



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Haven, Connecticut

NEW HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION

Monday, July 13, 2020

INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

The Superintendent Approved the following Items:

1. Agreement with Berchem Moses, PC to provide legal services in such areas as leases/contracts and arbitration/litigation from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$19,000.00.
Funding Source: 2020-2021 Operating Budget **Acct. #190-47700-56696**
2. Agreement with Tinley, Renehan & Dost, LLP to provide general employment law advice, including investigation of allegations of misconduct, such as harassment, relating to employees, from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$14,000.00.
Funding Source: 2020-2021 Operating Budget **Acct. # 190-47700-56696**

Memo

To: All Board Members
From: Darnell Goldson, Member of the Board
Date: June 24, 2020
Re: Motions to Rescind Illegitimate Resolutions

The Board adopted two resolutions at our June 22, 2020 Board meeting which did not follow the rules laid out in Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont's Executive Order 7B open meeting requirements, therefore I am submitting motions to correct those oversights.

The Executive Order Section 1 subsection 4 which states that ***"4) any materials relevant to matters on the agenda, including but not limited to materials related to specific applications, if applicable, shall be submitted to the agency a minimum of twenty four (24) hours prior and posted to the agency's website for public inspection prior to, during, and after the meeting, and any exhibits to be submitted by members of the public shall, to the extent feasible, also be submitted to the agency a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting and posted to the agency's website for public inspection prior to, during, and after the meeting..."***

Resolutions (materials) related to two items (listed below) under the President's Report were not provided to the Board members in advance of the meeting, nor were posted to the NHPS website (nor any other website) 24 hours prior to the meeting for public inspection. Specifically, those resolutions were:

- ii. Renaming of Christopher Columbus Family Academy: discussion and possible action
- iii. Changing name of observed Columbus Day holiday on NHPS calendar: discussion and possible action

Since public transparency rules were not followed as outlined in the Governor's Executive Order 7B, the discussion and approval of those items were illegitimate actions. I am therefore providing Previous Notice to the Board and the following motions to correct this mistake:

1. **Previous Notice** - This communication is to be considered my providing previous notice that I plan to make the following motions at our next scheduled meeting. This notice is provided to all members, including the executive officers.
2. **Motion to rescind** the June 22, 2020 resolution Renaming of Christopher Columbus Family Academy and replace with the following language: a committee of up to 24 people will be established to investigate and recommend; a) whether the name of the school should be changed, providing rational and clearly articulated reasoning behind the recommendation, and; b) if the committee makes that recommendation, then provide up to three potential names, again providing rational and clearly articulated reasoning behind the recommendation for the names.



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The committee membership shall include: 1) two appointments by each board member; 2) the superintendent or her designee; 3) the school principal; 4) two school parents chosen by the school parent group; 5) two school teachers chosen by the teachers' group; and 6) the local alder.

The committee shall hold at least two public hearings, one to solicit input as to the proposal to change the name, and another to solicit input as to the recommendations for names if the committee recommends a change.

At its first meeting the committee will determine its chair and (if needed) other officers, as well as a schedule for the committee activities.

3. **Motion to rescind** the June 22, 2020 resolution Changing the name of observed Columbus Day holiday on NHPS calendar and replace with the following language: a committee of up to 24 people will be established to investigate and recommend; a) whether the observed holiday name should be changed, providing rational and clearly articulated reasoning behind the recommendation, and; b) if the committee makes that recommendation, then provide up to three potential names, again providing rational and clearly articulated reasoning behind the recommendation for the names.

The committee membership shall include: 1) two appointments by each board member; 2) the superintendent or her designee; 3) the school principal; 4) two school parents chosen by the school parent group; 5) two school teachers chosen by the teachers' group; and 6) the local alder.

The committee shall hold at least two public hearings, one to solicit input as to the proposal to change the name, and another to solicit input as to the recommendations for names if the committee recommends a change.

At its first meeting the committee will determine its chair and (if needed) other officers, as well as a schedule for the committee activities.

Definitions

1. Previous Notice – Robert's Rules of Order - Previous notice is an announcement that a motion will be introduced at a future meeting of a deliberative assembly. Previous notice can be given in one of two ways. A member either announces it at a meeting of the assembly, in which case the secretary is to record it in the minutes or notifies the secretary outside of the meeting. In either case, the secretary is to include notice of the motion in the call of the next meeting.
2. Motion to Rescind – Robert's Rules of Order - If a member want to change a decision that was adopted at a previous meeting, then they would use the motion to rescind.



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CONNECTICUT GOVERNOR LAMONT EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 7B, Effective March 14, 2020

1. Suspension of In-Person Open Meeting Requirements. Sections 1-206, 1-225, and 1-226 of the Connecticut General Statutes, and any open meeting provision of any municipal charter, ordinance, or regulation that conflicts with this order, are suspended to the extent necessary to permit any public agency to meet and take such actions authorized by the law without permitting or requiring in-person, public access to such meetings, and to hold such meetings or proceedings remotely by conference call, videoconference or other technology, provided that: 1) the public has the ability to view or listen to each meeting or proceeding in real time, by telephone, video, or other technology; 2) any such meeting or proceeding is recorded or transcribed, and such recording or transcript shall be posted on the agency's website within seven (7) days of the meeting or proceeding, and made available within a reasonable time in the agency's office; 3) the required notice and agenda for each meeting or proceeding is posted on the agency's website and shall include information about how the meeting will be conducted and how the public can access it; **4) any materials relevant to matters on the agenda, including but not limited to materials related to specific applications, if applicable, shall be submitted to the agency a minimum of twenty four (24) hours prior and posted to the agency's website for public inspection prior to, during, and after the meeting, and any exhibits to be submitted by members of the public shall, to the extent feasible, also be submitted to the agency a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting and posted to the agency's website for public inspection prior to, during, and after the meeting;** and 5) all speakers taking part in any such meeting or proceeding shall clearly state their name and title, if applicable, before speaking on each occasion that they speak.

Efficient Use of Time and Proper Decorum in Board and Committee Meetings

DRAFT

The following guidelines shall apply to the order of business, duration, floor procedures, and board member conduct during regular and special board meetings.

Meeting Duration: Board meetings shall start promptly at the scheduled time and last for no longer than two-and one-half hours. The board shall set the time and duration of special meetings before planning the special session.

Order of Business: The board shall place items up for a vote at the top (beginning) of the meeting agenda.

Motions: Motions put before the board shall be written and distributed by the sponsor at least 48 hours in advance of the board meeting, where the sponsor will make the motion. Exceptions will require a two-thirds vote of the board to get the motion on the board agenda.

Debate Length on Board Motions (Questions): Each member shall get two turns of 2 minutes to support or oppose motions presented to the board for deliberation.

Relevant Questioning: All questions and comments shall be relevant to the issue under consideration. When questions and comments are not pertinent to a discussion, the Chair shall remind the speaker to get back on topic, or another member can use Point of Order to call the Chair's attention to the infraction.

Call the Question: Should be used appropriately to ensure efficient use of time and ensure the orderly progression of the meeting and addressing the business of the board.

Point of Order: Should be used appropriately to ensure the orderly progression of the meeting and to focus on resolving issues, problems, and concerns related to board business. Point of Order should not be a tactic to delay, embarrass, or appeal to an audience or interest group.

Board Member Conduct: Board members must adhere to the ten rules of conduct specified in section 932(a) in the board bylaws during the conduct of board business.

Words Taken Down: A member should avoid impugning another member's motives, the Chair, superintendent, staff, or the public using offensive language, or uttering words that Chair deems unparliamentary. These actions are strictly against standards of civility and parliamentary procedure and are subject to the point of order challenge. This challenge is made by a member "demanding that the gentleman's (or gentlewoman's) words be taken down." The Chair is also authorized to admonish members for incivility and unparliamentary references.

Violations and infractions shall be a part of board minutes.

Draft of Policy 7551

Naming and Renaming Facilities

In his book, *Forgiveness, and Remembrance: Remembering Wrongdoing in Personal and Public Life*, Jeffrey Blustein posits that memorialization carries a moral responsibility. The actions of those with the power to memorialize send a message across time and space. These messages reflect our country's ideals of respect for the sanctity of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. While the individuals we choose to memorialize should not and even cannot be perfect, their lives and contributions to humanity should reflect a commitment to justice, fairness, and service, especially to the disadvantaged. Groups offering names to adorn our buildings and spaces should provide the evidence necessary to assure the public that the individuals they recommend have made significant contributions in American life and have practiced the ideals espoused in our Constitution and humanitarian traditions.

The naming and renaming of school buildings, major portions of buildings, or school grounds is the responsibility of the Board of Education. In fulfilling this responsibility, the Board will make every effort to respect community preferences. Such names should be clearly identifying, widely known, and recognized.

It is the policy of the Board to name school buildings as close as possible to the time construction begins in order to lessen the confusion about the new schools.

When naming or renaming buildings, major portions of buildings, or school grounds, the Board shall formally identify the need for a naming process for the identified school locations, as well as criteria it wishes to be considered in the process.

When naming or renaming a school building, major portions of school buildings, or school grounds the Board shall direct the Superintendent to establish a committee, subject to Board approval, comprised of the Superintendent or designee, the building Principal, central office representative, teacher, paraprofessional, food service staff, clerical, security, parent representation from across all grade levels, community members, alderperson and students to consider name recommendations for consideration by the Board. Opportunities for public input must be made available prior to the committee's recommendation to the Board. Such opportunities for public input must be publicly announced in local media outlets and on the district website at least eight weeks prior to final decision. The process of renaming should take a total of eight weeks.

When naming or renaming buildings, the committee shall have representation by the community members that is representative of the entire school district. The committee shall propose a list of names to the school board of not more than five (5) names for Board consideration. Additionally, in the rare occurrence of renaming a building, major portions of school buildings, or school grounds, a fiscal impact statement will be presented by the Superintendent or designee. This statement will include costs and a timeline for potential implementation of the new name.

If a major portion of a school building or school grounds (media center, auditorium gymnasium, field, etc.) is proposed to be named after an individual, that person shall have attained local or national prominence via significant contributions in any field of endeavor. Such contributions or the significance of their place in history shall be clearly established beyond the generation of the contribution. Individuals so recognized shall no longer be active in his/her career. Further, the individual for whom a portion of a school building or school grounds is to be named must be shown to have broad-based, long-term impact to the school district community.

Collections of works, memorials, or other major gifts to the school district may be acknowledged and named by individual schools, subject to the district's policy and procedures for accepting donations. Prior to accepting such donations and naming, a plan for maintenance and upkeep must be identified and presented to the school Board.

The Board retains the right to make final determination in the naming and renaming of buildings, major portions of school buildings, or school grounds. This policy notwithstanding, it is the intent of the Board that naming of portions of the building and school grounds occur infrequently and on a limited based.

Policy adopted:

School Security Design Work Group

Member	Representation	Email Address
Juan Carlos Soto - Co-Chair	Community	
Julia Miller, MBA teacher and Edgewood parent	Community	
Addys Castillo, Citywide Youth Coalition	Community	
Larry Conaway	Board of Education	
Lihame Arouna	Board of Education/Student	
Dr. Paul Whyte	Assistant Superintendent	
Chief Reddish	School Security	
Sergeant Ron Ferrante	NHPD	
Assistant Chief Karl Jacobson	NHPD	
Al Meadows- Wilbur Cross	New Haven Federation of Teachers	
Mike Pavano-Riverside	New Haven Federation of Teachers	
Michelle Cabaldon -HSC	New Haven Federation of Teachers	
Omena McCoy	Mayor's Office	
Edith Johnson - Principal, Wilbur Cross	School Administrator's Association	
Derek Stephenson - Principal, Riverside	School Administrator's Association	
Steve Ciarcia - Asst. Principal, Career	School Administrator's Association	
Daniel Bonet - Asst. Principal, Hillhouse	School Administrator's Association	
Ja'Quan Brooks	Student	Email Keisha Redd-Hannans
My'asia Lytell	Student	Email Keisha Redd-Hannans