appointments. Mr. Goldson remarked it is a committee appointment so it is his assumption that it is for a year until the next Board president is elected.

Mr. Goldson thanked them for their service.

Mr. Goldson reminded Board members that the first meeting of the New Year will be held on January 13th at which time we will elect leadership for the Board.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Tracey welcomed everyone. Dr. Tracey announced that the deadline for submission of New Haven Promise applications is January 10th. She asked parents of high school seniors to encourage their students to submit their applications by that date. The



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online application can be accessed at app.newhavenpromise.org. It is important that our seniors meet that deadline.

Dr. Tracey referred everyone to Page 2 of the Personnel Report under Appointments – Paraprofessionals, Tiffany Adams, and pointed out an error in the account. It should read General Funds not Head Start Expansion.

Mr. Goldson asked for approval of the Personnel Report with the correction laid out by Dr. Tracey.

778-19
Approval of
Personnel Report

On the motion by Dr. Jackson-McArthur, seconded by Mr. Conaway, it was unanimously voted to approve the Personnel Report with the correction provided by Dr. Tracey and with the correct account number added to the record.

Special Acknowledgement

2020 Teacher of the Year Presentation

Dr. Tracey announced that today we have the 2020 New Haven Teacher of the Year with us. Last Thursday she and Ms. Hannans were able to travel to the Bushnell where hundreds of teachers across Connecticut were honored for Teacher of the Year from the various municipalities. We were proud to stand by our New Haven Teacher of the Year, Rose Murphy.

Dr. Tracey called on Ms. Murphy to join her at the podium. Dr. Tracey remarked that for Rose Murphy, teaching high school in New Haven has always been her goal. She began teaching at Career High School in 2014 after graduating from the University of Connecticut. She teaches English and Journalism as well as running many programs outside of the classroom. She leads a Natural History Day Program, which gives students the opportunity to tell the untold stories of history through creating exhibits, documentaries and performances. She also developed the Journalism Program at Career's school newspaper, which empowers students to amplify the voices of their school and their community. Rose is passionate about broadening the opportunities available to her students while bringing joy and creativity into the classroom. She is honored to be New Haven's Teacher of the Year. She is especially humbled and gratified to receive this honor from the school and district that helped her begin her career teaching her everything she knows.

Ms. Murphy thanked everybody and commented that it is a huge honor for her to be here tonight amongst the many wonderful educators, families, and community members. She is very humbled and honored to have been selected; it means the world to her to receive this honor from the New Haven Public Schools and especially from Career High School, which gave her her first place to begin her career. It is an incredible privilege to work with the creative, passionate and dedicated people that she works with everyday, including Dr.



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Parrish and Ms. Duff and Ms. Ukah. It has been an even greater honor to be counted amongst the hardworking people entrusted with the education and wellbeing of New Haven's children. It is a responsibility she doesn't take lightly and it's a responsibility she hopes to fulfill for many years to come. Ms. Murphy thanked everyone for this honor and for the honor of teaching their children every day. It means the world to her.

Dr. Tracey noted that Dr. Parrish and Ms. Duff and Ms. Ukah are all very proud of her. She also pointed out Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Paul Whyte who is very proud of his school.

School Presentations

Dr. Tracey noted that tonight they are highlighting two schools, one high school, New Haven Academy and one elementary school, Clinton Avenue. Both schools have been doing some phenomenal work around student engagement, elevating student voices, and focusing on inquiry-based learning as well as trying out new things for our students. Dr. Tracey introduced Ms. Kristina DeNegre, Principal of Clinton Avenue School, a Commissioner's Network School.

Dr. Tracey noted that a couple of years ago she wrote an Expression of Interest to the Connecticut State Department because she was the director of the school at that time, and lo and behold they accepted the Expression of Interest, which were competitive to get into the Commissioner's Network. After a series of school reviews, we realized that the school needed something to raise it up a notch. They realized they needed to elevate the work of the student and focus on student engagement and that is what they wrote in the Expression of Interest, that they would bring an inquiry-based program to Clinton Avenue School. Having a high Latino population this would be good when students were engaged in discourse and working on projects, sharing thoughts and ideas with each other, researching, based on their interest, would help them acquire the language better as they worked through the school system. Kristina DeNegre and her staff have taken this to a higher level. Dr. Tracey thanked Ms. DeNegre and her staff.

Clinton Avenue School

Ms. Kristina DeNegre, Principal

Ms. DeNegre thanked Dr. Tracey and the Board of Ed for having them here tonight. She also thanked Mayor Harp, on behalf of herself and her staff, for her service to the City of New Haven and to its children.

Ms. DeNegre introduced her staff Patty Gambine, Assistant Principal; Marilyn Ciarleglio, Literacy Coach; Margaret Hughes, Math Coach; Brittany Ducran, PPT Teacher, and Rocio Barahona, 1st grade Biliteracy teacher, who are here with her this evening. She commented that "it really takes a village!" When they started this journey four years ago it took all the manpower in their building to make this happen and it would not have happened without their dedication and passion. Ms. DeNegre stated that she has a truly dedicated staff and the most amazing teachers in her building.



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Ms. DeNegre remarked that they started a Commissioner's Network school in 2015-16, a planning year; we officially became a Commissioner's Network school in 2016-17. They were identified as an ELA focus school and she gave the statistics for this period of time and explained how they have improved over the years. When we started and created our plan we knew that we wanted to make sure of three things, that our teachers had the capacity we needed to provide instruction that was not only rigorous but meaningful to our students, we wanted to make sure that our students and parents had a voice. Ms. DeNegre continued to explain their framework, professional development, and their instructional support block. This year we are also focusing on chronic absenteeism. Our goal is to get our rate below 10% and she explained what they are doing to achieve this.

Ms. DeNegre thanked the Board for this opportunity to talk with them tonight and she invited every one of them to come and visit; their door is always open.

Mr. Conaway thanked Ms. DeNegre and her staff and commended them on their work and if they get below 10% he wants to know how they did it.

Mr. Goldson wanted to know what percent they are at now and Ms. DeNegre commented that for the month of October we were at 8%. Right now, we are at 15.6% and it fluctuates month by month and that is the highest we have been in the last two years.

Mayor Harp offered congratulations to Ms. DeNegre for the other award that she received this year and we are really proud of the work she has done. Mayor Harp wanted to know how becoming a member of the Commissioner's Network helped. Ms. DeNegre stated obviously the money piece; right now the State has invested close to \$2 million into our school. It is based on how well we do each year. It has also helped because we have not only been able to provide students with what they need, but we have also been able to provide staff with a very focused and structured plan around professional development. She explained that their goal to go into this was to look ahead five years once the money was gone. Ms. DeNegre commented that she is a firm believer in her statement, that if we educate people, no one can take that education away from them. Ms. DeNegre said we are very proud of the work we are doing and the money has helped to bring our staff and our kids to a higher and more rigorous level.

Dr. Tracey thanked Ms. Hannans, Assistant Superintendent for Clinton Avenue School.

Dr. Tracey pointed out that what Kristina failed to mention is that they have invested in a lot of technology for their school.

*New Haven Academy
Mr. Gregg Baldwin, Principal*

Dr. Tracey introduced Mr. Gregg Baldwin who has done a phenomenal job with New Haven Academy, and he has brought 21st Century Learning to a different level.



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Mr. Baldwin thanked Dr. Tracey and the Board for having him. He thanked Mayor Harp for all she has done, both publically and privately, to support them and the New Haven Public Schools.

Mr. Baldwin commented that he appreciates the opportunity to come to talk to them tonight. He has the easy part of being able to talk about what they do, but his staff is amazing and all credit goes to them because they do it every day.

Mr. Baldwin shared with them the three key components of New Haven Academy and their approach that has given them some successes over the years. Their mission is clear and strong and it has been a three part mission from the beginning. Provide a rigorous education, teach and prepare kids to be successful and teach them how to become active citizens. Our motto, that is on the side of our building and which guides most of what we do, is: Think Critically, Be Responsible and Get Involved. The think critically piece is essential to what we do in the classroom and he explained. This connects to the first part of our magnet theme is Facing History and Ourselves. This is an international program that has been around for 40 years started by a middle school teacher in Brookline, MA in 1976 and he explained the premise of the program. At New Haven Academy it is not only a class the students take, but it infuses the entire community and our advisory program and our Capstone, which is a social action project.

Mr. Baldwin continued to explain the Capstone and mentioned that the Board engaged in this a few weeks ago when Jalene Hernandez Gomez came and talked to you about LATINEX history and what she wants to propose for the New Haven Public Schools. This is a yearlong project that she is engaged in in her Civics class at New Haven Academy. She is designing a project where she is trying to make a change in the community that she feels is important. All of our seniors do it and every senior that has ever graduated from New Haven Academy has done some kind of social action project and he explained.

The other part of their magnet theme is College and Career Preparation. They have a four year program that starts on day one for kids to think of the future and where they are going. The lynchpin of the program is a unique class they teach, College-Bound Seminar. Every 11th and 12th grader takes a class, full-year, twice a week. It's built around three questions: Who Am I? Where Am I Going? How Do I Get There? It is a real hands-on approach to looking at and investigating a post-high school plan. He explained this program in detail.

The other element that comes out of that college bound program is an Intensive Internship Program. Every student at New Haven Academy spends three weeks in the spring of their junior year not going to school but going to work for someone. He explained this in detail.



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In concluding, Mr. Baldwin gave the results that these components, combined with others, have produced in 17 years. He remarked that we have had 13 graduating classes and 98%-100% of every class has been accepted to college; the last six years between 37%-50% of the classes have graduated with college credit; of those students who have earned the New Haven Promise Scholarship, 96% have graduated, and our alumni participated in studies done by Facing History and Ourselves to measure civic engagement and civic responsibility and they have outpaced the national average in seven out of eight of those measures.

Mr. Baldwin invited them to come to visit New Haven Academy to see what they are doing and to help them continue to grow.

Mr. Conaway thanked Mr. Baldwin for the work he and his staff do and he is very impressed with his third bullet, 96% graduation rate from New Haven Promise. Maybe there are some lessons to be learned across the district. He asked him to please relate to his entire staff congratulations on the work they are doing and to keep up that good work. He has always been a fan of New Haven Academy.

Mayor Harp mentioned that recently you went to mastery-based learning and she asked Mr. Baldwin to take them through that process. Mr. Baldwin commented that they felt it was necessary because they felt the traditional grading wasn't allowing them to communicate with students and he explained in detail. Mr. Baldwin noted that he would be willing to share more with the Board if they want him to. Mayor Harp asked him to also talk about the college credits that their students acquire and he explained in detail.

Mayor Harp thanked Mr. Baldwin for the work he is doing at New Haven Academy not only educating young people but also making them relevant members of our community.

Mr. Goldson wanted to know how they pay for the college classes for their students. Mr. Baldwin said that they are a Magnet School and they use some of that Interdistrict money. Mr. Goldson's other question was how do you measure the civic engagement and responsibility once they get out of school. Mr. Baldwin said that he is quoting from a study done that is based on extensive survey results of alumni and students across the country and he would be happy to share that with him.

Dr. Tracey noted that Mr. Baldwin is not only the principal of the school but he also teaches classes.

Mr. Goldson asked Dr. Tracey about principal absences and asked if her staff started working with the Magnet School Office to see if we have received the money for the increased slots for local New Haven students. Dr. Jackson-McArthur pointed out that their question was where will the slots go? Mr. Goldson asked another question around the



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Curriculum Audit. Mr. Wilcox wanted to know what, as a Board, we are doing for next steps. He continued to explain. Dr. Tracy explained the process they will use to address this issue. Mr. Goldson asked if they could get a report by the second meeting in January. It was agreed that Dr. Tracy will give them a strategic planning timeline.

Finance & Operations Committee Report

Ms. Rivera reported that this committee met on December 9th and they had a spirited discussion around some of these items. Ms. Rivera noted the For Information Only Items for the record. They are submitting for approval, one abstract, 17 agreements; #18 was kept in committee, one contract and one purchase order.

On the motion by Ms. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Wilcox, it was unanimously voted to approve the following FINANCE AND OPERATIONS-RELATED ITEMS:

ABSTRACT

779-19 ***RISE Network Innovation Grant***, in the amount of \$80,000.00 for 2019 –2020

AGREEMENTS

780-19
Kaplan, Inc. An agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and Kaplan, Inc., to provide SAT prep sessions and two test sessions to students at Hill Regional Career High School, from December 10, 2019 to March 31, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$16,700.00.

781-19
Higher Heights Youth Empowerment Program An agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and Higher Heights Youth Empowerment Program, Inc., to provide two advisors for college access to support student at Hill Regional Career High School, from December 10, 2019 to June 30, 2020, in an amount not to \$30,600.

782-19
St. of CT Office of Early Childhood An agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and State of Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, to provide the Support for Pregnant and Parenting Teens, Women, Fathers and their Families (SPPT) Program grant, from October 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, an amount not to exceed \$75,000.

783-19
Curriculum Designers An agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and Curriculum Designers, Inc., to provide professional development and curriculum review and revision for staff at East Rock Community and Cultural Studies Magnet School, from December 9, 2019 to June 30, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$24,000.

784-19 An agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and Great Schools



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- Great Schools Partnership** Partnership, to plan and facilitate a series of professional development events for staff at HSC, from December 9, 2010 to June 30, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$64,130.
- 785-19 Laura Goldblum, LCSW** An agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and Laura Goldblum, LCSW, to supervise eight masters level Social Work Interns at Wilbur Cross High School, from December 9, 2019 to June 30, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$22,000.
- 786-19 Higher Heights** An agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and Higher Heights, to serve as a Fiscal Agent for an Equity Program grant for the District, awarded by the William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund, in the amount of \$141,500.00, payable to Higher Heights, in two installments of \$70,750.00, from January 2, 2020 to December 31, 2020.
- 787-19 Panorama Education** An agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and Panorama Education, Inc. to administer, analyze and report on School Climate Connectedness and Social-Emotional Learning surveys for all students and teachers of NHPS from January 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$80,000.
- 788-19 Phoenix Press** An agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and Phoenix Press, to provide print the Choice Catalog, Interdistrict Catalog, High School Marketing Postcard, Elementary School Marketing Postcard, Newspaper Insert, Kindergarten Head Start Flyer and mailing; Flyers, from December 9, 2019 to April 30, 2020 in an amount not to exceed \$95,308.
- 789-19 Nexstar Broadcasting, Inc.** An agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and Nexstar Broadcasting, Inc., to create video content to showcase New Haven Magnet School's diverse student population and various school themes, to distribute content, audience targeting from December 9, 2019 Agenda Finance and Operations Committee December 2, 2019 -5- to April 30, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$22,500.
- 790-19 Coppola Photography** An agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and Coppola to provide commercial videography and photography for the 2020 Choice & Enrollment catalog of schools, from December 9, 2019 to April 30, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$33,530.
- 791-19 Connoisseur Media** An agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and Connoisseur Media, to provide 1-2 radio interviews, promotional announcements, website and social media exposure to promote New Haven Magnet Schools for the 2020 City Wide Expo, from December 9, 2019 to April 30, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$26,450.
- 792-19 Achievement First** An agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and Achievement First, to provide State mandated special education services to students with special needs



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attending Amistad Academy Charter School and Elm City Charter School, from August 29, 2019 to June 30, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$441,946.00.

**793-19
ACES**

An agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and Area Cooperative Educational Services, (ACES), to provide the Building Bridges program for students with significant behavior challenges, from August 29, 2019 to June 30, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$249,290.

**794-19
Sergio Rodriguez**

An agreement by and between the New Haven Board of Education and Sergio Rodriguez, to coordinate services for homeless youth and children in foster care, from December 10, 2019 to June 30, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$45,000.

**795-19
Amendment #1,
Cross Sector
Counseling**

Amendment #1 to Agreement # 95326409 with Cross Sector Consulting, to conduct external evaluations of 21st Century After School sites at Wexler Grant and Troup schools, and to increase funding of \$19,000.00 by \$5,000.00 to \$24,000.

**796-19
Amendment #1,
Kids Kraze**

Amendment #1 to Agreement # 95326413 with Kids Kraze, to change the Funding Source and Acct. # from 21st Century East Rock Program, Acct. #2579-6273-56694-0046 to 21st Century East Rock Program, Acct. # 2579-6243-56694-0046 with no change in funding amount.

CONTRACT

**797-19
EMS LINQ, Inc.**

Award of Contract under RFP #2020-07-1301 to EMS LINQ, Inc. d/b/a Meals Plus, 2528 Independence Blvd., Wilmington, NC for the purchase of a new Point-of-Sale (POS) system for the NHPS Food Services Division, effective December 1, 2019 to November 30, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$56,025.

PURCHASE ORDER

**798-19
CDW
Government, Inc.**

A Purchase Order under State Contract PEPPM 2018 Catalog to CDW Government, Inc., 2 Enterprise Dr., Suite 404, Shelton CT for the purchase of a Symantec End Point Protection: Anti-Virus Protection and Security Suite, in an amount not to exceed \$31,950.

Mr. Conaway expressed his thoughts on the Agreement with Sergio Rodriguez. He remarked that he doesn't oppose the agreement but he feels it should be for the same length of time as the original. Mr. Goldson explained that it is not based on the length of time, but on the amount of days. He explained in detail, Mr. Wilcox also joined this discussion.

Food Service Task Group Report



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Mr. Wilcox reiterated what Ms. Arouna mentioned that at our upcoming regular meeting on December 11th one of the topics on the agenda is the student concerns about cafeteria food waste, composting, and plastic use. This is another concern that is coming from the students. Mr. Wilcox mentioned that he was able to attend a very delightful Food Advisory meeting at Lincoln-Basset with Assistant Principal, Stephanie Skiba, David Galinas, Food Services, and Bernice Watson, Lead Cook. They met with three students giving their opinions on the school's food and what can make it better. He noted that one of the students probably has a good future as a lobbyist for the asparagus board. They are going to be having more of these meetings moving forward as they go through the menu items and try to solve some of the problems they are facing.

School Construction & Stewardship Committee Report

Mayor Harp reported that there hasn't been a meeting, but she feels it is very important, given the comment we heard in public session. The name of the committee is School Construction and Stewardship, and what stewardship has to do with is making sure that the \$1.7 billion that we invested in schools doesn't get wasted because we don't take care of those buildings. It is going to cost real money to do that and it is something that this committee is working on and you will be getting a report on all of the buildings across the city and the kind of repair that needs to go into them. It is really important that we don't throw good money after bad. They look beautiful on the outside but they have to be beautiful on the inside in multiple ways and we know we have a stewardship responsibility in the New Haven Public Schools.

Mayor Harp commented that at their last meeting the superintendent explained that we will be opening the Barack Obama School. She called on Mr. Pinto to give a report on where we are and what is required by staff to get it open on time.

Mr. Michael Pinto, CFO, commented as you all know the last remaining school under construction is the Barack H. Obama University Magnet School. It is on schedule to be ready to open on January 3rd. He explained that he meets with the School Construction Committee tomorrow and he met with Mr. Goldson last week to give him an update. There are a few logistical things remaining to discuss and today they met with the Superintendent, Principal DeNicola, Transportation Director, Fred Till, Danny Diaz and Teddi Barra. This week they will be doing communications and they have received the routing for the school which was completed today. They are planning to do a follow-up with families and they will also be following-up with the families who were unable to make it to the outreach meeting. We will be communicating with the families on Orchard Street to give the schedules by Monday of next week. He continued to explain.

Mr. Pinto also mentioned that they are also meeting with school security and the construction company, Giordano, this week to be sure all the security equipment is installed, teachers have their ID badges, etc. The move itself will begin two weeks from now on



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December 20th, and movers will be ready to move equipment out on that day. The logistics are already in place and he explained in detail. We look forward to having the building open and, hopefully, have President Obama or Mrs. Obama at the dedication.

Mr. Goldson mentioned that they will probably have a public dedication of the school sometime in March or April. Mr. Pinto stated, "That is correct".

Head Start Committee Report

Mr. Wilcox announced that the Head Start Committee will be meeting tomorrow in Conference Room 3B at 5:00p.m. The agenda is posted on the district's website.

799 -19
Adjournment

On the motion by Dr. Jackson-McArthur, seconded by Mr. Conaway, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ginger McHugh

Recording Secretary

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