



HAMDEN BOARD OF EDUCATION
SEPTEMBER 20, 2022
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Melissa Kaplan, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:06 P.M.

Board Members: Melissa Kaplan, Reu'el Parks, David Asbery, Austin Cesare, Mariam Khan, Walter Morton IV., Kevin Shea and Gary Walsh.

Student Representative: Mark Hu and Ishnan Khan

Staff: Gary Highsmith, Tom Ariola, Erin Bailey, Linda Morbidelli and Sue Smey

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

The Superintendent stated he will not have a report this evening.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

The following persons spoke during public comment tonight:

Nancy Mistivos
John Hanna
Ann Powers
Ray Hyman
Jaydeep Talwalker
Several other speakers

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Move to Executive Session at 7:31 P.M. to discuss attorney-client privileged communication regarding the calculation of weighted grading and class rank. In addition to the board, the following people were asked to attend: Superintendent Gary Highsmith, Assistant Superintendent Linda Morbidelli, Dan Cocchiola and Attorney Dory Antonetti. Walsh
Seconded by: Asbery
Unanimous
2. Move to return to Public Session at 9:33 P.M.
Kaplan
Seconded by: Walsh
Unanimous

ACTION ITEMS

3. Move to approve the CSDE Authorized Signature Change Form for the Child Nutrition Program.
Parks
Seconded by: Khan
Unanimous

4. Move to approve possible action regarding the calculation of weighted grading and class rank.
Morton IV.
Seconded by: Khan
Unanimous

The Superintendent read the four recommendations that the Board was considering to recommend for approval.

The first was to revise the green and gold guide starting with school year 2022-2023 so that all PE courses taken from this point forward are not calculated towards weighted GPA.

The second was to continue with the current plan as articulated in the green and gold guide for all PE classes to not be leveled nor calculated towards the weighted GPA, beginning with the Class of 2026, current ninth graders.

The third was to retroactively recalculate the weighted GPAs of all current Hamden High Students by removing weight from PE courses already taken allowing students to retain their current GPA if recalculation would lower GPA.

The fourth option was to revise the process of PE classes not count towards GPA beginning with the 2022-2023 school year for all students with the sole purpose of college applications and not for the purpose of determining class rank report either weighted or not-weighted PE to colleges or other post-High School institutions, depending on which of the two is in the student's best interest.

5. Move to approve the revising of the green and gold guide starting with school year 2022-2023 so that all PE classes taken from this point forward are not calculated towards weighted GPA.
Parks
Seconded by: Walsh
In Favor: Asbery, Kaplan, Khan, Morton IV, Parks and Walsh
Opposed: Cesare and Shea

MOTION PASSES

ADJOURNMENT

6. Move to adjourn at 10:13 P.M.
Kaplan
Seconded by: Walsh
Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted,

Reu'el Parks, Board Secretary