



## NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### Connecticut

**Food Service Committee  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, February 8, 2023 via Zoom**

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**I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:10PM by Dr. Orlando Yarborough, III.

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**Attendance:** Dr. Orlando Yarborough, III, (Chair), Mr. Matt Wilcox (Vice-Chair), Mr. Thomas Lamb, Ms. Krима Byrd, Ms. Susan Harris, Ms. Maria Karas, Ms. Gail Sharry

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**II. Introductions and Announcements:** Dr. Orlando Yarborough, III introduced himself. Afterwards, members and attendees took turns introducing themselves. The process for filling the position for the future Food Service Director has begun. Planning for summer meals will start soon.

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**III. Update on Plan for Expanding Access to Locally-Grown Healthy, Sustainable Food, Decreasing Packaging Waste, and Increasing Opportunities for Food Donation, Food Rescue, and Composting** Research has begun and information is being gathered to analyze products that have been purchased locally for the past year. Products include produce, bread, and milk. Food Service continually works to decrease food packaging and increase self-serve and salad bar options. Mr. Lamb has been working with the Eco Technology Center and will be sharing information with the team. The Center for Eco Technology, an organization that specializes in developing recycling programs, has been supporting a small group of New Haven schools in creating recycling programs. They are sponsored by the State of Connecticut and have created several programs within Connecticut and are responsible for creating a statewide program in Massachusetts. They are a valuable **Composting** resource in the development of a recycling program that is inclusive of items containing construction, chemical, paper, plastic, and food waste. The EPA is a second recycling group that works with the City of New Haven. A meeting has been scheduled for February 9, 2023 to meet with the EPA to discuss current recycling efforts and future recycling possibilities. New Haven Public Schools is in the process of evaluating the current procedures in place and future recycling capabilities including the following:

- a. Labor obstacles
- b. Appropriate recycling containers
- c. Composting
- d. Cost analysis



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- e. Food redistribution
  - f. Creating district-wide plans not centered around individual school programs
  - g. Partnership with the City of New Haven
  - h. Researching other districts as an aide to help create a model
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**IV. Update from Food Gap Subgroup:** Planning for the April food gap will soon begin. There are no updates at this time. The next distribution will be held during the April Recess on April 12, 2023 from 3:00PM-5:00PM. Pop-up pantries will be at the following locations:

Truman School, 114 Truman Street  
Lincoln Bassett School, 21 Butler Street  
The Shack (West Hills Community Center), 333 Valley Street  
John Martinez School, 100 James Street

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**V. Other Business:** The Food Service Task Force committee is seeking parent representation. There are 2 parent seats available on the committee. The Board of Education is seeking the formation of a Health and Wellness Committee.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 8, 2023. Agenda items are due to Chair (Dr. Orlando Yarborough, III) and Vice-Chair (Matt Wilcox) by 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 1, 2023.

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**Adjournment:** **On the Motion by Dr. Orlando Yarborough, III to adjourn at 5:40PM.**

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Respectfully Submitted,

*Cheryl Myers*

Cheryl Myers  
Central Kitchen Clerk