

WATERBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES ~ REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, April 5, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.

Waterbury Arts Magnet School, 16 South Elm Street, Waterbury, Connecticut

PRESENT: President Stango, Commissioners Brown, D'Amelio, Flaherty-Merritt, Harvey, Hayes, Sweeney, and Van Stone.

ABSENT: Commissioners Harkins and Morales.

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent Ouellette, Assistant Superintendents Cullinan and Sequeira, Chief Operating Officer Paul Guidone, Director of Personnel Ron Frost, Attorney Maurice Mosley, and Education Liaison Mary Ann Marold.

1. SILENT PRAYER

President Stango called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. with a moment of silence.

SUPERINTENDENT: Commissioners and members of the public, as we take a moment to remember those who have passed, please remember Ms. Ann "June" McKinnon who passed away April 1. Ms. McKinnon was a teacher for the city of Waterbury for 36 years specializing in phonetic reading. She retired from Tinker School in 1989. Please keep her and the McKinnon family in our thoughts and prayers this evening.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Katherine Ross of Waterbury Arts Magnet School led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

3. ROLL CALL

CLERK: Commissioner Brown.

BROWN: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner D'Amelio.

D'AMELIO: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Flaherty-Merritt.

FLAHERTY-MERRITT: Present.

CLERK: Commissioner Harkins (absent). Vice President Harvey.

HARVEY: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Hayes.

HAYES: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Morales (absent). Commissioner Sweeney.

SWEENEY: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Van Stone.

VAN STONE: Here.

CLERK: President Stango.

STANGO: Here. Just for the record, Commissioner Harkins did email me and tell me that he would not be able to attend this evening.

4. COMMUNICATIONS

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to receive and place on file the following communications:

1. Copy of communication dated March 19, 2012 from the New England Association of Schools & Colleges, Inc. to Elizabeth McGrath regarding Waterbury Arts Magnet School's accreditation.
2. Copy of communication dated March 21, 2012 from Civil Service certifying Dana Githmark for the position of ABA Behavioral Therapist.
3. Copy of communications dated March 22, 2012 from Civil Service certifying Steven Gorman, Robert Ciochetti, and Vittorio Rinaldi for the position of Maintainer I.
4. Email communication received March 22, 2012 from Athena Wagner.
5. Copy of communication dated March 23, 2012 from the New England Association of Schools & Colleges, Inc. to Louis Padua regarding Crosby High School's accreditation.
6. Copy of communications dated March 21, 2012 from the Connecticut Education Association to the American Arbitration Association regarding Demand for Arbitration on WTA grievances 11-12-09, 11-12-11, 11-12-14, and 11-12-15.
7. Email communication received April 4, 2012 from James Sanders supporting the naming of the circle at the new Reed School in honor of Louvernal McDaniel.

STANGO: Motion has been made and seconded. Any discussion? All in favor, opposed, motion carries.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Commissioner Hayes and duly seconded by Commissioner Sweeney, it was voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the Committee Meeting of February 23, 2012, Regular Meeting of March 1, 2012, Committee Meeting of March 8, 2012, Special Meeting of March 8, 2012, and Regular Meeting of March 15, 2012.

STANGO: All in favor, all opposed – motion carries unanimous.

6. PUBLIC ADDRESSES THE BOARD

Upon a motion by Commissioner Hayes and duly seconded by Commissioner Van Stone, it was voted unanimously to suspend the regular order of business to allow the public to address the Board at 6:38 p.m.

STANGO: Motion made and seconded. All speakers are encouraged to submit prepared written statements to the Commissioners. Comments shall be limited to a maximum of three minutes. There will be no responses this evening to any questions or concerns raised; they will be referred to the Administration for review and response.

Alice Ross, 608 North Main Street, Thomaston, had the following comments: I'm fortunate enough to have two of my daughters enrolled here at the Waterbury Arts Magnet School and next year my third daughter will be attending as well. In the two years we've been at the school, we've been very happy with the academic programs as well as most of the arts programs they've been involved with. I say most because my oldest is in eighth grade and plays the violin. I know there's been much debate regarding Rock Orchestra in the past and while I feel it's a great opportunity for the kids as an elective, or an after-school program, this is not where my frustrations lie. Last year a youth string orchestra was formed. Mr. Mobilio was charged with forming this group and my understanding was that he would have the full support of the administration and access to the resources necessary to get this program up and running. Over the course of this school year, it has become quite obvious that any program with the word "orchestra" in it kind of gets shuffled off to the side. For example, my daughter has been playing for eight years, taking private lessons and playing with the Waterbury Youth Symphony. There are some students in orchestra who have their own instruments and can read music and play. However, there are a great number who have never picked up a stringed instrument and cannot read music so you have a group of kids who can play in with a group of kids that are just starting from the very beginning. When the year started, Mr. Mobilio ordered instruments and music for the group. It was December before all of it was received by him, then they could finally start to learn. Needless to say I did not get to see my daughter perform in the winter concert. The other thing they didn't have for quite some time, which seems kind of ridiculous, is chairs. So the kids with instruments stood for 46 minutes and played and the kids without them sat there. It would seem to me that, if the administration was behind Mr. Mobilio in getting his program running, it would not have taken so long for him to get what he needed to teach the kids. I was looking through the Waterbury Public School website and was surprised to see that Crosby and Wilby High School you can take Strings I and Strings II, courses which are currently not offered at WAMS. I think the only real solution to getting a proper strings program worthy of WAMS up and running is to offer strings class for kids who want to learn, which would then funnel into the orchestra. WAMS has the longest school day in the State and the offerings and scheduling should reflect that. My daughter is not sure she even wants to join orchestra next year, and if things continue as they have, I can't say that I blame her. It saddens me that a strings player really has no place to play at an arts school. Another thing that really bothered me this year was regarding the winter concert where the band and the choruses performed. My daughter was part of the after-school program Rock Orchestra, they didn't play in the concert and people said it was because it was an after-school program yet the Jazz Band and Middle School Select Choir, also after-school

programs, performed. Again, I can't help but think it's the word "orchestra". If these kids choose to go into music as a major in college, attending WAMS and being part of the orchestra should mean something on their application. People talk about the wonderful art work and amazing shows and performances that are put on by the students in other departments at WAMS, shouldn't the string players be given the opportunity to shine as well? Thank you.

Cassandra Brown, 48 Waterville Street, had the following comments: I'm actually here tonight to express feelings of gratitude for the Board of Education and the City of Waterbury, at large, for considering naming the circle adjacent to the Jonathan Reed School after my Dad, the late Reverend Louvernal McDaniel. It's something that we both appreciate and we would just like to say thank you for considering my Dad. He worked long and hard here in the City of Waterbury and was a Pastor here in the City of Waterbury for over 25 years but he was very civic minded. If you search back through the history of Waterbury, you'll find that even the North End Recreation Center is erected in response to a fund that he launched called "Save a Waterbury Teenager". It's unfortunate that the location that you've decided to name after him is the same site that he was killed at. Nevertheless, it is still honorable, indeed, that you would even consider something of this magnitude on his behalf. So myself, along with the members of my family, all of my family, some of my Dad's siblings are here, and the Church members, we just wanted to tell you thank you.

STANGO: Is there anyone else wishing to address the Board?

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Flaherty-Merritt, it was voted unanimously to return to the regular order of business at 6:44 p.m.

STANGO: Motion has been made and seconded. Any discussion?

HAYES: If the one speaker will agree that whenever the awardee shows up we'll...

STANGO: Very good point, Commissioner Hayes. The person that was going to address the Board next, and Ms. Henry who's here from Wilson School, were going to present an award to a benefactor of the school. We'd like to have the benefactor of the school here when that happens. Maybe he got stuck in traffic on 84. But we'll have to re-suspend when he comes. I think we can do that.

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Ouellette read and distributed the following report:

The Legislature's Education Committee passed a revised Education Reform Bill, Senate Bill 24 Substitute, by a margin of 28 to 5 last week. The newly rewritten bill was not immediately available for public review, but the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education did obtain a copy and reviewed it for members last week in a webinar. The substitute bill that passed does not include Governor Malloy's original proposals on teacher tenure changes, and earlier this week, Governor Malloy has stated he would not sign the revised version.

The revised bill would still provide a conditional increase in Education Cost Sharing funding for districts in need of improvement. It reduces the maximum number of network schools needing intensive state intervention from 25 to 10, and states that no district will have more than two such schools. It increases the number of new school readiness slots from 500 to 1,000, and up to 20 family resource centers or school based health clinics will be opened in low performing schools.

I have included a copy of CAFE's summary of the revised bill for your review. Although the summary does not specifically mention, the revised bill does include an expansion of School Governance Councils in schools needing improvement in the coming year, beyond what was originally mandated when the law requiring school governance councils was first passed.

On March 28th, the Exchange Club honored Rotella Magnet School Principal Gina Calabrese as Educator of the Year. Gina is an accomplished educator, who was appointed Principal of the Rotella Interdistrict Magnet School in 2005. Under her leadership, the school has become a nationally recognized magnet school. In 2007, Rotella was named the recipient of the Dr. Ronald P. Simpson Distinguished Merit Award from the Magnet Schools of America, the highest award possible for a magnet school. For the past three years, the school has been named a School of Excellence by that same organization and is one of the most highly decorated magnet schools in America. Rotella students have had art work displayed in a number of national venues, and in 2010, a fifth grade teacher at Rotella, Joan Dooling, was named a Magnet Schools of America National Teacher of the Year. In 2011, a Rotella fifth grader, Autumn McDonald, was declared the National Poster Winner from Magnet Schools of America. Last year, Gina Calabrese was declared the Principal of the Year by the Magnet Schools of America. That award is presented each year to a Principal who has succeeded in implementing innovative programs that promote academic excellence in a magnet school.

The Exchange Club also honored a Kennedy High School student as a second place winner of Youth of the Year. Nelson Depillar is a true scholar and well-rounded student. He is in the top 10% of his class at Kennedy High School. He is a member of the National Honor Society, is Vice-President of ASPIRA, a health instructor for the Greater Waterbury YMCA, a member of the NAACP and a Boy Scout. He is also a distance runner, a running back in football, and a tennis player. Among his awards, he has been named "Best Debater in the House of Representatives in Youth and Government Award" and he has received the State Educational Center Award of Excellence and the Waterbury Outstanding Samaritan Award.

On March 27th, I attended a Meet and Greet with East Division parents, held at Wallace Middle School. I was welcomed by approximately fifty parents and staff. I spoke briefly about my vision for the school district, including a reorganization of Central Office. We shared dinner together, and I then welcomed questions from the audience and spoke to many parents one-to-one, listening to their individual concerns. There are three additional Meet and Greets planned before the end of this school year. The next Meet and Greet, on April 18th will be for parents whose children attend West Division schools.

Crosby High School won first place in two separate statewide competitions recently. Crosby's LifeSmarts team defended its State championship with another win in a

tournament held on March 16th. The five member team, advised by teacher Donna Mancuso, will be heading to Philadelphia for the national competition later this year. Crosby's Mock Trial team captured the State championship with a win over Weston High School. Crosby is scheduled to represent the State in the national competition, to be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico in May.

On March 16th, twenty-two school administrators from China visited Wilby High School. Wilby's Culinary Arts students made breakfast and lunch, and the visitors had the opportunity to visit sixteen classes, including Manufacturing and Allied Health programs. Wilby students were excited and eager to showcase their school.

We had a very successful groundbreaking ceremony for the new Carrington Pre K-8 School this morning. Many Board members, along with Mayor O'Leary, former Mayor Jarjura and other elected officials were able to attend. It was particularly gratifying to have the participation of Carrington students and staff. The students played music, recited poems and sang for the audience. The students were so proficient with their shovels that it was suggested they join the construction crew. After the event, I was able to view the progress of the construction site itself. It was very impressive and progress is clearly underway for the school to be complete for the start of the 2013 school year. It sounded like the students and staff were anxiously awaiting their new school.

I also visited Bucks Hill School today to view their second annual dance performance. All students from Pre-K through 5th grade worked hard over the past few weeks on their dances and enjoyed performing. It was wonderful to see all the children integrating dance into their physical education course. Respectfully submitted.

Education Committee Votes on SB 24, An Act Concerning Educational Competiveness

After lengthy caucuses and discussion, the Education Committee voted 28 to 5 to support modifications to the Governors' proposed education reforms contained in SB 24. Among the key changes from the original bill are the following:

- Teacher and administrator evaluations are not linked to obtaining and maintaining tenure. The bill requires the Commissioner to consult with PEAC to develop a plan for such linkage.
- The commissioner's network schools will be limited to 10 schools for 2012-13, with not more than 2 schools in any one district.
- Funding would be provided for 1000 new preschool slots (the Governor had proposed 500).
- Up to 20 family resource centers and school based health clinics will be established in the lowest performing schools.
- No changes are made in the ECS formula, but town by town ECS grant amounts are contained in the bill.
- Most towns would be required to meet a minimum budget requirement of at least the amount they budgeted for education in FY 12 plus any increase in the ECS grant for FY 13. Exceptions are made for districts in which enrollment decreases, a school has been closed, or there are cost savings from regional collaboration or efficiencies.
- Local districts would not be required to pay charter schools \$1,000 per pupil.

- Costs in districts with fewer than 1000 students would be studied, with no reductions in ECS at this time.
- Teachers could be dismissed based on a finding of ineffectiveness.
- A teacher improvement plan must be developed in consultation with the teacher and union representative.
- A teacher can file a grievance claiming a failure to follow the support plan.
- A mentor teacher system is established, with required \$500 stipends.
- The State Department of Education will develop a plan to encourage exemplary teachers and administrators to work in the lowest performing schools in districts.

OUELLETTE: One final note, Commissioners, that is not on your Superintendent's Report this evening, late this afternoon about five o'clock, I was notified by the State Department of Education that they will not initiate revocation of the teaching certificates of the Hopeville Teachers. A letter was issued dated April 2 to each of the affected teachers. The State will require the teachers to participate in a State-delivered session on educator ethics and the Connecticut Code of Professional Responsibility for Teachers. I just wanted to share that. I'll entertain any questions, Mr. President.

STANGO: Any questions for the Superintendent?

BROWN: In your presentation you mentioned that SB 24 doesn't specifically call for the expansion of the School Governance Councils. I was just wondering how many schools in Waterbury have them now?

OUELLETTE: I believe all. Dr. Sequeira, you can confirm that as well?

STANGO: Any others? Thank you Superintendent.

8. PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

First, I'd like to remind everyone that there will not be a Workshop of this Board next Thursday due to the district's Spring Break. It has been postponed until April 19 with a combined Workshop and Regular Meeting in its place.

We had a wonderful groundbreaking ceremony today at the sight of the new Carrington School. I'm echoing Superintendent's Report on that . . . And if you want to talk about views, you should go up there and take a look at that. One can see across the mountain until the other side of the City. The site is very high, it's actually on a mountain and when it's said that students climb a mountain to learn, this is literally true. I would bet that this new school location in itself will increase the degree of teaching and learning on that site.

After our Spring Break, the district will be entering into the final phase of the school year 2011-2012. The CAPT and CMT tests are over and it's time to return to detailed studies. Hopefully, Spring will bring a renewed vigor for learning. Our high schools are planning for honor society inductions, awards nights, super senior suppers, and so on. The schools usually invite Board members to attend to share their celebrations and the teachers and students are very appreciative when one of us attends. I'm asking the Board to please try to attend one or two of these events if possible. Maybe just one of

us could adopt a school and attend each one of these events. Just a thought that we could try to do that – adopt a school and go to their events when invited.

The committees of the Board of Education are doing great work in tending to the functions of the Board. I'm asking for the School Activities Committee to meet to consider standardizing the forms the public and staff uses when requesting something from this Board. I'm asking for the Grants Committee to meet to entertain various grant questions and narrow the focus of information requested from some Board members. I'm asking the Rules & Regulations Committee to continue to review procedures for recognizing student accomplishments. We have had some input and sample policies but we must continue to refine them. And I know the Finance Committee will be meeting to discuss directions to take with the budget as we go forward in the cycle. Remember that everything in a committee is brought to full workshop for vetting at some point. In the event that any members of the Board have any questions or concerns on the committee's input, that would be the time and appropriate place to do it. However, small discussions in committees allows for less formal conversations so that information is more forthcoming from each Board member.

And in closing in my report, I wish everyone a Happy Easter and a very Happy Spring break. Thank you very much.

Is there anyone wishing to remove anything from the Consent Calendar?

President Stango proceeded to read the Consent Calendar.

9. CONSENT CALENDAR

Upon a motion by Commissioner Harvey and duly seconded by Commissioner Hayes, it was voted unanimously to approve the Consent Calendar, items 9.1 through 9.16, as listed:

- 9.1 With the approval of the Committee of the Whole, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of the 2012-2013 School Year Calendar, as attached.
- 9.2 With the approval of the Committee on Finance, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of Amendment Number One (1) to the Agreement with Professional Placement Resources, LLC to provide Licensed Speech Language Pathologists.
- 9.3 With the approval of the Committee on Finance, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of Amendment Number One (1) to the Agreement with Advance Therapy Associates, LLC to provide Licensed Speech Language Pathologists.
- 9.4 With the approval of the Committee on Finance, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of a Professional Services Agreement with RainBow Academy, LLC to provide childcare services to children of Waterbury pregnant and parenting high school students, funded by the Support for Pregnant and Parent Teens Grant.

- 9.5 With the approval of the Committee on Finance, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of a Professional Services Agreement with Kids Town, LLC to provide childcare services to children of Waterbury pregnant and parenting high schools students, funded by the Support for Pregnant and Parent Teens Grant.
- 9.6 With the approval of the Committee on Grants, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval for Crosby High School to apply for the ING Unsung Heroes Grant.
- 9.7 With the approval of the Committee on Grants, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval for Waterbury Public Schools to participate in the 2011-2013 State Department of Education Interdistrict Cooperative Grant with Eli Whitney Museum.
- 9.8 With the approval of the Committee on Grants, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval to apply for the Capitol Region Education Council's "Student Success Plan Mini-Grant".
- 9.9 With the approval of the Committee on Grants, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval to apply for the Entertainment Software Association Foundation Challenge Grant.
- 9.10 With the approval of the Committee on Building, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of an amendment to the agreement with S/L/A/M Collaborative for architectural services for the Waterbury Career Academy High School Project.
- 9.11 With the approval of the Committee on School Activities, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of the use of school facilities by school organizations and/or City departments, as listed.
- 9.12 With the approval of the Committee on School Activities, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of the use of school facilities by outside organizations and/or waiver requests, as listed.
- 9.13 With the approval of the Committee on School Activities, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission be granted to SFC Henry Rowland, CHS Army JROTC and nine chaperones to take 100 students to Agawam, MA on June 1, 2012 to visit Six Flags.
- 9.14 With the approval of the Committee on School Activities, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission be granted to Laura Graham, KHS, and four chaperones to take 50 students to New York, NY on May 9, 2012 to visit the Financial District and Ground Zero.
- 9.15 With the approval of the Committee on School Activities, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission be granted to Lynne Palleria/Anthony D'Agostino, WHS, and seven chaperones to take 87 students to New York, NY

on April 18, 2012 to visit the Museum of American Financial History and the Federal Reserve Bank.

- 9.16 With the approval of the Committee on School Activities, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission be granted to Sally Olson, Sprague School, and six chaperones to take 52 students to Sturbridge MA on May 25, 2012 to visit Old Sturbridge Village.

STANGO: Motion made and seconded. Any discussion? All in favor, opposed, motion carries unanimously.

10. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT

There were no items removed from the Consent Calendar.

11. COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

- 11.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner Brown and duly seconded by Commissioner Hayes, it was voted unanimously that permission be granted to Donna Mancuso, CHS, to take five students to Philadelphia, PA from April 20 through April 25, 2012 to compete in the National LifeSmarts Competition.**

STANGO: Motion has been made and seconded. Any discussion? Hearing none – all in favor, opposed, motion carries unanimous.

- 11.2 Upon a motion by Commissioner Brown and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve that permission be granted to Donna Mancuso, CHS, and two chaperones to take 11 students to Albuquerque, NM from May 2 through May 7, 2012 to participate in the National Mock Trial Competition.**

STANGO: Motion has been made and seconded. Any discussion? Commissioner Hayes.

HAYES: I probably should have mentioned under the other one also, you see Donna Mancuso and all she's doing with these students at the other competition and the Mock Trial. There's always with the Mock Trial an Attorney that helps her. I think this might be an appropriate time to maybe acknowledge them or have them come down and give them a You Make A Difference Award because there's a lot of time donated above and beyond on behalf of these kids and the story today, particularly that one girl who never felt a part of anything and now she's a part of something. That just shows that while we all support our athletic teams and others, these are types of teams that would be great to get behind and shed some light on their efforts, as well. So at some point, maybe when they come back, have them come back and report on how things went because I know not just there but whenever our students go far away, they always come back with glowing comments. For whatever reason, maybe they surprise people, but our kids always come back with glowing comments from those who don't know them and got to know them. You see the story even today about one of the parents from Westport or Weston that they defeated said that she was willing to donate money for that cause.

They're spreading goodwill on behalf of our City and our schools, as well, so we should acknowledge that.

STANGO: Good point, Commissioner Hayes. There are plans in the works for recognition on that. Any other discussion? Motion has been made and seconded. All in favor, opposed, motion carries unanimously.

12. AD-HOC COMMITTEE ON NAMING OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

12.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve the request of Reverend Leroy Perry to name the turnabout/driveway of the new Jonathan Reed School in honor of Reverend Louvernal McDaniel.

STANGO: Motion has been made and seconded. Any discussion? Vice President Harvey.

HARVEY: Ladies and gentlemen, it is indeed an honor to introduce the family. Cassandra, could you help me out and have the McDaniel Family stand. We're truly honored to have you there this evening.

Cassandra Brown, Mr. McDaniel's daughter, introduced the family members present.

HARVEY: I would just like to read the letter that Reverend Perry sent in regards to the request. It reads "Dear Board Members, I'm writing this letter to request that consideration be given to the street in front of the new Reed School be named McDaniel Circle. The Reverend Louvernal McDaniel lost his life in a head-on collision in front of the new Jonathan E. Reed School. Reverend McDaniel served as pastor in this City for more than 25 years. He served his congregation and the City of Waterbury as a civic leader and organizer. He helped to organize New Opportunities for Waterbury, Model Cities, Beacon Hill and Crown Heights Association. He served on the Governor's Human Rights Conference and the Mayor's Task Force on Development."

What I would like to focus in on is the fact that Reverend McDaniel was an advocate for the youth here in the City of Waterbury. As mentioned earlier, he launched a fund "Build to Save a Waterbury Teenager". This led to the construction of the North End Recreation Center which is on the corner of Kingsbury and North Main Street. And if I can just take a little sidebar here, as I discussed with the family, I do not understand why the North End Recreation Center was named without adding Reverend McDaniel's name to it. In light of that, I know we have Alderman Hadley here and I'm volunteering him to work with me, along with the family, to see if we can remedy that situation and get his name on that building. So, I promise to work with the family and I'm dragging Alderman Hadley in with this on this project to work with me to get that remedied. But due to the fact of the proximity of the accident, I know this is highlighting where we lost him, we need to start to do something to acknowledge his contributions here in the City. It will be 25 years in October and it's time. So we'll start with this, naming the circle in front of the Reed School, after, naming it McDaniel Circle. So my vote will be in favor of naming the circle McDaniel Circle. I thank you very much family for being here, I really appreciate your coming out. And again, we will, hopefully, remedy the situation with the North End Recreation Center. Thank you.

STANGO: Any other discussion? Commissioner Hayes.

HAYES: Just briefly I thought I'd share the letter that we got from Mr. Sanders, he sent us a letter, actually it was addressed to Board of Ed members and the public so I thought I could read that. This is to the Board of Education members and the public – "it gives me great pleasure to support the effort that is upon all of you this evening attending this meeting to name the circle at The Jonathan E. Reed Elementary School after the late Reverend Louvernal McDaniel. He was a man of God and wisdom; he possessed love, passion and had great vision. He knew no strangers and worked tirelessly for the Lord. Remembering him in this way and at this place has the blessings of our Lord and Savior. My family and I, along with many friends, so gracefully say thank you. I am sorry that I cannot attend such an event, but my prayers and thoughts are with each and every one of you this evening. To the McDaniel Family your husband, father, grandfather, son and brother will be with the City of Waterbury now for a very, very long time and that is a very, very good feeling to have and to know. God bless, James R. Sanders, a friend." Thank you.

STANGO: Thank you, Commissioner Hayes. Any other discussion? Motion has been made and seconded. All in favor, opposed, motion carries unanimous.

VAN STONE: Mr. President, I make a **motion to add to the Agenda a Resolution Authorizing Adult Education to provide training, SO MOVED.**

SWEENEY: **Second.**

STANGO: Motion has been made and seconded. Any discussion? All in favor, opposed, motion to add carries unanimously.

COMMITTEE ON GRANTS

Upon a motion by Commissioner Van Stone and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve the following resolution, to wit:

The Waterbury Board of Education resolves that Waterbury Adult Continuing Education is approved to provide integrated basic education and skills training ((I-BEST) to Jobs First Employment Services (JFES) participants under the administration of the State of Connecticut Department of Labor for the period beginning April 16, 2012 and ending June 29, 2012. Contract award shall be \$75,000.00. Further, Antonio Musto, Principal of Waterbury Adult Education, is hereby authorized to execute the Agreement to provide the aforementioned I-BEST education services.

STANGO: Motion has been made and seconded. I believe that Mr. Musto and someone else from Adult Ed is here if anyone has any questions as far as discussion on this motion. Hearing none – all in favor, opposed, motion carries unanimously.

13. SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTIFICATION TO THE BOARD

Upon a motion by Commissioner Hayes and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to receive and place on file the Superintendent's Notification to the Board, items 13.1 through 13.5, as listed:

- 13.1 Athletic appointments effective immediately:
Shepard, Cordell – Interim Spring Strength and Conditioning Coach, CHS.
- 13.2 Grant funded appointments effective immediately:
Harrison, Amberlynn – Elementary Instructional Tutor, 10 months, 18 hours p/week @ \$31.00 per hour, no benefits.
Therault, John – Elementary Instructional Tutor, 10 months, 18 hours p/week @ \$31.00 per hour, no benefits.
- 13.3 Teacher new hires:
Tedeschi, Shontel – Center Based Learning, Duggan School, MA+15/1, effective 03/19/12.
- 13.4 Resignations:
Portanova, Andrea – W. Cross grade 2, effective 03/09/12.
- 13.5 Involuntary transfer:
Caruk, Andrew – from Enlightenment/Excel Music to Hopeville School, effective 03/19/12.

STANGO: All in favor, opposed, motion passes unanimously. Item number 14, Unfinished Business of the Preceding Meeting Only. Item number 15, Other Unfinished Business and Miscellaneous Business. Superintendent.

SUPERINTENDENT: Thank you, Mr. President. My apologies to Commissioner Brown and the public and the Commissioners. Just a clarification on the Governance Councils, I believe Mrs. Marold has sent me a secret note here. Just for clarification, we have 14 schools that have Governance Councils – three at the high school, three middle, and eight elementary. My apologies for that.

BROWN: Then my question is, is there anything in law that prohibits us from expanding the Governance Councils to other schools in Waterbury?

SUPERINTENDENT: I don't believe so, but I would have to research that for you.

BROWN: I had the opportunity this week, on Monday, to meet with some of the Parent See Group which is a voluntary teacher, actually parent training course – Parents Seeking Excellence in Education and a couple of the parents were wondering why their school did not have a School Governance Council. It just made me think of it while you were reading your thing, if there was any reason why they couldn't have them.

SUPERINTENDENT: Mrs. Marold, do you care to comment on that? I know you've been providing a lot of professional development in working with staff.

MAROLD: When the law passed in July 2010, the schools were identified based at that time. So since we had 15 at that time and then Barnard closed, we had the 14, our

feeling was to certainly train and implement based on the 14 that we had identified. I think with the new legislation that's coming forward now from our Governor, I think we'll look and see what the schools who are indicated as level four and five and I think we'll see if we have more schools that come into that category and certainly we can look with our Superintendent and see if we have more schools that come into that category. And I think the way we did it in a group, 14 was a large number, I think we did a really great job. I have to complement our schools, we had eight elementary, three middle, and our three comprehensive high schools, all are up and running and I've been visiting and they're doing a great job, all sending their agendas and their minutes. So as we go forward, as we see what the law tells us and as we see how we're going to roll out reform and our improvement plan, we'll see how this is going to go forward. But I don't think the answer is no and I think as we go forward, we'll see how this is going to work. But I think we have our action teams and we also have PTO's and we also have DPCA, we have a lot of parent groups in our City and how can we all work together as a unit and I think that's our question with our Superintendent that how can we get all our groups to work together.

BROWN: Thank you very much. Thank you for all your hard work.

MAROLD: Oh, you're welcome. And we all work together as a team.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Commissioner Harvey and duly seconded by Commissioner Sweeney, it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:15 p.m. into Executive Session for discussion concerning the appointment, employment, performance, evaluation, health, or dismissal of a public officer or employee.

Present: President Stango, Commissioners Brown, D'Amelio, Flaherty-Merritt, Harvey, Hayes, Sweeney, and Van Stone.

Also present: Dr. Ouellette, Dr. Sequeira (left at 7:40 p.m.), Mrs. Cullinan (left at 7:40 p.m.), Mr. Guidone (left at 7:40 p.m.) and Mr. Frost (left at 7:40 p.m.)

The Executive Session ended at 8:45 p.m. with no votes taken.

ATTEST: _____
Carrie A. Swain, Clerk
Board of Education