



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Haven, Connecticut

NEW HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION FINANCE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, August 16, 2021

MINUTES

Present: Mr. Matthew Wilcox, Ms. Yesenia Rivera, Mr. Larry Conaway
Staff: Dr. Iline Tracey, Dr. Paul Whyte, Mr. Thomas Lamb, Ms. Viviana Conner, Ms. Ivelise Velasquez, Attorney Elias Alexiades, Ms. Patricia DeMaio, Ms. Mary Derwin, Ms. Edith Johnson, Mr. Joseph Barbarotta, Mr. Nicholas Montano
Closed Captioner

Call to Order: Mr. Wilcox called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m.

Summary of Motions:

1. **Motion to Recommend Approval of Action Items:** A motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Ms. Rivera to Recommend Approval of **3 Abstracts, 8 Agreements, 1 Lease Agreement, 1 Contract and 2 Purchase Orders**, passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Conaway, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.

I. INFORMATION ONLY & ACTION ITEMS:

A. INFORMATION ONLY: Committee members did not have questions about the Information Only items approved by the Superintendent, as follows:

1. Agreement with The Consultation Center, to provide clinical assessments, referrals and treatment to Adult Education students experiencing mental health issues, from August 10, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00.
Funding Source: State Adult Education Program **Acct. #2503-5014-56694-053**
2. Agreement with Dr. Brett Rayford, to provide screening, triage, referral and mental health services to Adult Education students, from August 10, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00. **Funding Source:** State Adult Education Program **Acct. #2503-5014-56694-053**
3. Agreement with Connecticut Center for School Change to provide facilitation and support to the principal and staff of New Haven Adult Education in the development of an improvement plan, from August 10, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00.
Funding Source: State Adult Education Program **Acct. #2503-5014-56694-0053**
4. Agreement with 3Prime Web Solutions to provide maintenance and extension of the database system for SRBI for monitoring data on students in grades K-1, from September 14, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$14,600.00. **Funding Source:** Alliance Program **Acct. #2547-6108-56694**

B. ABSTRACTS:

1. American Recovery Program Bridge Funding for the McKinney Vento Program, in the amount of \$40,000.00 for June 1, 2021 to November 30, 2021 was reviewed by committee in the absence of staff presentation. **Funding Source:** CT State Department of Education
2. Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program in the amount of \$111,431.00 for September 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 was presented by Mr. Lamb in the absence of Ms. Gail Sharry.
Funding Source: CT State Department of Education – Office of Child Nutrition
3. Head Start Covid 19 Funding (P.L. 116-260), in the amount of \$159,815.00 for April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2023 was presented by Ms. Derwin who answered committee member questions about how the funds would be distributed to individual sites.
Funding Source: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Administration

C. AGREEMENTS:

1. Agreement with Laura Goldblum, LCSW, for supervision of 8 social work interns to provide direct wrap-around services to students at Wilbur Cross High School, from August 25, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$22,000.00 was presented by Ms. Johnson who explained that the service was previously funded through Commissioner Network Grant which is no longer available. She discussed the importance of utilizing interns.
Funding Source: 2021-2022 Operating Budget **Acct. #190-43361-50136**
2. Agreement with Area Cooperative Educational Services, (ACES), to provide the Urban Youth Elementary program to 45 “at risk” students, from August 20, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$1,179,750.00 was presented by Ms. Jackson who answered questions about the program.
Funding Sources:

IDEA Program	Acct. #2504-5034-56903-0000	(\$214,000.00)
2021-2022 Operating Budget	Acct. #190-494-56694	(\$465,750.00)
Alliance Program	Acct. #2547-6107-56694-0000	(\$250,000.00)
Priority Schools Program	Acct. #2579-5319-56694-0000	(250,000.00) <i>Pending Receipt of Funds</i>
3. Agreement with Area Cooperative Educational Services, (ACES), to provide board certified behavioral services and behavior management programming for students with autism, from August 30, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$506,700.00 was presented by Ms. Jackson, who explained that this service was previously provided by the Institute for Professional Practice. Parents will receive a letter outlining the change in provider, explaining that ACES will continue to provide the same services, as required by law, but will have more opportunity for mainstreaming and other program enhancements.
Funding Source: IDEA Program Acct # 2504-5034-56903-0000 (Pending Receipt of Funds)
4. Agreement with Achievement First, to provide Special Education services for New Haven students attending Amistad Academy Charter School and Elm City Charter School, to comply with their IEPs, from August 30, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$468,860.00 was presented by Ms. Jackson who reported that we are currently in negotiations for one additional Charter School contract for Booker T. Washington Charter School.
Funding Source: 2021-2022 Operating Budget **Acct. #190-494-56694**

5. Agreement with Capitol Regional Education Council, (CREC), to provide up to five places for AARC candidates in the Advanced Alternative Route to Certification Special Education Cross Endorsement program, from August 30, 2021 to June 30, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$42,000.00 was presented by Ms. Jackson. In answer to committee questions, she explained that the District is considering MOU's for the students, which will require a 3 year obligation to work in the district.
Funding Source: IDEA Program (Pending Receipt of Funds) **Acct. #**2504-5034-56903-0000
 6. Agreement with Dr. Yann B. Poncin to provide psychiatric services, school based evaluation, behavioral services, planning and placement of students, from August 30, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 was presented by Ms. Jackson.
Funding Source: 2021-2022 Operating Budget **Acct. #**190-494-00-56694
 7. Agreement with Michael Mackniak to provide impartial hearings for the student services department, including but not limited to student discipline expulsions and/or special education services as needed, from September 15, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00 was presented by Ms. Jackson who explained that expulsion is only utilized if all other methods of remediation have not worked, following the new Code of Conduct policy.
Funding Source: 2021-2022 Operating Budget **Acct. #**19049400-56694
 8. Agreement with City of New Haven Corporation Counsel to provide a staff attorney dedicated to Board of Education legal matters, July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00 was presented by Mr. Lamb who explained that the fee represents 36% of Attorney Alexiades' salary. He reviewed the types of activity provided by Corp Counsel which include consulting on executive orders, responding to FOIA requests, attendance at meetings, and consultation on other matters. Committee members asked Mr. Lamb to provide a report comparing legal work and pay rates for outside counsel.
Funding Source: 2021-2022 Operating Budget **Acct. #**19047700-56696
- C. LEASE AGREEMENT: (New Category requested by Committee)** Committee members requested a re-write of the following action item because the original language did not make it clear that the Board of Education is not renting space; Cornell Scott Hill Health Center will rent space from the BOE as indicated below. Mr. Wilcox recommended creating the Lease Agreement category to separate it from other Agreements.
1. Lease Agreement with Cornell Scott Hill Health Center to rent the kitchen facility space at 130 Orchard Street from the New Haven Board of Education, from September 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$47,638.75 was presented by Mr. Lamb. He explained that the current facility utilized by Cornell Scott has been condemned and the organization is seeking alternative space while a new location is constructed. The organization will pay rent and all costs associated with renovating the space.
- D. CONTRACTS:**
1. Award of Contract for Anytime Sewer & Drain Jetting Services LLC for On Call Sewer Maintenance Service, from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$60,000.00 was presented by Mr. Barbarotta. In response to questions about the increase in price from previous year, Mr. Barbarotta explained that options to renew the contract expired and the District was required to bid out for the services. Since the contractor was the sole bidder, the City required the District to rebid. The contractor remained the sole bidder with a higher cost than previous years. The bid process does not

allow negotiation; the District is required to accept the lowest or sole bidder. Mr. Lamb will work with City Purchasing and Finance Departments on improvements to the process for these situations.

Funding Source: 2021-2022 Capital Budget **Acct. #**3C22-2261-58101

E. PURCHASE ORDERS:

1. Purchase Order for Houghton Mifflin Harcourt to provide the Blended Learning Platform, from August 14, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$125,360.00 was presented by Ms. Jackson on behalf of Ms. Brantley. **Funding Source:** Alliance Program **Acct. #**2547-6108-56694
2. Purchase Order for NCS Pearson Inc. to Pearson-SchoolNet Student Management Information license subscription renewal and support, from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$89,800.00 was presented by Ms. Jackson on behalf of Dr. Sherban
Funding Source: 2021-2022 Operating Budget **Acct. #**19041900-56694

II. DISCUSSION:

- **Work Order Tracking Changes – Update:** Mr. Lamb reviewed a power point detailing improvements to the work order process, as well as goals and objectives for the program. Mr. Wilcox recommended monthly or quarterly update reports. A discussion ensued. No motion was made and no vote was taken.
- **After School Program Process Overview:** Mr. Wilcox asked for a presentation at the September 7, 2021 Finance & Operations Committee meeting on After School Programs. He asked committee members to identify information that should be included in the presentation, as follows:
 - Program requirements, processes, forms and deadlines
 - A report detailing how programs are distributed by school and funding source.
 - Before school programs: what can we do and what can't be done**Discussion:** Dr. Tracey reported that the Hamden school district is outsourcing management of their before school programs. She will follow-up and explore other possibilities. In response to committee questions, Dr. Tracey reported that Before School Pre-k programs were cut in past, as part of budget mitigation. A discussion ensued. No motion was made and no vote was taken.
- **Series 3000 Policies:** Mr. Wilcox had no report but asked that the discussion item remain on Agenda for future meetings. No motion was made and no vote was taken.
- **Part Time Pay – Update:** Dr. Tracey reported that staff is working on the report and cost analysis. The report will be presented at the September 7, 2021 meeting. No motion was made and no vote was taken.

Adjournment: A motion by Mr. Conaway, seconded by Ms. Rivera to adjourn the meeting at 6:07 p.m. passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Mr. Conaway, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. DeMaio