



HAMDEN BOARD OF EDUCATION
TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2021
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, Melissa Kaplan, Gail Mitchell, Walter Morton IV. (left at 10:30 P.M.), Roxana Walker-Canton, and Gary Walsh

Ex-Officio Mayor Curt Balzano Leng (7:06 P.M. – 9:50 P.M.) was also in attendance.

Student Representative: Darius Cummings (left at 7:32 P.M.)

Staff: Jody Goeler, Tom Ariola, Gary Highsmith, Karen Kaplan, and Christopher Melillo

Arturo Perez-Cabello made an Opening Remark.

SUPERINTENDENT/BOARD RECOGNITION

The Superintendent recognized the following March Hamden Heroes:
William Ruocco, Spring Glen Student
Shari McDermott, Spring Glen Whitsons' employee
Yvette Wiggins, Spring Glen Whitsons' employee
Marsha Gugliemino, District Nursing Supervisor/COVID-19 Coordinator
Sara Kelling, Cornell Scott Hill Assistant Director of School Based Health/Vaccine
Clinic Site Coordinator

Arturo Perez-Cabello stated the Consent Agenda will be moved to before other Action Items.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Move to approve the Board of Education minutes from the December 9, 2020 meeting.
Saller
Seconded by: Mitchell
In Favor: Campo, Daur, Kaplan, Mitchell, Morton IV., Perez-Cabello, Saller and Walsh
Abstain: Walker-Canton

MOTION PASSES

2. Move to approve the minutes from the Board of Education meeting on February 9, 2021.
Saller
Seconded by: Mitchell
In Favor: Campo, Daur, Kaplan, Mitchell, Morton IV., Perez-Cabello, Saller and Walsh
Abstain: Walker-Canton

MOTION PASSES

CORRESPONDENCE

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following people sent in comments:
Julie Murtagh, Cat Balco and Victoria Fortier

EXECUTIVE SESSION

3. Move to Executive Session to discuss collective bargaining strategies for custodial, paraprofessional/clerk, and supervisors' union contracts, at 7:32 P.M. Along with the Board, the following people were invited to attend: Jody Goeler, Tom Ariola, Gary Highsmith, and Attorney Bill Ryan.
Saller
Seconded by: Morton IV.
Unanimous
4. Move to return from Executive Session at 8:29 P.M.
Saller
Seconded by: Morton IV.
Unanimous

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Curriculum Committee – Melissa Kaplan reported on the activities of the committee.
ACES/Wintergreen – Lynn Campo reported on the activities of the committee and stated another meeting will be held this week.
Operations Committee – Chris Daur reported on the activities of the committee.
Finance Committee – Walter Morton IV. reported on the activities of the committee.
Personnel Committee – Walter Morton IV. reported on the activities of the committee.
Policy Committee – Melinda Saller reported on the activities of the committee.
Evaluation and Goals Committee – Lynn Campo reported on activities of the committee and stated another meeting would need to be held soon.
Equity Committee – Roxana Walker-Canton reported on the activities of the committee.

ACTION ITEMS

CONSENT AGENDA

5. Move to accept the Consent Agenda.
Morton IV.
Seconded by: Saller
Unanimous
- a) Approval to revise Hamden Board of Education Policy #6114 Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness (2nd reading)
 - b) Approval to revise Hamden Board of Education Policy #3516 Safety (2nd reading)

- c) Approval to rescind Hamden Board of Education Policy #3516.3 Accident Prevention and Reporting (2nd reading)
- d) Approval of IQuest Science Curriculum (Curriculum Committee, March 3rd)
- e) Approval of De-Leveling HMS classes (Curriculum Committee, March 3rd)
- f) Approval of West Woods Book Discard (Curriculum Committee, March 3rd)
- g) Approval of Hamden High School Book Discard (Curriculum Committee, March 3rd)
- h) Approval of the usage of 60 Putnam Avenue gymnasium for COVID-19 vaccination clinic (Mondays/Wednesdays/Fridays)
- i) Approval of the modifications to the plans for the lower level of the Hamden Middle School addition option 2 (Operations Committee, March 2nd)

6. Move to approve custodial union contract.

Morton IV.

Seconded by: Saller

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

Abstain: Daur and Walsh

MOTION PASSES

7. Move to approve the 2021-2022 Board of Education Operating Budget in the amount of \$92,820,405 (3.83% increase).

Morton IV.

Seconded by: Daur

Unanimous

8. Move to approve the 2021-2022 School Calendar.

Saller

Seconded by: Morton IV.

Move to amend the approval of the 2021-2022 School Calendar, to include start of school, days off and 1/2 days only, with a refined detailed list of holidays to be added later.

Perez-Cabello

Morton IV.

Move to approve the amended 2021-2022 School Calendar.

Unanimous

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Superintendent updated the Board on the COVID-19 vaccine for the school staff and ideas about reopening of schools.

The Superintendent updated the Board on 3R Plan including the design update for the Middle School and redistricting options.

COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

The following Board members spoke this evening:

Walter Morton IV., Lynn Campo, Gail Mitchell, Gary Walsh, Arturo Perez-Cabello, Melissa Kaplan, Melinda Saller, Christopher Daur, and Roxana Walker-Canton.

ADJOURNMENT

9. Move to adjourn at 10:49 P.M.
Saller
Seconded by: Mitchell
Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted,
Melinda Saller, Board Secretary