



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Connecticut

**Food Service Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 12, 2023 via Zoom**

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:06PM by Dr. Orlando Yarborough, III.

Attendance: Dr. Orlando Yarborough, III, (Chair), Dr. Michael Finley,
Mr. Thomas Lamb, Ms. Susan Harris

II. Introductions and Announcements: There were no introductions. The first round of interviews for the position of Food Service Director will begin the week of April 17, 2023.

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 Mr. Lamb discussed information via PowerPoint presentation and covered the following, which are currently in place at NHPS:

- The use of compostable paper products as lunch trays in all cafeterias
- No longer packaging yogurts, salads, or sandwiches
- Purchasing locally grown and locally produced products
- Purchasing only food products made in the USA
- Conducting fruit and vegetables surveys
- School lunch menu options and alternatives

Future plans and discussions include:

- Encouraging food share tables and providing refrigeration when possible in all cafeterias
 - Allowing students to leave unopened food in these areas for other students to take if they would like
 - Monitoring this type of “food pantry”
 - The collection of large amounts of unused food by Haven Harvest
 - Partnering with Center for EcoTechnology for composting needs
 - Beginning a composting pilot program at select schools
 - Creation of “green teams” at each school
 - Providing educational resources for students and staff
 - Allocation of proper composting receptacles and tools
 - Utilizing pick-up service for schools where on-site composting is not possible
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IV. Update from Food Gap Subgroup: The April Recess food distribution was April 11, 2023 and was a great success. Ms. Harris plans to have the data prepared and ready to share with the committee during the May meeting.

V. Other Business: There was no other business at this time.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 10, 2023. Agenda items are due to Chair (Dr. Orlando Yarborough, III) and Vice-Chair (Matt Wilcox) by 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 3, 2023.

Adjournment: **On the Motion by Dr. Orlando Yarborough, III to adjourn at 5:45PM.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl Myers

Cheryl Myers
Central Kitchen Clerk