



## NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### Connecticut

#### Food Service Committee Regular Meeting Minutes Wednesday, April 13, 2022 via Zoom

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**I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:00PM by Dr. Orlando Yarborough, III.

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**Attendance:** Mr. Thomas Lamb (Chief Operating Officer), Dr. Orlando Yarborough, III, (Chair), Mr. Matt Wilcox (Vice-Chair), Ms. Alyson Fox, 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.

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**III. Update on Food Gap Subgroup: Reminder of dates and discussion about available data that can support the group** School sites being used for the April Break food distributions are John Martinez, Truman, Wexler, and Brennan Rogers. Sites were chosen based on space, accessibility, and location. Notices have been posted and procedures have been prepared in the event of rain. The process has been streamlined and an intake form has been created to gather information from families to help with future distributions. Planning for summer meals has begun. The Dixwell Community House, also known as the Q-House, has been secured for the Summer Meals Blitz that will be held on Saturday, June 25, 2022 from 10:AM to 1:00PM. Volunteers will be canvassing neighborhoods and passing out materials with information. Agencies offering summer youth programs and interested in being a summer meals site are encouraged to contact NHPS Food Service as a resource for providing meals.

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**IV. Update on Life-Threatening Allergy Advocacy Peer Group:** There are no updates at this time. Mr. Lamb plans to consult with Dr. Finley for advisement to reach a resolution.

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**V. Update on Finalizing Life-Threatening Food Allergy Management Plan Including Implementation, Forms, and Website Posting:**

Since posting, the plan has received positive feedback from the nursing department and has been well accepted. The plan is due to be reviewed in July. If updates are needed, revisions will be made accordingly and presented to the Board of Education in August for finalization. This line item will be removed from the agenda.

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**VI. Update on Food Policies:**

The Governance Committee is in the process of reviewing all policies as a whole. There are no additional updates at this time. This topic will remain on the agenda for future meetings.

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**VII. Other Business:**

The topic of meatless food options was discussed. Meatless options are available daily at schools and more meatless items will be available for the next school year. Posters have been created to advertise meatless options and students are encouraged to try them. The student council advocated for Meatless Mondays as a means to promote climate change, sustainability, and support local produce growers. On April 25, 2022, students will be motivating fellow students to try the meatless options. Sustainability and environmental consciousness relating to food service was also discussed. A student group wants to adopt a climate policy by the year 2030. A discussion ensued which included the following:

- a. Evaluating packaging and types of utensils
- b. Disposing of food waste
- c. Metrics
- d. Outlining the costs
- e. Assessing the positive impact
- f. Creating a subgroup
- g. Analyzing the district's current strengths/weaknesses
- h. Highlighting the district's sustainability efforts on the website to show what is currently being done
- i. Exploring and/or partnering with other districts
- j. Recycling

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 11, 2022. Agenda items are due to the Chair (Dr. Orlando Yarborough, III) by 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 4, 2022.



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**Adjournment:**            **On the Motion by Dr. Orlando Yarborough, III to adjourn at 5:38PM.**

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Respectfully Submitted,

*Cheryl Myers*

Cheryl Myers  
Central Kitchen Clerk