

## **WATERBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

### *MINUTES ~ RESCHEDULED REGULAR MEETING*

Monday, February 22, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

Wallace Middle School's Café, 3465 East Main Street, Waterbury, Connecticut

**PRESENT:** President Hayes, Commissioners D'Angelo, Flaherty-Merritt, Harvey, Morales, O'Leary, Stango, Sweeney, Theriault, and White.

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

### **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

President Hayes called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m. with a moment of silence and a prayer and Superintendent Snead led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

### **ROLL CALL**

CLERK: Commissioner D'Angelo.

D'ANGELO: Yes.

CLERK: Commissioner Flaherty-Merritt.

FLAHERTY-MERRITT: Present.

CLERK: Commissioner Harvey.

HARVEY: Here

CLERK: Commissioner Morales.

MORALES: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner O'Leary.

O'LEARY: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Stango.

STANGO: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Sweeney.

SWEENEY: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Theriault.

THERIAULT: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner White.

WHITE: Here.

CLERK: President Hayes.

HAYES: Here.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

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

1. Copy of communication dated December 30, 2009 from the State Department of Education to Joe Gorman thanking him for his contributions to the 3rd Generation Connecticut Physical Fitness Assessment.
2. Copy of communication dated February 2, 2010 from Civil Service to Ronald Harris certifying him for the position of Maintainer I.
3. Copy of communications dated February 3, 2010 from Civil Service to Jennifer Nash and Kristine Dziezynski certifying them for the position of Administrative Support Specialist I.
4. Communication dated February 4, 2010 from Louise Allen Brown regarding Universal Service Fund Discounts on Telephone Service.
5. Copy of communication dated February 4, 2010 from Civil Service certifying David Langdon for the position of HVAC Foreperson.
6. Copy of editorial of Theodore Martland dated February 6, 2010 regarding Desk Pilots Consume Needed Resources for City Schools, submitted by Commissioner Theriault.
7. Copy of editorial from the February 7, 2010 Republican American regarding The lessons of Rotella School, submitted by Commissioner Theriault.

**HAYES: Motion made and seconded. All in favor, opposed, motion passes.**

**PUBLIC ADDRESSES THE BOARD:**

**Upon a motion by Commissioner D'Angelo and duly seconded by Commissioner Stango, it was voted unanimously to suspend the regular order of business to allow the public to address the Board at 6:23 p.m.**

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. All in favor, opposed. 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.

**Amy Davis, 650 Congress Ave., 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, had the following comments:** I'm looking for a solution or a clarification that I'm encountering. The situation that I am currently trying to resolve pertains to my daughter who is a student at WAMS. Recently she's been written up several times due to the dress code, what is constituted as a violation

according to WAMS administration. She is being written up for her pants which, as far as I can find, are not a violation of the current dress code policy. Nowhere in the policy does it state what the style pant should be; it does state Docker style but, technically, Docker is not a style, it is a brand name and included with my written statement from the Dockers' website; I have a listing of the style pants she is currently wearing and she is being written up for. The pants my daughter is wearing are by the dress code, they are acceptable based on the color and the material and the fit. They do not in any way hinder her ability to learn or impact other students' learning. This is the reason I am here to voice my concern. The dress code needs to be far more specific if my daughter and other students, my understanding is there are quite a few being written up as well for this, continue to be harassed and, I apologize for using the word harass, but I find it harassment if she's targeted by certain teachers pretty much on a daily basis, she has been written up multiple times, I've spoken to the administration, I'm not coming to a solution or an agreement as far as this situation is. She was once brought into the office and asked to remove her shoes so that they can see the style of her pants and I was quite bothered by that. Dockers are a brand not a style, chinos are a style, cargo pants are a style, there's bootleg, there's skinny pants, things like that, those are all styles. The fact that our students are in school learning should be the main priority. I find that she's being pulled out of class, missing prep time for her CAPT tests which are currently coming up and are a big focus. Constantly picking apart the dress code will only take away from our students. My suggestion to help our students and the families would be to either redesign the dress code to be far more specific or let the students continue to learn and stop finding ways to find violations with the dress code. Thank you very much for your time.

**Bill Wildman, Sr., 58 Valley View Drive, had the following comments:** I want to talk a little bit tonight about what's now known as the great Christmas debate. There's four points I want to go over. The first one is anger and rage. The second one is super sensitivity. The third one is political correctness. The fourth one is understanding and kindness. I didn't come to the meeting in December when all the rage, but I could see on television all the rage and all the anger against Mr. D'Angelo. I'm not speaking for him, I'm not saying he's correct or he's right or he's wrong, what I'm saying is there was a lot of anger and a lot of rage that night and it was all because of celebrating the holidays. I never have seen as much rage over why there's so, or so much outcry I should say, over why there's so many teen pregnancies in the schools, or why the test scores are so low or why they haven't gone up. Or the poor parental involvement in the schools. I don't understand that.

The second one is super sensitivity. We all today have become very super sensitive about everything, everything, I don't care what it is. If it angers you you become very sensitive over it. If it bothers you that much, you know we've got to loosen up a little bit. You know you folks here, and I'm not angry with you, I'm doing this as someone sitting on the outside right now, you folks have the best asset that we have in this town and that's the children; you're doing a great job, I cannot fault any of you. Why do we have to be so supersensitive and not understand what's really going on here?

The third one, which we'll tie into that, is called political correctness. If a person doesn't like something or . . . it always has to be political correctness. I'd like to know who invented the word political correctness. I was told it was politicians who wanted everyone to like them so they would get voted into office. There's nothing politically

correct about kindness, happiness, and love at Christmas time or any other religious holiday. Understanding and kindness – I’m going to give you a couple of examples which I think everyone overlooked that night. Think of Dr. Martin Luther King, Kay Wywick, no nonsense Kay, you know Dr. King had a dream and that dream is that basically everyone would get along no matter what color, no matter what religion, they would get along. I think a lot of times we misunderstand that what his saying was or we don’t follow it. Today it seems if I don’t like the way it is, then there’s something wrong with it and you should follow my teaching. Well, I don’t believe in that. I don’t understand why we can’t have religious symbols in the schools. There’s nothing in the Constitution that says we can’t. Wouldn’t it be better for the children if they have a question in school instead of saying when you go home you’ll have to ask your parents? Wouldn’t it be better if there was a cross up there or a menorah or whatever religious figure there is, have something under it what it means to that particular religion. We’re not teaching religion in the school, nobody wants to teach that, that’s for the parents. And again, if people don’t like that well then it’s obviously politically incorrect. There’s nothing more far from the truth then being politically incorrect. You folks have an opportunity to break away from everyone, put something in the schools, let the children know what’s going on with the different religions so everybody can come together as we’re supposed to do. All our founding fathers, you know I . . . wanted that to happen, didn’t they? I think they did, when I went to school I thought that. When I went to school it didn’t matter whether they sang a religious song in school, it didn’t matter, we are all one unit, one country, the United States of America. There’s people fighting, our men and women, fighting and dying in Afghanistan and Iraq right now just so we can have religious freedoms. I’m just about finished. I just want to say most religions will stand for kindness and love, when that’s not shown, there’s something seriously missing in the schools. Now if all the parents that were at that meeting, the last meeting, were here tonight and there some of them that are and there’s some of them that aren’t, and I hope they all speak their peace because I’m here and I’m speaking mine and we all should be doing that, not just when there’s a problem.

I want to wrap it up by saying what’s missing today is kindness and love and the last thing – understanding, kindness and love. Just please understand that, please show the children that, you’re doing a great job. Thank you for allowing me to speak tonight. God bless you.

**Ed Bukoski, 370 Windy Drive, had the following comments:** Good evening. I always carry this book on the Constitution of the United States. It is a document with its Bill of Rights guaranteed to everyone whether it’s a child, individual, man, or woman, equal rights and opportunity, it does not create any exclusions no matter who decides . . . what I understand is one principal, I don’t know if he was trying to give us discrimination or he was trying to speak about exclusions and we find in this document with the Bill of Rights a preamble to the Constitution which states “we the people of the United States in order to more form a more perfect union” – look at the word “union”, what does it mean? You look at the first three letters “uni” and that is how because we are a nation, we are children of immigrants and many different nationalities and many different traditions. And at the time this situation happened was a time that . . . as peace and good will to all men and women and children and it was a time when the business world took the . . . of that period and exploited them. Whether this principal was offended by that, well, I would like to ask him what does the preamble to the Constitution mean and what does . . . the pledge of allegiance, we salute the flag of the

United States and to the republic for which it stands, one nation indivisible with liberty and justice for all, no exclusions. And we can go to the Declaration of Independence and it tells us that we have all been created equal . . . life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. I wonder if any of you ever looked at the dollar bill and on it what you will see is a picture of the first President of the United States, George Washington, and on the back of that you'll find these words "in God we trust". It doesn't say anything about the God of Jacob, Isaac, or Jesus or anybody, it's up to you. And you look at the back of that there's two symbols – one is the symbol of our nation and do you know what the other one is, the pyramid with the eye overlooking it? Are you familiar with the free masons? That was the religion of your first President of the United States, that is his symbol, religious symbol on your dollar bill. Does anybody object to that? Does anybody reason that it's offensive to anybody? I doubt it. And if you go up to the next generation of money which is the five dollar bill, who will you find, President Lincoln, isn't it nice, we're in the . . . and what do you find on the back of that dollar bill - "in God we trust". That, gentlemen, is a situation where you have a decision to make and who were the first whistle blowers of our nation? Those that gave us the Boston Tea Party. And the next were the ones that created the Declaration of Independence . . . and what was that for, you see what happens in our nation today, anybody, it's happening at the Board of Aldermen, it's happening here, where people get up and right away they jump to the conclusion, instead of listening to the whistle blower . . . attack the whistle blower, that's just what you have done. As far as . . . mainly with children, . . . has programs, scholarship programs, we go to the schools and help with the education process. We are adding to it, we are speaking of our history of our nation, the wars, letting them know what's going on, and we have many programs. We have different . . . society questions and what do we do with that, we have all fundraisers. Where does the money go? Not to us but to the children, and every place you go where a veterans' organization . . . we're color blind, every man that's a veteran is a member. We do not go by the color of his skin nor do we worry about what his religion was. All we are saying is you have served your nation, you have worked and sacrificed your time and possibly a leg or an arm walking on metal legs, or you've given your life to this nation. And I can tell you the story about religion . . . on February 3, 1943, USS Dorchester was . . . trip up to the area around Iceland and Greenland and on the night or the early morning hours of February 3 that ship was torpedoed. What do you have on there; you had four chaplains, two of the protestant religion, Father Fox and Father Poling. And then you had a catholic priest, Father Washington. And then the other man was a Rabbi Goode and what do these gentlemen do, they were spiritual advisors to those troops up there and when the ship started to sink they were on deck trying to get the young men to get in their life preservers and jump into the ocean and get rescued. . . . that night when they lost power and they were told to abandon ship, in the darkness they missed their life preservers . . . what did each Chaplain do when they came up on deck, well the first one saw that and took off his life preserver and said to the young man, you take that I won't need it. And then what did the other one do, they all followed suit, one after another. And one of them said to a young man, here, take my gloves, I have a second pair, don't worry about it. What did they do . . . that ship went down, what did they teach us about religion . . . Judeo-Christian faith we all believe in the Ten Commandments and what is the greatest of that, honor thy father and mother and love thy neighbor. And what are we doing here . . . principal of the school should be well aware of what this nation is about, made of many different nationalities and colors. And what does it say; nobody is excluded from the protection of the Constitution of the United States. Gentlemen, you have a choice to make, you have many choices, hard

ones to make. And I would like to compliment Superintendent of the Police Department O'Leary, because with his PAL group, he is another one . . . even though his time is over as Police Chief here, he still works with the children; it's the same thing we do. We have men from World War II, 90's, what are they doing on Valentine's Day, they had a program with the children, why, to associate their . . . and that is what we continue to do with all the other branches of veterans. Even to this day we will continue and as veterans of World War II and other programs . . . on this document, the Constitution of the United States that guarantees the right to freedom of all, children and all, no exclusions. And when you have a principal . . . you're not going to enjoy what the rest of the . . . that's a violation of the Constitution, you are the ones that have to step up and say we're not gonna let this happen . . . that includes everyone and nobody including us, you, Superintendent, or any member of this Board has any authority given to them by this document to exclude any body, any child, from what the others in that class do. I thank you for listening.

**Lisa Lessard, 905 Pearl Lake Road, had the following comments:** To let you know it's really hard to hear back there but the speech that I just heard, from what I could hear, was awesome. Basically I came here on many points tonight, I'm not going to mention my personal situation, I know each and every one of you got my e-mail, my faxes. . . . please do something about what those e-mails and faxes were about because she needs you, too. Thank you. Basically I'm not going to mention anything more about that.

When it comes to the Christmas thing, we have talked about this, November, December, it is now February. Please, we have so many other things to talk about, I mean the one Commissioner that did what he did because he felt he needed to do it for the better interest of all the children in the district. The principal did what he needed to do for the better interest within his school community. They both did what they believe they needed to do . . . we shouldn't be discussing this . . . we have so many other things to talk about like cyberbullying, bullying period, anything that's happening in our schools. Christmas and Santa Claus, not the biggest thing on my agenda, not the most priority on my agenda or anybody's agenda from what I feel. Please when it comes to personal privilege and all this other stuff, point of personal privilege the Commissioners need to be respected, each and every one, if you do a good job, for the better interest of our children. And when people come up here and pinpoint one person to another person, it's uncalled for. I know when it happens in Aldermanic they got sanctioned, I mean you can't sanction the public for what people say and when they say it but you shouldn't have anybody in the public disregarding you School Board Commissioners for any reason, period. So I applaud each and every one of you and I ask you to look into that matter I first talked about because my daughter does need you to do it. But for the sake of each and every one of you, we can agree to disagree, but respect is needed by the public to the Commissioners and the Commissioners to the public. Maybe you can start announcing each and every meeting of when your local school board meetings are being held for the public because parents do have issues and concerns; local school Board meeting is don't have cable, we can't get the newspaper, so on and so forth. Maybe at the beginning of the meeting you can just say, March 1, 2010, next public speaking meeting, parents are welcome to join us. You might get more parent involvement that way. Communication is key, communication means everything. We need to let our parents know how much they are liked and how much they are welcomed and maybe they'll come Thank you.

**Athena Wagner, 1558 Highland Avenue, had the following comments:** Good evening everyone. We've addressed this before and I will start off by saying I understand the emotion that everyone carries but there's facts, plain facts that need to be considered. The Board member in question is Paul D'Angelo is in violation of. Each and every one of you should know what those bylaws are and if not, should have...

THERIAULT: Mr. Chairman, point of order, I don't think Commissioner D'Angelo should be tried for any accusation here. I think the comment should be germane and not pointing towards Mr. D'Angelo.

HAYES: I'm not really sure what it is that we're trying to address here.

WAGNER: It wasn't an issue at any of the previous meetings and the name was stated.

HAYES: I don't think it's fair to state the name.

WAGNER: Okay, not a problem. That particular Board of Education member is in violation of your Bylaws numbers 2, 7, 11, 12, and 15. Particularly, 12 and 15 and also regarding the "anonymous complaints". On 2/8/10 there was an article in the Republican American where said Commissioner stated, "I also before going public with the issue, gave Dr. Snead and the principal the opportunity to deny the alleged complaint and/or fix the situation. They said the situation is, in fact, true and they see nothing wrong with the principal's decision." Right then and there, who was in charge? If there was nothing wrong with the situation based on the Superintendent and principal, then that should have been the end of it. The statement continues, "I do not agree, and I thought the public had the right to know, so I made it public". It meaning the school issue based on the alleged anonymous complaints that should have been kept private. You cannot ignore the fact that this Board member overstepped his boundaries according to your bylaws and as a direct result of his actions, this school and all associated with it, were placed in danger, you're fully aware of the hate mails, the hate phone calls, the e-mails, etc., and the need for a police presence at that school. Even though the motion was made and accepted by this Board to consider the policy presented by said Board member, I could only hope that under your Robert's Rules of Order that governs the Board that it was in order and in accordance with the State Statutes and laws governing the public schools' education. Also, the State Statute that covers boards of education under Section 10-220(a), for those that want to confuse the practice of a religious holiday with Black History Month, it states "the State Board of Education with available appropriations and utilizing available materials shall", not will, maybe, might, it says "shall assist and encourage local and regional boards of education to include Holocaust Education and Awareness, the Great Famine of Ireland, African American History, Puerto Rican History, Native American History, and Personal Finance Management." So you might want to give more time to the research of this issue before any decision is made on a new policy when you already have one in place that was working, by the Mayor's own admission, and if you review the tape, the Board President stated at the time that he knew of no alleged complaints. So, what is the chain of command? If you have any question as to what I am saying or need verification, rewind the tapes of the previous and initial meetings, thank you.

**Reverend Ollie Grey III, 2929 East Main Street, had the following comments:** I wasn't able to be here when the issue came up for the Board meeting for Christmas, I was in Atlanta doing a funeral. But I really believe that the Commissioners here are very confident, I just hope that you each have an opinion and you would speak on it and that this issue resolved and behind us because we have more important things to deal with. It bothers me when I see attacks on Commissioner D'Angelo, who I think works hard and does a good job, personally.

HAYES: I guess we can't use names, it was decided tonight.

GREY: Okay, I believe all you Commissioners work hard, you guys are in my prayers, I want to tell you that. We just have so many important matters to deal with with our children, the education of our children here, and I just hope that you each would just be man and woman enough to stand up and speak your heart on the issue of celebration of Christmas and the ability to do that. So I'm just glad to be here, my daughter is in sixth grade here so, God Bless you guys, ladies, and thank you for your time.

**Michele Petruzzi Marchetti, 112 Clough Road, had the following comments:** I currently have two boys in Waterbury School System; actually in two different schools. I have two things to quickly talk over and one is positive, I just want to talk a little bit about the Preschool Annex Program and I just want to tell you how much, this is my second year there, actually my youngest son has speech and language development and he actually went in to get into Rotella School, he spend a year there and wasn't quite ready for kindergarten yet, so they kept him back and put him back in the Annex Program and at this point, I am very proud of all those teachers and I have encountered eight teachers since I've been there and all of them are exceptional and you guys never hear enough good things about the Annex Program. I'm also a teacher way back when; I'm now a stay at home mom and own my own business so I know how hard the teachers work. I participate with the teachers, I'm actually on the committee at the school for the teachers and the students and the parents. So we're doing a lot of family things there. You just don't hear enough good things about the Waterbury School System and I'm very proud to have my children in all the programs.

The one thing I really did come to speak about today was Christmas. We were taught when we were younger to be kind to everyone, whether you were black, white, Puerto Rican, Portuguese, Italian, it didn't matter, you wish them a Merry Christmas. My friends are Jewish, we wish them a Merry Christmas, we wish them a Happy Hanukah. My children know all about Hanukah, I work with Jehovah Witnesses in a group home, I have no issues with people, there should be no issues and we should be celebrating everyone, everybody is a person here and we all have rights. Freedom of speech, and I believe in that, the US of A is freedom of speech and I hope you guys consider keeping Christmas in school, as long as we celebrate everything else, because if we're going to start taking things like that out, then why don't we just take out Black History Month, too, and all of the other histories we're supposed to not learn about because we are freedom of speech here and this is what USA is all about, is freedom of speech and learning about each other and growing together as people. Thank you.

**Upon a motion by Commissioner White and duly seconded by Commissioner O'Leary, it was voted unanimously to return to the regular order of business at 6:53 p.m.**



HAYES: Motion made and seconded. Any discussion? Hearing none - all in favor, opposed, motion passes unanimously.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** Superintendent Snead read and distributed the following report:

According to local newspapers, the National Center for Education and Economy has floated the idea of allowing Connecticut tenth graders to graduate high school early under a concept that has received some support from top state education officials. Under this proposal, Connecticut may be one of eight states to pilot a program beginning in the 2011-2012 school year. Students who pass a tenth grade exam could graduate and go on to college or other post-secondary education.

Mary Ann Marold and Gladys Wright have recently joined a Community Conversations Planning Committee. This is a community-based effort. The next Community Conversation Topic being planned is "The Challenges of Fatherhood in the 21st Century." Mary Ann has asked schools and parent liaisons to identify some fathers who have accepted and embraced the challenges of fatherhood and who would be willing to attend a meeting to discuss these issues. A tentative date has been set for April 24 from 10 am to 2 pm, possibly at WAMS.

We have had to deal with some seasonable weather the past few weeks, and it appears this wintry trend will be continuing this week. Nonetheless, our schools are preparing for the CMT and CAPT tests which will be administered to students in March.

This Thursday schools will dismiss early for teacher collaboration time in elementary and high schools and for Open House for middle schools. That same day Woodrow Wilson School will be holding a Guest Readers Day in honor of Dr. Seuss.

Ten of our students are being awarded the Presidential Scholarship Award tomorrow at 5:00 p.m. at Naugatuck Valley Community College. The students are taking core courses (English, History, etc.) after school hours and/or on Saturdays and will be given high school credit, which will enable them to graduate, while at the same time giving them college credit. I assisted in developing this program with Dr. Daisy Cocco DeFilippis, President of NVCC. The ten students are: Shakeela M. Edwards/Wilby, Kimete Kodra/Crosby, Nicholas C. Sergi/WAMS, Melanie Balgobin/Kennedy, Lacy Paris/Kennedy, Tanjina Akhtar/Kennedy, Bashim Aliu/Kennedy, Jacelyn C. Locke/Kennedy, Justin Velazquez/Kennedy, Olajuwon Harrington/Kennedy.

There will be a tour of the Gilmartin construction site this Thursday afternoon at 3:15 scheduled for Gilmartin school staff. Board members are also cordially invited.

And last, but not least, I just returned from a few days visiting several schools in Ghana, West Africa and also visiting the country of Togo. It was quite enlightening, quite informative, and a little bit surreal when I visited the slave castles and actually walked through the tunnels of no return. I will have a CD put together, I'm having that done now, so that hopefully I'll get a few extra minutes at the next meeting and I'll get a chance to make some small presentation. I did bring back a little symbol of Ghana and I've got some other things I may bring to the next meeting. In these small villages some

very primitive type schools and they're 50, 60, 70, 80, or more students in small rooms with no ventilation or very little ventilation, but guess what folks, everybody's paying attention, everybody's raising their hands trying to beat each other raising their hands to give answers and responses. And by the way, it's not much in the way of free education; you've got to pay to go to school. If you don't pay, you don't go to school. And they're in uniform, they're all in uniform, everybody's dressed the same – high school, elementary, everybody. Teaching though leaves a little bit to be desired but they're doing the best they can. Thank you.

**PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:** Because of the weather that Dr. Snead referred to from last week, we had to bump all our meetings back. What we're doing currently is the meeting that was scheduled to be held last week and, unfortunately, it's going to take a little bit more time before we get to the Workshop because we're going to go through this meeting, we do have to add an executive session to our meeting so I'd just like people to understand that we are going to come back from our Regular Meeting, hopefully it won't be too much longer, then the issue that many people have addressed us tonight regarding the religious holidays is Item #13 at our Workshop so we'll have discussion there. There was no intent of any action tonight; it will be discussed at the Workshop for possible action next week when people have an opportunity, again, to speak to it if they'd like. We're now going to go onto the Consent Calendar, items 8.1 through 8.16.

## **8. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**Upon a motion by Commissioner D'Angelo and duly seconded by Commissioner Sweeney, it was voted unanimously to approve the Consent Calendar, items 8.1 through 8.16, as listed:**

- 8.1 With the approval of the Committee of the Whole, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of a collaboration program between Waterbury Public Schools and the Waterbury Police Activity League's entitled "Strong Women in Progress".
- 8.2 With the approval of the Committee on Grants, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission to apply for the Lowe's Toolbox for Education Grant for Walsh School.
- 8.3 With the approval of the Committee on Grants, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission to apply for the State Department of Education's 21st Century Learning Environments (Title IID – AARA) Competitive Grant.
- 8.4 With the approval of the Committee on Grants, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval to apply for the U.S. Department of Education's "2010 Elementary and Secondary School Counseling Program Grant".
- 8.5 With the approval of the Committee on Grants, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval to apply for the U.S. Department of Education's "Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools Grant".

- 8.6 With the approval of the Committee on Grants, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval to participate in the Discovery Grant to support the Bridge to Success Initiative for the period of April 2010 through March 2012.
- 8.7 With the approval of the Committee on Grants, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission to apply for project funding for the Truancy Clinic through the Department of Education's Appropriations Request Process. Further, that the Board of Education submit a letter of support for the program.
- 8.8 With the approval of the Committee on Finance, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of the Board of Education's 2011 – 2015 Capital Budget Request.
- 8.9 With the approval of the Committee on Schoolhouses, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of an Amendment to the Lease Agreement with 3537 LLC for property located at 37 Leavenworth Street.
- 8.10 With the approval of the Committee on School Personnel, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of the job specifications for and position of Part-time Accountant II – Educational Grants (to replace the position of Early Reading First Grant Facilitator).
- 8.11 With the approval of the Committee on Legislation, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of the following Resolution, to wit:
- Whereas, the No Child Left Behind law is undergoing reauthorization,
- Whereas, parents of children in the Waterbury school district have voiced concern regarding the qualifiers for tutoring under the Supplemental Educational Services provisions of No Child Left behind,
- Whereas, the current requirement for Supplemental Educational Services tutoring under No Child Left Behind requires students be eligible for free or reduced lunch without regard to student test scores,
- Whereas, parents in the Waterbury school district have voiced concern that their child would benefit from tutoring services, and has posted test scores that indicate need, but is not eligible for free or reduced lunch, but whose parents cannot afford private tutoring,
- Be it resolved that the Waterbury Board of Education supports revision of the Supplemental Educational Services requirements under No Child Left Behind to require tutoring services first be provided to those students in qualifying schools who have the lowest test scores, without regard to eligibility for free or reduced lunch.
- 8.12 With the approval of the Committee on Legislation, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of the following Resolution, to wit:

Whereas, Governor Rell has proposed to cut funding for UConn's CommPACT School initiative;

Whereas, Waterbury hosts two CommPACT Schools, Washington Elementary and West Side Middle School;

Whereas, all stakeholders in CommPACT at Washington Elementary and West Side Middle Schools have entered a five (5) year commitment to the CommPACT initiative;

Whereas, the state funding supports the CommPACT School initiative and funding is not available in the Waterbury general fund budget;

Whereas, the loss of state funding for CommPACT would negatively impact the continued progress of Washington Elementary and West Side Middle Schools under CommPACT;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Waterbury Board of Education supports continued funding of UConn's CommPACT initiative, and requests the Waterbury delegation to fight to preserve this vital funding.

- 8.13 Motion to approve permission be granted to the following for use of school facilities school organizations and/or City Departments.
- 8.14 Motion to approve permission be granted to the following for use of school facilities by outside organizations and/or waiver requests.
- 8.15 With the approval of the Committee on School Activities, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission be granted to N. Martone, KHS, and 4 chaperones to take 50 students to Lenox, MA on April 8, 2010 to attend the play "Julius Caesar".
- 8.16 With the approval of the Committee on School Activities, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission be granted to C. Fann-Pierce, KHS, and six chaperones to take 30 students to New Orleans, LA from April 28 through May 2, 2010 participate in H.O.P.E. (Helping Out People Everywhere) Community Service Club.

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. All in favor, opposed.

**Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to add to the Agenda an Executive Session.**

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. Please read into the record.

**Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to go into Executive Session for discussion concerning strategy and negotiations with respect to collective bargaining at 7:05 p.m. Present were President Hayes, Commissioners D'Angelo, Flaherty-Merritt, Harvey, Morales, O'Leary, Stango, Sweeney, Theriault (left at 7:45), and White.**

**Also present were Dr. Snead, Dr. Sequeira, Mrs. Cullinan, Mr. Guidone, Mr. Frost, Attorney Mosley, and Attorney Clemow.**

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. All in favor, opposed. We'll try to make this short and sweet.

**Upon a motion by Commissioner D'Angelo and duly seconded by Commissioner Sweeney, it was voted unanimously to return to the regular order of business at 7:55 p.m. No votes were taken.**

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. For the record, no votes were taken.

## **10. COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL PERSONNEL**

**10.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Flaherty-Merritt, it was voted unanimously to postpone Item 10.1, approval of job specifications for and new position of Pre-k – 8 School Principal, until the March 1, 2010 Regular Meeting.**

HAYES: Motion is made and seconded. All in favor, opposed.

**10.2 Upon a motion by Commissioner Harvey and duly seconded by Commissioner Sweeney, it was voted unanimously to approve of a Supervising Vice Principal position for Gilmartin School.**

HAYES: Motion is made and seconded. Any discussion?

THERIAULT: Yes, as I had implied earlier in discussion with regard to this position, is this going to be a 10 month position or a 12 month position?

HAYES: Ten months.

GUIDONE: The existing Civil Service position is 10 months.

THERIAULT: Okay, even though making it 12 months would only be an additional 16 days, I'm kind of leaning towards the inclusion of a 12 month position rather than a 10 just so the principal could cover for the vice principal, and vice versa, but either way I'm just pointing that out to you. Thank you.

HAYES: Anyone else? Hearing none – all in favor, opposed, motion passed unanimously.

## **11. SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTIFICATION TO THE BOARD**

**Upon a motion by Commissioner D'Angelo and duly seconded by Commissioner Sweeney, it was voted unanimously to receive and place on file items 11.1 through 11.10, Superintendent's Notification to the Board, as listed:**

**11.1 Athletic resignations:**

Arroyo, Richard – Softball Coach, WMS, effective immediately.  
Ryan, Diane – Softball Coach, WSMS, effective immediately.

11.2 Grant funded appointments effective immediately:

Brown, Samuel – High School Math Instructional Tutor, KHS, 10 months per year, maximum of 15 hours per week @ \$30.00 per hour, no benefits.  
Caligiuri, Vittorio E. – Network Specialist (Title IID/ARRA funding), 10 months per year, 35 hours per week \$19.00 per hour, SEIU position.  
Iljazi, Dashnor – Network Specialist (Title IID/ARRA funding), 10 months per year, 35 hours per week \$19.00 per hour, SEIU position.

11.3 TPTA appointments, two hours per day (with bus duty 3 hours per day), four days per week, salary according to contract:

Feeney, Eric – Kingsbury School (substitute).

11.4 Maloney Magnet School's After-school program appointments:

Phoenix, Donna – maximum of two hours per week.

11.5 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Center, Cohort 8/Project 1 (Dare to Dream Grant/High Schools and Mattatuck Museum), appointments, salary according to individual's contract:

Heidi Doolen - Music	Francis Spring – Math
Nancy De Pietro – Substitute	David Basile – Guidance
Victoria De Paolo – English	Fiona Docherty – Substitute

11.6 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Center, Cohort 8/Project 2 (Downtown Academy/Middle Schools at Mattatuck Museum), appointments, salary according to individual's contract:

Michael Clark – Physical Science 7-12

11.7 New Hires:

92	Cocuzzi, Matthew D.	Wilson	Gr. 5	MA	1	12/21/2010
93	Scarzella, Nicole	Walsh	Gr. 4	BA	2	1/25/2010
94	Pasquinucci, Cecilia	CHS	Special Ed	BA	3	2/3/2010

11.8 Resignations:

Doolan, Kathleen – Pre-k, MMS, effective 02/02/10 (deceased).  
Shelton, Sidney C. Michael II – Social Studies - NEMS, effective 06/30/10.  
Tragakes, Marie – Speech Pathologist, MMS, effective 02/03/10 (deceased).

11.9 Retirements:

DeAngelis, Teresa K. M. – Librarian, Tinker School, effective 06/30/10.  
Giancarlo, Barbara – WSMS House Principal, effective 07/01/10.  
Shortt, Raymond G. – WSMS Technology Education, effective 06/30/10.

11.10 Leave of Absence requests:

Quinlan, Stacey – Kingsbury grade 1, requesting an unpaid childrearing leave of absence from approximately January 27, 2010 to April 8, 2010.

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. All in favor, opposed. Anything under unfinished business of our preceding meeting only? Anything unfinished, new, or miscellaneous? Commissioner D'Angelo.

D'ANGELO: inaudible.

HAYES: I think we should have an open invitation, every school, if they want to come down and sing. If everyone's okay with it, that's fine, I just don't want it to appear that we're inviting a particular school, not all schools.

HARVEY: I would like to see an open invitation to all the schools actually. I want to thank President Hayes, I received a book regarding Black History Month, and I guess what the district did. I thank you for that; I don't know who left it. I appreciate that and I also would like to thank the Brooklyn School, I went out to the Brooklyn School on Wednesday to address the students, Dr. Snead, and they were very attentive; I addressed them regarding Black History Month and I want to thank Joyce Jones for the invitation and good crowd, very captive audience. Thank you.

### ***ADJOURNMENT***

**Upon a motion by Commissioner D'Angelo and duly seconded by Commissioner Sweeney, it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:01 p.m.**

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Carrie A. Swain, Clerk  
*Board of Education*