



HAMDEN BOARD OF EDUCATION
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2020
MEETING MINUTES

Arturo Perez-Cabello, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M.

Board Members: Arturo Perez-Cabello, Melinda Saller, Lynn Campo, Christopher Daur, Melinda Kaplan, Gail Mitchell, Walter Morton IV. (7:15 P.M), Roxana Walker-Canton, and Gary Walsh

Ex Officio Mayor Curt Balzano Leng was also in attendance.

Student Representative: Darius Cummings

Staff: Jody Goeler, Tom Ariola, Gary Highsmith, Karen Kaplan, Christopher Melillo, and Mayor Curt Balzano Leng

SUPERINTENDENT/BOARD RECOGNITION

The Superintendent recognized the following people as November's Hamden Heroes:

- Maya DiMauro – Bear Path School student
- Ben Kerzner – Bear Path School staff
- Brooklynn Diggs - West Woods School student
- Art Sousa - West Woods School staff

REMOVAL OF ITEMS FROM THE AGENDA

Board Chair, Arturo Perez-Cabello removed Action Item 8a) Approval of Superintendent's recommendation to move students to a remote learning platform starting on November 23rd and returning on January 19, 2021.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Move to approve the minutes from the Special Board meeting on October 29, 2020.
Saller
Seconded by: Mitchell
Unanimous

CORRESPONDENCE

Melinda Saller shared the correspondence she received since the last Board meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following people had their letters read or name mentioned during Public Comment: Alicia Liso, Molly Persinger, Shawn Persinger, Ali Gilbey, Anthony Inzero, Sharon Brune, Sara Gross Kaczmarek, Anna Patel, Jordan Jefferson, Mario Cinnarini, Myla Wilson, Melissa Whitson Ph.D., Makaela Kingsley, Andrea Gloria-Soria and Nathan Havill, Kelly Sobocinski, Laura Davidson, Eric Greene, Kathleen Kaliscak, Sarah Dunn, Elizabeth Ranfone, Misha, Kaari Pitkin, Nicholas Dawidoff, Raquel Otheguy, Sarah Bolitzer, Brian Gordon, Justin Boucher, Diane Marinaro, Mark Bradford, Betsy Kearney D'Amico, Rob Lawton, Blake Sullivan & Marsha Movshovich, Teresa Considine, Megan Goslin, , Margo Nicolson, Diana Theriault, Jessica Savik, , Adrienne Kane, Lindsay Lawton, B Hasson, Julia Desroches, Mubarra Elahee, Casey Arenberg, Lisa Devine, Joe Grandelski, Brian Gavigan, Marci Petterson, Cheryl C. Durwin, The IIC Special Education Teachers, Caroline Fargeorge, Katie Ryan, Greg Bivens, and Michele Helou.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

2. Move to add back to the agenda action item 8a) Approval of Superintendent's recommendation to move students to a remote learning platform starting on November 23rd and returning on January 19, 2021.
Morton
Seconded by: Walsh
In Favor: Campo, Kaplan, Mitchell, Morton IV., Perez-Cabello, Saller and Walsh
Against: Daur and Walker-Canton

MOTION PASSES

INFORMATION ITEMS

The Superintendent introduced Kellen Nixon of Nixon & Co. Consulting Group to present Update on Board Workshops that were conducted.

The Superintendent introduced Mark Wiernusz of District Management Group(DMG). Mark introduced the principle on the report, Simone Carpenter. Mark and Simone presented the findings report on Raising Achievement of Students Who Struggle. Theresa Ott and Sue Smey added information on what Hamden had started doing.

The following Board members asked questions about the Raising Achievement of Students Who Struggle findings report: Perez-Cabello, Walker-Canton, Daur, Kaplan, and Walsh-Canton.

The Superintendent presented a recommendation to move students to a remote learning platform starting on November 23rd and returning on January 19, 2021.

The following Board members asked questions about the remote learning platform: Saller, Kaplan, Daur, Walker-Canton, Mitchell, Campo, Mayor Leng, Walsh, and Perez-Cabello.

ACTION ITEMS

3. Move to table the approval the Superintendent's recommendation to move students to a remote learning platform starting on November 23rd and returning on January 19, 2021.

Perez-Cabello

In Favor: Daur, Kaplan, Perez-Cabello, Walker-Canton and Walsh

Against: Campo, Mitchell, Morton IV., and Saller

MOTION PASSES

CONSENT AGENDA

4. Move the Consent Agenda to Pending Action Items.

Perez-Cabello

PENDING ACTIONS

5. Move to approve the amendment to the First Student contract (Operations Committee meeting, 11/9/20)

Daur

Seconded by: Walsh

In Favor: Campo, Daur, Kaplan, Mitchell, Morton IV., Perez-Cabello, Walker-Canton and Walsh

Abstain: Saller

MOTION PASSES

6. Move to approve Capital transfer submission to Legislative Council for approval (Operations Committee meeting, 11/9/20)

Morton IV.

Seconded by: Walsh

Unanimous

The Board Chair stated that in consideration of the lateness of this meeting, the Superintendent's Report, Committee Reports and Executive Session will be moved to the Special Board meeting that will be held in the near future.

ADJOURNMENT

7. Move to adjourn at 11:56 P.M.

Saller

Seconded by: Mitchell

Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted,
Melinda Saller, Board Secretary