



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Haven, Connecticut

NEW HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION FINANCE AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, August 3, 2020

Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

Present: Mr. Matthew Wilcox, Chair; Mr. Larry Conaway

Staff: Dr. Iline Tracey, Mr. Phillip Penn, Attorney Michael Pinto, Dr. Paul Whyte, Ms. Keisha Redd-Hannans, Ms. Ivelise Velasquez, Attorney, Elias Alexiades, Mr. Michael Gormany, Ms. Gail Sharry, Ms. Sue Peters, Ms. Typhanie Jackson, Ms. Elizabeth Gaffney, Mr. Michael Crocco, Ms. Michele Bonanno, Mr. Joseph Barbarotta, Ms. Carolyn Ross-Lee, Ms. Patricia DeMaio

Closed Captioner

Call to Order: Mr. Wilcox called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Motions: A motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Mr. Conaway to **RECOMMEND APPROVAL of 14 Agreements 3 Purchase Orders and 1 Contract**, with corrections to dates on Agreement with Dr. Poncin and correction to amount on Agreement with Institute of Professional Practice, passed unanimously.

I. ACTION ITEMS:

A. INFORMATION ONLY – The Superintendent APPROVED the following items:

1. Agreement with Delta- T Group to provide nurse consultant services to the School Readiness Registration Office, from August 3, 2020 to May 31, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$11,700.00 was presented by Ms. Gaffney. **Funding Source:** School Readiness Program **Acct. # 2523-5736-56694-0442**
2. Agreement with Management Information Technology, USA, Inc. d/b/a Child Plus to provide Child Plus database training and support for Head Start staff, from August 10, 2020 to June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$10,800.00 was presented by Ms. Gaffney. **Funding Source:** Head Start Program **Acct. # 2532-5279-56694-0443**
3. Agreement with Constance Catrone, LCSW, to provide field instruction to 6 MSW Interns at Metropolitan High School, Michael Crocco. **Funding Source:** Interdistrict Magnet Program **Acct. #270-433-60-56694**

B. AGREEMENTS

1. **TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL** of a Non-Financial Agreement with The Winters Group, Inc. to provide professional development training on Intercultural Diversity Inventory and to design a learning plan for NHPS from February 11, 2020 to December 31, 2020. Funding provided by The William Casper Graustein Memorial

Fund, paid through Higher Heights as Fiscal Agent, previously approved by the Board of Education was presented by Ms. Ross-Lee.

2. **TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL** of an Agreement with Area Cooperative Education Services (ACES) to provide support and management of the arts program at Betsy Ross Arts Magnet Middle School and Cooperative Arts and Humanities Magnet High School from August 24, 2020 to June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$853,033.00 was presented by Ms. Bonnano.
Funding Source:

Interdistrict Magnet School – Betsy Ross Program	(\$477,995.00)	Acct. # 270-433-55-56697
Interdistrict Magnet School – COOP Program	(\$375,038.00)	Acct. # 270-433-64-56697

3. **TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL** of an Agreement with Lumen Touch, LLC for development and maintenance of the Brightcare health data management program for 17 school health centers and 6 dental clinics, from August 15, 2020 to June 30, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$40,750.00 was presented by Ms. Peters.
Funding Source: Medicaid Program **Acct. # 2534-5408-55576-0000**

4. **TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL** of an Agreement with Carol & Michael Frawley for month-to-month rental of 660 square feet of storage space located at 763 Edgewood Ave in an amount not to exceed \$4,200.00 from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 was presented by Attorney Pinto.
Funding Source: 2019-2020 Operating Budget **Acct. #190-47000-56652**

5. **TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL** of an Agreement with Carol & Michael Frawley for month-to-month rental of 660 square feet of storage space located at 763 Edgewood Ave in an amount not to exceed \$4,200.00 from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 was presented by Attorney Pinto.
Funding Source: 2020-2021 Operating Budget **Acct. #190-47000-56652**

Discussion: Attorney Pinto answered committee questions regarding the need for storage space for one school and what alternatives may be available. He explained that the school needed easy access to the storage. Committee members noted that staff should begin assessing the storage issue in light of future ongoing costs.

6. **TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL** of an Agreement with Dr. Yann B. Poncin, to provide psychiatric consultation, in-service training and support to assist staff schools in planning for students with complex social emotional needs, from August 24, 2020 to June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$20, 000.00 was presented by Ms. Jackson.
Correction Noted: Service dates on the Action Item listing were corrected to reflect dates on Agreement.
Funding Source: IDEA Program *Pending Receipt of Funds* **Acct. # 2504-5034-56903-0000**

7. **TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL** of an Agreement with Common Ground Charter School to provide Special Education services for New Haven students attending Common Ground to comply with their IEPs, from August 24, 2020 to June 30, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$144,200.00 was presented by Ms. Jackson.
Funding Source: IDEA Program *Pending Receipt of Funds* **Acct. # 2504-5034-56903-0000**

8. **TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL** of an Agreement with Booker T. Washington Academy Charter School to provided Special Education services for New Haven students attending Booker T. Washington Academy Charter School to comply with their IEPs, from August 24, 2020 to June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$57,963.00

was presented by Ms. Jackson

Funding Source: IDEA Program *Pending Receipt of Funds*

Acct. # 2504-5034-56903-0000

9. **TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL** of an Agreement with Area Cooperative Education Services (ACES) to provide Urban Youth Elementary School for “at risk students,” from August 24, 2020 to June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$1,179,750.00 was presented by Ms. Jackson.

Funding Source:

Priority Schools Program *Pending Receipt of Funds* (\$500,000.00)

Acct. #2579-5319-56694-0000

IDEA Program *Pending Receipt of Funds* (\$400,380.00)

Acct. # 2504-5034-56903-0000

2020-2021 Operating Budget (\$279,370.00)

Acct. #190-494-56694

10. **TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL** of an Agreement with Area Cooperative Education Services (ACES) to provide the ASPIRE program for students with significant behavior challenges from August 24, 2020 to June 30, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$1,479,075.00 was presented by Ms. Jackson.

Funding Source:

Alliance Program *Pending Receipt of Funds* (\$900,000.00)

Acct. #2547-6108-56694-0000

2020-2021 Operating Budget (\$579,075.00)

Acct. #190-410-00-56694

11. **TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL** of an Agreement with Institute of Professional Practice to provide behavioral therapists for students transitioning from Brennan-Roger and Strong School Autism Preschool Program to ABA/Autism Support Program at Brennan-Rogers, Strong and other programs for students with autism, from August 24, 2020 to June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$570,900.00 was presented by Ms. Jackson.

Correction Noted: The amount previously of \$490,990 was incorrectly stated on the Agreement and Action Items listing and corrected to reflect correct amount of \$570,900.00.

Funding Source:

IDEA (611) Brennan Rogers/Strong Program (\$266,600.00)

Acct. #2504-5034-56903-0000

Pending Receipt of Funds

IDEA (611) Helen Grant Program (\$266,600.00)

Acct. #2504-5034-56903-0000

Pending Receipt of Funds

2020-2021 Operating Budget (\$37,700.00)

Acct. #190-494-56694

12. **TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL** of an Agreement with CompuClaim to provide direct claiming services for Medicaid reimbursement provided to Medicaid eligible students, from August 24, 2020 to June 30, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$97,200.00 was presented by Ms. Jackson.

Funding Source: IDEA Program *Pending Receipt of Funds*

Acct. #2504-5034-56903.0000

13. **TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL** of an Agreement with Aveanna Healthcare nursing care to a special education student with complex medical needs from August 24, 2020 to June 30, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$62,699.00 was presented by Ms. Jackson.

Funding Source: IDEA Program *Pending Receipt of Funds*

Acct. #2504-5034-56903-0000

14. **TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL** of an Agreement with Area Cooperative Education Services (ACES) to provide assistive technology services for students with special needs, from August 24, 2020 to June 30, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$59,008.00 was presented by Ms. Jackson.

Funding Source: IDEA Program *Pending Receipt of Funds*

Acct. # 2504-5034-56903-0000

C. PURCHASE ORDERS

1. **TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL** of a Purchase Order for Naviance, Inc. for annual software subscription and support for Student Success Plans for grades 6-12 from September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$69,846.01 was presented by Ms. Jackson.
Funding Source: Alliance Program (Pending Receipt of Funds) **Acct. #** 2457-6107-56694-0000
2. **TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL** of a Purchase Order for NCS Pearson, Inc., to provide software licenses for SSW, SLP and School Psychologists for scoring and evaluating students, from August 24, 2020 to June 30, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$51,000.00 was presented by Ms. Jackson.
Funding Source: IDEA Program Pending Receipt of Funds **Acct. #** 2504-5034-55100-0000
3. **TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL** of a Purchase Order for Frontline Technologies Group, LLC d/b/a Frontline Education for renewal of IEP software from August 24, 2020 to June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$42,419.00.
Funding Source: 2020-2021 Operating Budget **Acct. #** 190-494-00-56694

D. CONTRACTS

*** The following Contract was a previously Tabled Item pending review by Corporation Counsel, completed:**

1. **TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL** of an Award of Contract #21632A-2-2 to Tucker Mechanical, Inc. for On Call HVAC repairs for fiscal year 2020-2021 in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00 was presented by Attorney Pinto and Mr. Barbarotta. **Funding Source:** 2020-2021 Capital Projects **Acct. #** 3C19-19CC-58101

II. DISCUSSION:

- **Draft Agreement Memo:** Ms. DeMaio presented a revised Agreement Memo to be utilized by staff for non-operations Agreements. The memo addresses committee requests for data on Minority and Women owned businesses and small businesses. A discussion ensued regarding public corporations; Ms. DeMaio will add the category to the memo draft. In response to Mr. Wilcox's request, the memo will be included in the Board of Education packet.
- **Committee Priorities August – December 2020:** Mr. Wilcox led a discussion about possible discussion items for the balance of the calendar year, as noted below. He explained that more information is needed to inform decisions and time needed for careful implementation of any cost savings strategies so the discussion is timely. He asked that the topic be included on the next committee agenda for continuing discussion. The following list is preliminary. Mr. Wilcox will forward the list to Dr. Tracey and Board members for their input:
 - **School closing or consolidations:** the committee requests a financial analysis of school buildings so that there is time to consider closings or consolidations. Dr. Tracey noted that there will be an assessment of each building.
 - **Cost analysis of busing and School Choice:** Committee members expressed interest in analyzing the busing costs for School Choice compared to neighborhood schools.

- **Budget Mitigation recommendations:** Mr. Wilcox noted that a number of the Budget Mitigation Committee's recommendation should be reviewed and discussed, including plans to eliminate the 8th floor of Gateway Center and other recommendations. The discussion item will remain on future agendas.
- **Lobbying efforts for increased funding:** Dr. Tracey recommended and the committee concurred, that the district should host a meeting with State Legislators to discuss needs prior to the start of a new legislative session. Mr. Wilcox recommended that the district develop a lobbying plan. In response to Mr. Conaway's request for an update on the grant writer position, Mr. Penn reported that he has received 4 resumes and will begin the review and interview process.
- **Pay Inequity Committee:** Mr. Wilcox reported that Ms. Rivera is in the process of inviting members to be part of the committee. The committee will review wages across the district and analyze how NHPS compares to other districts. He noted that the Paraprofessional labor contract was approved by the Board of Education.
- **Food Service Budget Plan:** Mr. Gormany and Ms. Sharry discussed the food department deficit due to Covid expenses and lack of reimbursement from the USDA. Mr. Gormany noted that there may be funding relief from the USDA and that the City's Legislative Liaison was following up. Mr. Gormany also noted that there may be fund balances available in the food budget after the close out of expenditures for the previous fiscal year. Any unspent funds will decrease the deficit.
- **Procurement Policy Update:** Mr. Wilcox asked for an update on the implementation of the recently approved Procurement Policy. Mr. Penn reported that the district is in compliance and that he will have the policy posted on the website.

Mr. Wilcox thanked board members, staff and volunteers for their work and ongoing commitment.

Adjournment: A motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Mr. Conaway to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m., passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. DeMaio