

WATERBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Monday, January 26, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.

(For the February 2, 2009 Board Meeting - MINUTES ATTACHED)

COMMITTEE MEETING

The Board of Education Committee meetings were held on Monday, January 26, 2009 at Gilmartin School (former St. Margaret's School), 289 Willow Street, Waterbury, Connecticut, starting at 5:35 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Jarjura, Commissioners D'Angelo, Flaherty-Merritt, Harvey, Laccone, Pinto, Stango, Sweeney, and Theriault.

ABSENT: President Hayes and Vice President White.

ALSO PRESENT: Assistant Superintendents Cullinan and Sequeira, Chief Operating Officer Paul Guidone, Director of Personnel Ron Frost, School Business Administrator Paul Mazzaccaro, and Attorney Maurice Mosley.

Reports were submitted to the various committees of the Board and discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee meetings adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie A. Swain, Clerk
Board of Education

WATERBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES ~ REGULAR MEETING

Monday, February 2, 2009 at 6:30 p.m.

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

PRESENT: President Hayes, Commissioners D'Angelo, Flaherty-Merritt, Harvey, Laccone, Pinto, 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, Education Liaison Mary Ann Marold, and School Inspector Herbert Greengas.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

President Hayes called the meeting to order at 6:39 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: Present.

CLERK: Commissioner Flaherty-Merritt.

FLAHERTY-MERRITT: Present.

CLERK: Commissioner Harvey.

HARVEY: Here

CLERK: Commissioner Laccone.

LACCONE: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Pinto.

PINTO: 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 Stango, it was voted unanimously to receive and place on file the following communications:

1. Communication dated January 12, 2009 from Victoria Luddy regarding the naming of the entrance of North End Middle School in honor of their late father.
2. Copy of communications dated January 12, 2009 from Civil Service certifying James Shine and Kelly Martoni for the position of Paraprofessional.
3. Copy of communications dated January 13, 2009 from Civil Service certifying Emily Wengertsman for the position of Paraprofessional and Therese Colella for the position of Administrative Support Specialist I.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Stango, it was voted unanimously to approve the minutes of November 3, 2008, November 17, 2008, December 1, 2008, and December 15, 2008.

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. Any discussion? Any clarifications to be made? Hearing none - all in favor, opposed.

PUBLIC ADDRESSES THE BOARD:

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney 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 6:42 p.m.

HAYES: 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.

Lisa Lessard 538 Sylvan Avenue, had the following comments: Good evening, and the reason why I'm here tonight is to let you know that Governor Rell, at the end of last week, signed a proclamation to make February parent leadership month and I'm here tonight for you, the Board, as well as the public on TV as well as the public that's in the

audience, to congratulate all our parents for doing a great and awesome job with our children within the school system as well as at home. All our parents, all our caregivers, all our PTO people, as well as anybody that's a caretaker. Tonight I would like to inform the School Board as well as all of our parents that Governor Rell signed a proclamation and February is Parent Leadership Month. This here is the proclamation and I have one for each and every School Board member, as well as, I wish there were more parents in the audience so I could give one to them as well, is the proclamation that she signed. I just wanted to take some time to thank all Waterbury parents for being there for each and every day for our children. Thank you for being someone that your children look up to and thank you for just being you. Each and every child is precious in our future. We need to all come together as one to engage in each of our children's lives. I believe each one of our children want to grow to have a good quality of life and grow and become all they can be and together as a family network that is going to happen for us all. Parents are the foundation for all the children to grow, nurture, and succeed. Here's to each and every parent and thank you for everything you do. God bless Waterbury's parents and God bless each and every one of our children. And I'd like to thank everybody on the School Board who has children or don't have children because you take care of each and every one of our children each and every day. So I want to say thank you to you and I want to say thank you to the audience and I want to say thank you to the viewers at home because this is an important month, we need parent engagement within our schools and hopefully we can all work together and make that happen and I just wanted to give everybody a round of applause and say thank you because we appreciate you and I know you appreciate the parents as well and hopefully we can get the parents in the school system working a little bit closer together in the process of. So I want to say thank you to everybody in the audience and everybody sitting here on the Board because, thumbs up, you do a great job, we're deeply appreciated, and I'd like to thank Mr. Mosley, Ms. Anne Marie Culligan, and Mr. Sequeira as well. Thank you and God bless to everybody. Oh, and Andy Michaud, I'm sorry, the person on the camera.

HAYES: We have someone from the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health listed second, but I think we'll hold her to last because we normally hear from Waterbury residents first, anyways, and in case somebody else wants to ask any questions of Ms. Ayes they'll have the opportunity to do that.

Linn Asplund, 167 Madison Street, had the following comments: Good evening ladies and gentlemen of the Board and in the audience. I haven't been able to come because either it's a Workshop or there's no school on a Monday or something came up. We had a situation a few weeks back in an auditorium, and I'm gonna say the school, Wallace Middle School. It had something to do with half-way house guys that were there and talking about drugs and gangs and what not and so forth and I'm assuming you may have heard what happened after that; a lot of parents started calling the school and I had planned on notifying the police department because one of them was there and should have had the common sense to tell these half-way house guys to hold their language down because many people were offended and not only the kids but the school personnel. I mean it "f" ing this, and "f" ing that and so on and so forth. Two sixth graders, they're 11 years old, my granddaughter came home and told me and I went directly to the school and because I was told that it came from the Board of Education who had agreed on it then it went to the head principal and really supposedly nobody knew about it. I had gone to the school, I was gonna make a copy to give to

each one of you, it's called the Hatch Amendment letter, I think I mentioned it once before. If you don't know what it is look it up on the computer. It tells the school you cannot teach my grandchildren or my son anything on there. And to tell you the truth I don't even have to let you do a hearing, eye test, anything, because it doesn't pertain to the education of a child. And I showed, when I went I told Mr. Yeshion to get my granddaughter's file out and he did and now I said "look for that paper", he was pretty surprised at the stuff that was in there. But because you didn't send a notice home to the parents to say yes or no on it that's a big problem. And I told Mr. Yeshion because you went against that paper I could pull her out of the school, that is my right. But I said I won't, but don't let it happen again. So I think you guys should think twice before you send something like this, send a notice home, you're supposed to send a notice home to the parents to let them know what is going to go on. So, oh, there's been sex education in the classes, I'm talking about "sex" education, way down into the fourth grade, and this was in a grammar school. My granddaughter was not allowed to attend it and when I found out about it I asked the principal "did you give them protection to take home with them after you taught them?", the answer was "they only do that in high school". So it's nice to know that you're promoting this stuff to our kids. Thank you.

HAYES: Dr. Snead will look into all the concerns that were presented tonight, as he always does.

Diane Aye, Connecticut Department of Public Health, had the following

comments: Thank you very much for the opportunity to address you this evening. I'm an epidemiologist with the Connecticut Department of Public Health and I'm also the Coordinator of the Connecticut School Health Survey. I'm here to request your support of the Connecticut School Health Survey and your permission to contact the six schools that were selected by the Centers for Disease Control to participate in the Connecticut School Health Survey. The Survey is financially supported by the Centers for Disease Control and it's a joint effort of the Connecticut Department of Public Health and the Connecticut Department of Education. Nationally this Survey is known as the Youth Risk Behavior Survey and the Youth Tobacco Survey. In Connecticut we combine them for ease of administration for the schools and so that we only bother the schools once every other year, we do it in odd years as opposed to every year. The schools that were randomly selected by CDC in Waterbury are Crosby High School, Waterbury Arts Magnet School, Wilby High School, Enlightenment School, Wallace Middle School, and West Side Middle School. Only a few randomly selected classrooms will be asked to take the survey. In the middle schools they will only be asked to take the Tobacco Survey. The high schools would be asked to take both the Behavioral Survey and the Tobacco Survey. And again, not all of the students are asked to take the survey. About three classrooms in the high schools will be asked to take the Tobacco Survey and about three or four classrooms will be asked to take the Behavioral Survey. We must follow the CDC methodology in order to have a valid survey so we work with the schools to randomly select the classrooms. The selected schools by CDC cannot be replaced with other schools in the State. The survey content is public information, I provided it to you in the packets today, and I also have a fact's sheet there, some questions, and a sample of a permission form that could go home to parents ahead of time. I think that both of the speakers that preceded me bring good points forward that I kind of want to build on. The survey talks a lot about risk factors, it also talks about preventive factors. And through this survey we've been able to learn that yes, there's a lot of hazardous things out there in the environment but there's also things that help protect our students,

one of which is a supportive home. Students who support that their parents usually know where they are are much less likely to be engaged in any of the risky behaviors that we ask about on the survey. Also having a meal with your family is shown to be protective. We do ask questions that are sensitive. All the questions are optional; in other words a student does not have to take the survey and they can skip questions they don't want to answer. I think one of the things, I've been doing this survey since 2005, we did it in Connecticut in 1997, and then 2005, 2007 we have valid data. If we don't get participation that reaches at least 60% then we do not get our survey validated by CDC and all the work of the other schools don't get counted. So I'm asking for your permission to work with the schools that were selected to randomly select the classrooms and to administer the survey to a few classrooms in the Waterbury system. Thank you very much for your time, I appreciate it. I'd be happy to stay and answer any questions.

HAYES: We'll make the motion and put it up for discussion and take it from there. Thank you. Is there anyone else wishing to address the Board? Is there anyone else wishing to address the Board?

Upon a motion by Commissioner D'Angelo and duly seconded by Commissioner Stango, it was voted unanimously to return to the regular order of business at 6:54 p.m.

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. We'll now return to the regular order of business.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Our elementary and high schools held Open House last Thursday. Our middle schools will host Open House this Thursday while our other schools hold Professional Development.

As you know, I attended President Obama's inauguration last week in Washington, DC. It really was inspiring to be a part of history. I got caught up in a huge crowd of folks and it was freezing out there. And it got, the closer we got to the gate where our silver tickets would allow us in, the more crowded it became to the point you couldn't move; I mean you literally could not budge, you couldn't move. And I got there three hours ahead of time.

HAYES: I was real comfortable where I was.

SUPERINTENDENT: So what I decided to do along with my wife, sister-in-law and brother-in-law, we decided to make a decision to go back because if we were going to see the swearing-in ceremony there was no way we were gonna get close enough. So we retreated and along the way I saw a guy at the side door of the Cannon Building which houses our congressmen and my wife had mentioned she needed to use a facility so I said why don't you ask him if you can go in there. So she did, she and her sister went inside, and she overheard security guards there saying they had televisions set up in a caucus room. So she asked the security guards if she could go get her husband and they said "sure, bring him on in". So my brother-in-law and I were able to go into the caucus room where the congressmen have their offices and we were able to sit there and watch it with some heat and comfort and still look out the window and see all the crowd. So we had the best of both worlds. It all in all turned out to be pretty good.

You guys remember Debbie Lewis, who was an Alderman here, went by her house afterwards, she lives right nearby with her husband, and we enjoyed some things there with her and her husband. And then later on that evening my stepson rented this long stretch Hummer to take the whole family out to dinner. So as we went through Washington, DC we got stopped by guess who, Obama, as he was traversing across the City going to the Inauguration Balls. And then low and behold on the way back we got stopped by him again. So we got a chance to see his vehicle going back and forth across the City. So all in all it was pretty exciting to have had that experience; a once in a lifetime opportunity. And no, Commissioner Theriault, I didn't take a whole lot of pictures, just a couple.

During a meeting of the Boy Scout's state advisory committee, I was reappointed as the Boy Scout's Vice President for State Wide Enrollment. I have enjoyed serving in this capacity. This is a wonderful organization for boys and I highly recommend it to our young men.

I met with several members of the management team that has been visiting Bucks Hill School during the past school year. There have been many significant improvements. A few areas of concern remain but overall much improvement has been made.

Walsh School is scheduled to host its 6th Annual Black History Celebration tomorrow evening beginning at 6 p.m. The event will include performances by the Zion Baptist Youth Choir and the Unity Dance Ensemble. Guest Speaker is Patricia Mayfield who of course is the Commissioner of Labor.

Crosby High School has developed a full month's calendar of activities, as other schools in our district, related to Black History Month including a Question of the Day and ten different presentations on great figures of the Harlem Renaissance. I will be visiting a Junior Humanities class tomorrow to give my perspective on black history.

We have another DIP committee meeting coming up this Wednesday. We are continuing to monitor the implementation of our District Improvement Plan.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS: I just checked with Carrie, we're meeting next week at Walsh, and I hope we get some kind of presentation as to what's been going on in the schools with regard to the aftermath of the Obama Election and Black History Month as well. I hope we have that as a theme for our next couple of Workshops, encourage the principals to let us know what they've been doing to get that going. Thank you.

I'd just like to thank the Mayor for filling in when I couldn't be here and Mary couldn't be here last week. All indications he did a good job but he wasn't that excited about having to come back again. But he did appreciate the way he was treated by everybody and said he enjoyed it. Again, I'd like to thank him. Now we'll move onto our Consent Calendar.

HARVEY: Yes, I'd like to remove item 9.10 and 9.11.

HAYES: So I'll start reading the Consent Calendar.

President Hayes proceeded to read the Consent Calendar items.

9. CONSENT CALENDAR

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Stango, it was voted unanimously to approve the Consent Calendar, Items 9.1 through 9.9 and 9.12 through 9.15, as listed:

- 9.1 With the approval of the Committee of the Whole, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval to hold the first annual Middle School Boys and Girls Basketball Tournament.
- 9.2 With the approval of the Committee on Grants, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval to apply to The Connecticut Community Foundation and The Naugatuck Savings Bank Foundation for a grant to support a Truancy Clinic Afterschool Program.
- 9.3 With the approval of the Committee on Grants, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of a Professional Services Agreement with Comer & Swarts, Inc., d/b/a Sylvan Learning Center, to provide Supplemental Educational Services pursuant to the Federal No Child Left Behind Act.
- 9.4 With the approval of the Committee on Grants, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of a Professional Services Agreement with Smarties Tutoring Services, to provide Supplemental Educational Services pursuant to the Federal No Child Left Behind Act.
- 9.5 With the approval of the Committee on Grants, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of a Professional Services Agreement with A+ Learning Headquarters, to provide Supplemental Educational Services pursuant to the Federal No Child Left Behind Act.
- 9.6 With the approval of the Committee on Grants, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of a Professional Services Agreement with Princeton Review, to provide Supplemental Educational Services pursuant to the Federal No Child Left Behind Act.
- 9.7 With the approval of the Committee on Food Service, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of a Professional Services Agreement with Horizon Software International, LLC., to provide a Point of Sale System for Food Services.
- 9.8 With the approval of the Committee on Building, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of the revised Educational Specifications for the Enlightenment and Special Education Program Center Project.
- 9.9 With the approval of the Legislative Committee, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of the following Position Statement Regarding State Budget Concerns/January 2009 Legislative Session:

**POSITION STATEMENT REGARDING STATE BUDGET CONCERNS
JANUARY 2009 LEGISLATIVE SESSION.**

The Waterbury Board of Education requests the Waterbury Delegation address the following during the 2009 legislative session on the state budget. Of primary concern and therefore, of primary focus is the Education Cost Sharing (ECS) Grant.

While increased ECS funding is always appreciated, we request at minimum that funding remain intact at current levels. Any cuts to this, our major source of educational funding outside local general funding, would be devastating to the district. Cuts to educational services would be required at a time when, under No Child Left Behind, progress is crucial. Tax increases at the local level would be difficult to obtain, and further burden our citizens.

We request that this, ECS, be priority one (1) for the delegation's efforts. Additionally, we request the delegation give serious consideration and attention to the following:

Delay implementation of the in school suspension bill. Now is not the time to impose new costs on districts when funding sources for education face cuts or elimination. Further study and discussion of waivers for districts showing improvement in overall suspension rates should take place.

Delay implementation of changes to magnet school funding. The current proposal is flawed, and unfairly penalizes host districts, as well as districts that pay tuition for students who attend magnets.

The Waterbury Board of Education requests your consideration of the following recommendation for a funding formula for the Excess Cost Grant. The Board supports the recommendation of Waterbury Assistant Superintendent of Special Education Ann Marie Cullinan for this formula, which provides an adequate and responsible level of state funding for our special education students receiving out placement services. We request that you consider, fine tune and submit said formula for funding in the next budget cycle.

For students placed by their district-3 x per pupil expenditure

For students placed by DCF/Agency-1 x per pupil expenditure

For students placed through the PPT process at the request of a court appointed advocate-1 x per pupil expenditure.

In similar fashion, we request that our delegation give serious study to how the state funds Adult Education programs, notably the allowable funding for leased space vs. district owned buildings. Any change in recommended funding to be effective in the next budget cycle.

Across the board, we ask our delegation to prevent any legislation that adds to district costs without full state funding, and to look at and alleviate any current unfunded mandates.

- 9.12 With the approval of the Committee on School Activities, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission be granted to the following for use of school facilities school organizations and/or City Departments.
- 9.13 With the approval of the Committee on School Activities, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission be granted to the following for use of school facilities by outside organizations/waiver requests.
- 9.14 With the approval of the Committee on School Activities, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission be granted to T. Boatright, KHS, and one chaperone to take 12 students to Boston, MA on April 9, 2009 to visit the Boston Federal Reserve.
- 9.15 With the approval of the Committee on School Activities, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission be granted to L. Capolupo and five chaperones to take 52 students to Ellenville, NY from February 27, 2009 through March 1, 2009 to visit the Honor's Haven Resort.

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

10. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT

- 9.10 Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve the following Position Statement Regarding the No Child Left Behind Act:**

The Waterbury Board of Education supports and requests the following change to the No Child Left Behind provision regarding Supplemental Education Services.

That the criteria to select students eligible for SES services be changed to offer services first to students with the lowest test scores. Current criteria give first preference to students eligible for free or reduced lunch without regard for test scores. Middle income students who score poorly are denied services, and often their families do not have sufficient financial resources to access services similar to those offered through SES programs.

HAYES: Motion is made and seconded. I'll call on Commissioner Harvey I guess.

HARVEY: My question is Commissioner Sweeney, once we make this position, once we present this, who does this go to?

SWEENEY: This goes to the U.S. delegation which would be Chris Murphy, Rosa DeLauro, Senator Lieberman, and Senator Dodd.

HARVEY: Okay, so it will not go to our State...

SWEENEY: At this point in time this provision is part of No Child Left Behind which would come under the U.S. Delegation.

HARVEY: I just wanted to make sure.

SWEENEY: Hartford cannot change this.

HARVEY: Thank you.

HAYES: Any further discussion? Hearing none – all in favor, opposed, motion passes.

Item #9.11

WHITE: Ladies and gentlemen, with the approval of the Committee on Rules & Regulations, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of the new policy “Naming of School Spaces”, **SO MOVED.**

HARVEY: **Second.**

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. Under discussion, Commissioner Harvey.

HARVEY: Just a few picayune items on this. Number one, in the policy I think it would be wise, and Paul I know we kind of briefly talked about this, but I think it would be wise to reference that a form needs to be completed, if this is indeed what we’re gonna do is to have a form, that a form would need to be completed so that those wanting to make recommendations would know that and the form is not referenced in the policy; I’m just throwing that out. Secondly, in the form, the form itself is fine, but I’d like something like a date to be on this so we know when we received this. Here it says, there’s a reference to materials needed, is that the Committee who is making the recommendations, the person’s rather, that are making the recommendation, do they need to come up with the cost and material? So if someone could just give some, enlighten me on that. First of all let’s start with the reference of the form; I think the form should be referenced in the policy.

WHITE: If you think so then we can add it but a form would be given to a person, when they made their request a form would be sent out to them. As far as on the form itself being dated, it would be dated when it came back to, when we received it it would be dated the day it was received, they would date it themselves.

HARVEY: Okay, then I think we should include an area with a date on it, because my fear is we’ll get these requests and we state in a “timely fashion this will be addressed”, but I still feel there is a need to put a date, a space for a date on the form so that we know when they are completing the form so we can keep track how this form is moving along.

WHITE: You mean like date submitted.

HARVEY: When they complete it, the date that they complete the form.

WHITE: Well that would be the date they submitted it, no?

HARVEY: Either way, semantics, either way.

WHITE: Then it would be stamped when we receive it.

PINTO: I thought it was discussed at the last meeting that the form was optional, that people did not need to submit the form, but that it would make our lives easier if they did. So it was going to be an optional form not a required form. Or did I miss something?

WHITE: I wasn't here at the last meeting but I do know that all of the information that's on this form is what usually comes before us in a letter that people send.

PINTO: But we were not going to require it, we were going to make it optional so we had, if somebody wanted a form we could provide on, that they could simply submit a letter was the understanding that we came to last week.

SWEENEY: The concern was that within the school community and most of these, for naming spaces, generally come from within the school community, it's either the teachers or the principals, somebody connected to the school and it comes through the principal of the school. And those people would know that there was a form available and fill out a form and send it to Central Office. The concern was that if a community member wanted to make a request then are we going to hold up their request because they haven't filled out a form? I think the Committee agreed that we would not hold up a request, it simply makes life a lot easier, we don't have to go back and hunt down the criteria that we need. The form does designate what the Committee is looking for so that they could make an evaluation if two people are looking to name the same space as to what we have. So the form is being an option, yes. Do we want people just throwing names in and say name this space for this person without any explanation behind it – no. Then we're gonna come back and ask them either to fill out the form or to give the information that's on the form.

HARVEY: I still feel, I don't really recall whether we made this optional but we should, again, in the policy state that a form should be completed, that it's not a requirement but it should be completed. If they have the form in front of them then this will tell them what information, like you said Commissioner Sweeney, that we're looking for.

GUIDONE: That was an accurate representation. At the Committee meeting I think someone said it would be nice to have a form, which would mean to me to be optional and we tried to put one together. I think as a practical matter, you know, Committee chooses it wants it on that form and if it gets a letter in from someone in the community, someone would contact them and say can you please fill out the form, so it's probably good now that we've taken the extra step of putting the form together to probably use it for the Committee to review all the requests whether the original request comes in on the form or not

D'ANGELO: Paul, the form itself, will there be carbons, or they'll get a copy, or it will be time stamped? What if someone from the community fills out the form and it gets lost internally is there a method they'll have a copy?

GUIDONE: What? When a form comes to the Board of Education it is normally given to Carrie and it's normally being stamped "received".

SWEENEY: Certainly anybody that wants to can ask for a copy with the time stamp.

HAYES: The key is they send it to the Board of Ed meaning Carrie, not any of us, hopefully that will be in there somewhere.

HARVEY: Just one last comment and this is picayune, yes it should go to Carrie, at the bottom of the form it states "236 Grand Street", there's no harm in not putting the form it should go to.

HAYES: Can we try to keep this moving. The motion on the floor is to approve the Committee's recommendation of this new policy called the Naming of School Spaces. If we want to add something to it, an amendment could be in order to do it tonight to vote on this. As far as the form goes, there's really no mention of the form here so the form can be worked out.

HARVEY: But the form was attached.

HAYES: We'll put in there, what I think we need to do is simply vote on tonight the policy itself.

HARVEY: So I made some recommendations for the policy.

HAYES: Could we just put those recommendations in the form of amendment.

HARVEY: I make an amendment that in the policy we state that there is a form that should be completed; all requests shall be submitted to "the Clerk of" the Board of Education. Also a date line shall be included on the form along with "3rd floor" following "236 Grand Street".

D'ANGELO: **Second.**

FLAHERTY-MERRITT: What's the sentence going to look like for the form reference and how is that sentence going to read? Is it going to be under item one and how will that sentence read? Just so I'm clear on what the policy will look like because when we vote tonight we'll be voting on what the actual policy will look like, it will go into our policy book, so I'd like to know the wording tonight before I vote.

HAYES: The Chairman of that Committee said she could add it as number five.

WHITE: I guess that would have to be where it says "requested to the Board of Education".

SWEENEY: She's talking about the reference to the form.

HARVEY: The reference to the form will just simply read that a form should be completed; a form is available for completion.

HAYES: So that would be under number one? Any more further discussion on the amendment?

WHITE: Do I have it correct, number five would be “a form is available”?

FLAHERTY-MERRITT: So it will read “all requests to name school spaces should be forwarded by the requester to the Clerk of the Board of Education. The requester should identify the individual for whom the space is to be named, the proposed location, rationale, and any related costs and supporting information. A form is available for this purpose.”

HAYES: Any further discussion on the amendment.

HARVEY: I had hoped that the form issue because it would be a little bit further down, maybe a fifth item, that there is a form available, separate, not enclosed.

HAYES: Commissioner Harvey’s amendment is to put it as number five. Any further discussion? Hearing none – all in favor, opposed, motion passes unanimously for the amendment. Any discussion on the amended motion? Hearing none – all in favor, opposed, motion passes unanimously.

11. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Item #11.1

WHITE: Ladies and gentlemen, with the approval of the Committee of the Whole, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval for select schools to participate in the State of Connecticut Departments of Education and Public Health “Connecticut School Health Survey” with the utilization of an opt-in student permission form, SO MOVED.

SWEENEY: **Second.**

HAYES: Motion has been made and seconded. Any discussion? Commissioner D’Angelo, then Commissioner Stango. Can we ask Ms. Aye to come up please?

D’ANGELO: Just one question concerning the permission slip, it says “if you give your permission for your child to complete this survey then you do not have to do anything. If you do not want your child to take part in the survey check the box and return”. What is the thinking of the people who develop the survey for this type of permission slip as opposed to a positive permission slip?

AYE: We’re able to get more response that way and it’s easier for the parents and students to not to send something back. As a mother of two high school graduates and a 13 year old, it’s easier for transmitting the information back and forth. I think if I’m getting your question you’re wondering whether or not it’s better to have the parent definitively say that their child can get into the survey as opposed to passively saying

that they are in by not responding. In other words, the student would automatically be included in the survey unless the parent sends it back.

D'ANGELO: I didn't mean to draw any inferences from my question but I guess what I'm, my concern in relationship to the reason for asking you the question is, I know at the middle school and high school level if you send out, if you give 1,200 student this maybe 10%, 15% might actually make it to the parents and my concern is, the note here says some students might find certain questions to be sensitive and I'm assuming if that's fair to say then it's also fair to say some parents might. My concern is if a parent does not get this form, and the majority of them won't I don't think there's any question about that, then they can't have the opportunity to return it.

AYES: Correct.

D'ANGELO: So my concern is students might very well be taking the survey whose parents never had the option to see the survey or never know about it.

AYE: That's true. There is a school in Connecticut, I don't remember the name of the one particular, but they've asked that we mail it to each student and we are going to do that for them. They'll provide us with the labels for the students and we'll mail that permission slip home and that way we know that it's not getting lost in the students' mail, in the backpack. So that is one option we'd be willing to do if you wanted to provide us with the addresses of the students that we'd mail it home that way we would know that they received it.

D'ANGELO: Thank you.

HAYES: Just for clarification, our motion says with an opt-in form.

AYE: There is another permission form to do that. I don't know if I have the ability to make a comment. From our perspective we'd really prefer to have it be the opt-out permission form, in part, because as you said, the students who aren't the ones who bring it home may be the ones, it may skew the results if we don't have an even inclusion of students in the survey. So I would prefer to mail it and have it be if they don't want it.

D'ANGELO: I'm going to draw an inference from a comment you made, not to be unfair to you, you're not saying that the students you most likely want to reach are the students that are most likely not to give their permission slip to their parents?

AYES: No, we want to reach everyone. If I wasn't clear there I apologize. What I'm saying is we want to reach everyone and that the students who may not bring it back, it leaves some, there might be a bias in who returns it versus who doesn't return it. That way from my perspective I'd rather mail it to everyone and have the parent have the option at that point to return it or not return it.

HAYES: Again, just for clarification, are you saying, our motion says the utilization of an opt-in. If we vote in the affirmative on this and this passes, are you saying that it wouldn't be, really be able to be used effectively?

AYE: It would be able to be used but it would, you said effectively, I think it's less effective, that's my professional opinion. Is there any chance we could vote on whether it's an opt-in or opt-out? I do think that's an important issue, I've been doing this survey since 2005. We only had that kind of a survey once and it was for the Tobacco Survey at a middle school and our response rate was a lot lower. My job is to ensure valid survey and to get as high of a response rate as possible. So from the epidemiological standpoint I would really prefer to have it be a survey where the parents have to tell me they don't want their child to participate and I'd be happy to mail those permission slips home.

STANGO: I have a question first and then I'll have some comments. My question is you said earlier in your initial presentation that we have been chosen to partake but we cannot be replaced. So that might throw everything off.

AYE: Exactly.

STANGO: So wouldn't it have made more sense for you to come before us first to see if we would be okay with it before we were chosen and now have the onus of throwing everything off?

AYE: I don't have any ability to control that. It's designed by the Centers for the Disease Control. They ask us for a listing of all the schools that are in the State, middle schools and high schools, and the enrollment figures on that, and then they randomly select the schools and the probability of inclusion is inversely proportional to the size of the school. So in other words a large school is more likely to be selected than a smaller school.

STANGO: Thank you for coming.

AYE: Thank you for giving me the opportunity to address you before you vote on it. I really appreciate that.

STANGO: I'm finished with questions; I just have some comments unless there are other questions.

FLAHERTY-MERRITT: Just curious, when you have those forms mailed home, how do they get returned because, same way that the forms get lost? If a student is handed this by their parents, they're like, I want to fill this out and they're in high school, they're defiant and they just rip it up and they go and take the survey anyways against their parents' wishes and you never know.

AYE: That's a good point, I haven't thought of that, and we could include in there an option to call, either to me or the school, to make sure that they're not included. All these permission forms are suggested wording that we receive from the Centers for Disease Control. Any school is free to alter the wording of the permission form.

THERIAULT: I think my question is this, obviously some of the Commissioners here feel that some of these questions are very intrusive in terms of the, into the lives and the intimacies of the way the students are leading their lives. I would just like to know being the ones, I mean if we voted this . . . it would throw the whole survey off throughout the

whole State, so I want to know from you what are the advantages of this information, what kind of information are you going to get from this? In other words, what's the trade off at the expense of going into their lives and encroaching upon them a bit? There must be some big advantage here.

AYE: I think that there is, and I'd be happy to address that. One of the things you can put on that permission form if you're worried about getting parents that are upset is you can put my name and my phone number and I will personally talk to any parents concerned, so that's number one, I'll offer that up. Two, I think that the information is valuable at the State level and it's valuable at the National level. This does not provide local level data to Waterbury about Waterbury students. The information is statistically designed where it's represented of the State, not representative of Waterbury per se. The information is analyzed by myself and others at the State Health Department and it's also analyzed at the federal level and produced into a federal document by the Centers for Disease Control. So it's part of the national surveillance of risky behaviors throughout the country. What we use this information for is to help design public health programs and health curriculum to address some of these issues. I can't say for sure that this is going to stop certain behaviors that we think of being negative from happening but they help us understand what's going on in our kid's lives as far as risky behaviors, who's more at risk, who's less at risk, and how we might be able to best target our intervention activities. I feel very strongly about this, particularly having teenagers myself. I think that it's important that we are armed with the information. When I present this data to school officials, to teachers, none of them are surprised by what I present. When I present it to parent groups, they are. I use the fact sheet myself as I think a great opportunity like a box of cereal on the kitchen table, I put it out there for my kids and just let them read it and then I ask well what do you think, do you think this represents what's going on in our school. I've been, it helped discussions at my family table, and that's how I would like to see parents utilize this information in their own homes and not just parents but the old teachable moment that anyone who has the ability to interact with our children could help in these areas. And I think one of the clear things it said is what kind of associated risks are there. Lots of times people put too much burden on the schools to provide the holistic environment for our students. I think one of the earlier speakers said what is the mandate, the mandate is obviously to teach and I think it indicates that it takes a whole community to raise a child and that we need community resources to keep kids safe and it points that out as to which behaviors are protective.

HAYES: Anyone else have a question for the speaker? Back to Commissioner Stango and discussion on the motion.

STANGO: Again Mr. President, first let me say that I'm not concerned about the privacy factor; I believe that the survey will be private and that wasn't my concern. Voluntary is another issue. With opt-out it's not fail safe. With opt-out some students will be taking this survey with no parent being aware of it. In our business of what we try to do here we try to relate amongst ourselves and to the students, we try to relate to school as a workplace. We try to tell the students keep excellent attendance, report to work on time, report to school on time, do the tasks assigned, follow the rules, do all this and you will succeed. This survey would never make it in the workplace. I don't have a huge problem with the tobacco component; give it to the middle schoolers with the opt-in option. I don't understand the rationale for many of the questions, but I know that the

State does. I know that creating survey questions is a science unto itself. I have more concerns about the behavior part of the survey. Some questions are innocent enough, again, regarding opt-in. Questions of health, age, grades, attendance, driving, alcohol. Questions relating to the workplace may be beneficial. The workplace might rightfully be concerned with these types of questions so the students are getting used to answering these questions. I have more of a problem with the family interaction part. We all know there's not enough of it, there should be more of it, we know this without the survey. The workplace pretty much stays out of this. I'd just like to add, too, in relation to the speaker, if every family had a mother and father probably like your home does we wouldn't need this survey. That's part of our problem. I have more of a problem with the sexual behavior part of the survey, it's not our prevue, it's not our business. Again, my analogy to the comparing the school to the workplace. Could you imagine what would happen if we tried to give this question to our teachers? Or if the State of Connecticut decided they were going to give this survey to its employees. I feel that the nonchalance of some of these questions of a personal nature desensitize and diminish, they dumb down the seriousness of the questions. These types of questions should be addressed in the home or a medical office where immediate help could be given and questions answered, if need be. Not stored, transmitted and recovered by a computer as a cold statistic. One more point, in my opinion most of these questions in this part of the survey are inappropriate for ninth and tenth graders and in a way rob them of their innocence. In their young minds the questions itself could lead to a sense of legitimacy to the very actions which we are trying to dissuade. I feel that these questions are not ours to ask. Our schools should not go where they don't belong. Thank you.

SWEENEY: Whenever members of this Board dispute the need for our students to participate in surveys addressing sensitive and personal information, we hear response that these issues are real and exist in our student population. There is not a member of this Board who is not acutely aware of the very real part drugs, alcohol, sex play in the lives of, not only our middle and high school students, but our elementary population as well. The insurances of the security of data is also presented as a pro for participation although this is becoming an ever weaker point. My discomfort is with neither. This Board has no formal, workable opt-in policy. This that we received tonight is a perfect example of no formal workable opt-in policy when we can be presented with this when we question a survey the return we get is an opt-out form. Our current policy is opt-out and allows students who do not return parental consent forms to participate. I cannot in good conscience go along any longer with any survey, any request that does not allow a parent to have the control to not have their child participate unless that parent has sent back a form that says yes I want my child to participate, no I do not want my child to participate. Showing up with no form should automatically disqualify that child from participating. Why we allow this to go on just boggles my mind. We have a district website, email addresses for many parents, and parent participation in letter grade, all could be used as avenues to notify parents that their child has been selected to participate in this or any survey. The call-out system is an option to contact parents whose child has not returned the form. We continue to lament the lack of parental involvement in a child's education but then deny them the ability to participate when requests to survey their child are made. Worse, we deny parents the opportunity to use the request to survey as an opportunity to start open dialogue with their child about issues parents should be discussing with their child. Cost to print, distribute, administer, and tabulate surveys – 500 – 1,000 dollars per student maybe. Same discussion

between parent and child – priceless. I can no longer agree to these surveys. I voted down the PAL survey based on the same, same stance that we did not have a viable opt-in policy and I will vote no again. If you insist on going along with this please, please make it a form that says my child either can participate or not participate and deny the right to any child who does not return a form to participate in this survey. Thank you.

HAYES: Just to be clear, that form was presented to us this evening as part of our overall packet, but our motion is an opt-in, so do we have our form that states an opt-in? If we were to support this we would then have to make sure that we're comfortable with the opt-in form.

D'ANGELO: I've never, all my years on the Board, I've never been a supporter of this survey or of any type of these surveys because I think, for the reasons that Charlie and Ann spoke more eloquently than I can about. You know, I've never saw the reason or seen the reason for having another survey to tell us what the problems are in our school district with some of the students that face those problems. We have babies having babies. We have alcohol and drug addicted parents. We have one or in some cases no parents in the home. We have grandparents raising grandchildren as their own, and in many cases, more than one. And we have single parents working two or three jobs trying to make ends meet and no one's home in the morning to get the student out of bed or at night to make sure they get dinner. And the state and the federal government and the Center for Disease Control are very good for telling us the percentage of all those kids and all those students with all those problems. But they're not very good at fixing them. We do more right here at the local level, whether it's through our Board of Education, through community groups and through places like PAL, or all those working together in conjunction; we do more at the local level by far than the state or the federal do at fixing these problems. So I've always stayed away from them, I've always voted no because I know what the problems are, we all know what the problems are, we know what the solutions are; the solutions are to get into the poor communities, the white communities, the African-American communities, the Hispanic communities, and help these people improve their own lives and give parents and grandparents hope for a better life for their children and grandchildren than they have for themselves. We know what the answers are but I would say the answers have to continue to come from the local level. So I'll be voting "no".

HAYES: Anyone else?

LACCONE: Although in the motion it says an opt-in policy, we do not have an opt-in policy before us today and I think everybody probably would be apprehensive, let alone voting for the survey in general, but without that opt-in permission slip before us, we can't accurately vote on what it would say, **so I make a motion that we table this to our next meeting pending receiving an opt-in permission slip that is acceptable to this Board.**

FLAHERTY-MERRITT: **Second.**

HAYES: Motion is made and seconded. Motion was to table. Postpone until...

LACCONE: The next regular meeting where we will be presented with an opt-in permission slip.

HAYES: It should be presented to our Workshop prior to the eighth.

AYE: I was prepared that you would have that concern so we do have an opt-in policy, we call it an active permission slip, and I can provide that to you. I have copies with me now of what CDC has if you want to see it. Again, this can be altered if you want. Should I hand that out or should I send it to you?

HAYES: We really don't have discussion on the motion that's in front of us. So either we agree to table it or not.

STANGO: Commissioner Laccone, when you said the Department's of Education, Public Health, Connecticut School Health Survey with the utilization of an opt-in student permission form, it doesn't say policy. Anybody could make up a form.

LACCONE: I understand, that's what I meant. We don't even have a form in front of us that is going to go home to the students, that's what I mean. I do agree we should probably have a policy, but that's for a different discussion. I apologize for the wordage.

STANGO: I don't want to say we're tabling it because we don't have a policy; we don't need a policy.

LACCONE: I misspoke, I meant the form.

HAYES: Normally on a table there's no discussion. No further discussion. All in favor, opposed, motion passes to postpone to our next regular meeting with a form being presented to us prior to that next regular meeting, hopefully at our next workshop.

11.2 Upon a motion by Commissioner White and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, with Commissioner D'Angelo voting "no", it was voted to approve for the Waterbury Public Schools to participate in the Connecticut State Board of Education's Secondary School Reform's Committee (Support Systems/School Environment Advisory Committee).

HAYES: Any discussion? Hearing none – all in favor, opposed, Commissioner D'Angelo voted no.

12. COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

12.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner Pinto and duly seconded by Commissioner Laccone, it was voted unanimously by roll call vote to approve of the 2009-2010 Department of Education's budget request to the Mayor totaling \$158,625,000.

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. Any discussion?

THERIAULT: This is truly an austere budget; it's probably one of the tightest budgets the Board of Education probably has ever submitted. It is probably more, I agree with other Commissioners, it is probably more of a spending plan than it is an actual budget because once this Board passes it, it has to go to the Board of Aldermen to be passed, it has to go to the Mayor and so forth. But in the light of what is happening with the state and federal government, I was a bit encouraged tonight to see the potential for some money coming back into this City as being supplemental not supplanting the current budget as other Commissioners have stated. That truly is encouraging. But on the other hand if the legislators force the governor to reduce our budget by 12% in the ECS money around the State by 12%, the consequences will be devastating, especially in the large cities where we have done so much to help the poor and the academically disadvantaged and our special education students where Waterbury has one of the finest special education departments probably in all of New England and they come here to get the services. And we have very, very affordable housing. But getting back to the budget cuts with the potential of cutting the magnet school funding in Waterbury it would mean four million dollars and cutting the ECS money in Waterbury from about 6,500 to about 5,700 doesn't seem to be a lot, \$800. Eight-hundred dollars times 18,300 students – 14 million dollars. I'm not saying it's gonna happen, but I am extremely, extremely aware of some of the talk that has happened and extremely aware that other school systems are talking about closing schools, cutback, concessions, and so forth. So I'm going to vote for this budget very, very reluctantly because I think it is a very, very austere spending plan. But I agree with other Commissioners that have said it is a spending plan - income versus expenses. And if the income isn't there, I think we have to go back to our Chairman, Commissioner Pinto, and demand that certain cuts be made and look for the cuts across the Board that the State is going to be looking for also in their budget, and we may be looking for them in ours. And as I say, maybe the pony express will ride in here with a bag full of money and hopefully that money will go where it's supposed to go, not like the lottery money that was supposed to go into education that somehow went into the State coffers and then down into the general funds of the city and didn't supplement but supplanted the existing educational expenses. So I could go on and on but reluctantly I'm going to support this budget because people worked hard on it and it is an austere budget, but I hope we are not going to have to go back as of the day of the Governor speaks, Wednesday, start looking at our budget on Thursday line by line. Thank you very much for your attention.

HAYES: Anyone else?

SWEENEY: I too, I have been calling it a spending plan, and I had said and will continue to say that I will support it as a spending plan. I certainly believe that we will be revisiting this, that there will be places we will have to make cuts. I agree with Commissioner Theriault, I think the Committee did good work, I think our Central Office people did good work, and they have kept things under the line. I don't think there's an awful lot of wish in here; I think there's an awful lot of need in here but in these tough budget times even the needs will at some point have to go. I wish I could support it more wholeheartedly. Again, I won't call it a budget; I call it a spending plan. I think we've missed some opportunity already in the recent contract negotiation to get a little more creative in ways that would have saved us some money over the short term so I look forward to seeing what we could do in the future with this but I think I see cuts coming and I hope we're all prepared for that.

HAYES: Anyone else? Commissioner Pinto. All in favor, opposed.

THERIAULT: Roll call vote please.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Yeas: Commissioners D'Angelo, Flaherty-Merritt, Harvey, Laccone, Pinto, Stango, Sweeney, Theriault, White, and President Hayes – 10.

SWEENEY: Motion to add the previously discussed Resolution to Support Education Funding in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, SO MOVED.

FLAHERTY-MERRITT: Second.

HAYES: Motion made and seconded, under discussion, anyone? All in favor, opposed, the motion is added.

SWEENEY: Motion to approve the Resolution to Support Education Funding in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, as listed, **SO MOVED.**

FLAHERTY MERRITT: Second.

HAYES: Motion is made and seconded. Under discussion, Commissioner Pinto.

PINTO: Are we speaking of adding it as written?

SWEENEY: Yes, I can't present it and amend it.

LACCONE: Just a couple of quick comments. One – I don't like the process that this took, I think the motion should have come from this Board, this letter or whatever recommendation that we have should come from this Board. We should not be voting on private citizens submitting motions to this Board, first and foremost. Second – I thought we had discussions, I thought we were somewhat in agreement, the motion as written does not allow the flexibility needed to overcome any budget deficit that we have although any additional monies is great, you know you can't argue against it but I do think there's an opportunity to argue for more flexibility in that we should be writing our own motion and putting it before the Board. I understand the urgency, but, again I am not in favor of this motion as written.

HAYES: I think we came out of that Committee earlier with the understanding that through our discussion, considering the time constraints, that we would be open to hearing some of those suggestions and since we don't have time to bring it to a Workshop and all that, I think that discussion is appropriate now. Again, all we have in front of us is what a private citizen put in front of us, I appreciate that he did that, but I didn't expect us, I'm not gonna offer, that's what's in front of us. We tried to go through this in a way that will help us be timely in our request, if ultimately we decide to make some form of request, and I think right now it's basically looking like that's sort of the basic idea, but if we want to put something together we could put it together now – Commissioner Sweeney and Carrie are typing away here and might be able to come up with something.

SWEENEY: Again, I have to read the motion as it's written. If you want to amend it, that's fine, somebody put up an amendment.

PINTO: I'll just reiterate the comment that I made earlier during the previous meeting which is as written, this would not allow us to offset any ECS funding, if the ECS funding was cut because the monies from this motion, as written, would require that the programs, the money go to the programs for which it is selected and we would not be able to offset any other funds that we may get cut in ECS funding.

HAYES: I think there was some discussion at that previous meeting about adding to that request that we ask, while we're asking for that money we're asking for the ability to divert some of those funds considering our circumstances right now. Again, I can't get involved in that discussion, but I just wanted to reiterate what I heard earlier.

FLAHERTY-MERRITT: I'd like to make a motion to amend; I'd like to have it as the ninth paragraph on the first page, "be it resolved the Waterbury Board of Education supports the consideration of allowing movement of monies within education, but outside of the IDEA regulations for any offsets in state funding".

HARVEY: Can I hear that again, the exact wording please.

FLAHERTY-MERRITT: Be it so resolved, the Waterbury Board of Education supports the consideration of the movement of monies within education but outside of the IDEA regulations to offset state funding. We can work on the wording.

SUPERINTENDENT: Friendly suggestion. You might want to substitute No Child Left Behind Legislation as funding as opposed to IDEA because it covers a broader amount of categorical funds.

SWEENEY: I think she's talking about, the legislation targets IDEA funds, supplements IDEA funds and Title I funds. You need to move the money from the IDEA funds and the Title I funds to support No Child Left Behind if that's what you want to do. It doesn't have money in here addressing No Child Left Behind.

SUPERINTENDENT: But see IDEA and all of what you stated are categorical Title I funds, Title II, III, all of those, all categorical funds that come under the umbrella of the Federal Funding which comes under the No Child Left Behind Legislation. So if you're going to ask for flexibility you need to ask for flexibility for the whole thing. You're gonna limit yourself too much if you just say IDEA funding and Title I funding.

SWEENEY: The legislation is tied to specific sections and subsections of IDEA and Title I and it specifically targets specific amounts for specific subsections and sections of Title I and IDEA funds, so you need to move the monies from Title I and IDEA to general education or No Child Left Behind, whichever you want to do, but it has to be moved from those two categories that the legislation is gonna put money into, you need to move it out of there.

FLAHERTY-MERRITT: I'm gonna take back that amendment and I want to try a new one. **"Be it so resolved, the Waterbury Board of Education supports the**

consideration to allow movement of a percentage of these funds received to be spent on ANY education initiative”, so moved.

SWEENEY: **Second.**

PINTO: Under discussion, my only concern is, I know that there's urgency but we're trying to piecemeal something together and I would be very cautious. To just try to throw something together here at the last minute to get it out before next week, I think we're putting ourselves in a situation we don't want to repeat again in the future and we're creating that.

HAYES: I think we're all on the same page, for clarification sake, we're up against a time constraint. If we could come up with some kind of a motion, an amendment, that basically states what our position is. We have time for someone to put this together for us. What would be the drop-dead deadline for us to get something out?

SWEENEY: Yesterday.

PINTO: The reality is it could be voted on and approved by next week, that's I think the urgency here is it looks like the package is going to go through and it will be completed by next week, so I think that's where the real urgency comes in. But I think we already voiced our concerns. I think many of us have talked to the state reps, the congressmen and the congressional office and the senators' office and that I think is a lot of what we need to do and we can do on our own without a formal adoption of a resolution; we can reach out and ask for the support so that the funds are not basically tied to the programs, but that they be allowed flexibility in the way the funds are distributed or used on our end to meet our district's needs.

HAYES: Again, we're having discussion on the proposed amendment.

SWEENEY: I would agree with the amendment just to get this thing through, my sense is, is that we need to let them know that we support the stimulus package for education. However it ends up being distributed we're gonna have to deal with that but at this point in time the strength of the full Board making that statement to the people who represent this Board, this district in Washington, we need to let them know that we support the Stimulus Package. If people are more comfortable with the amendment then I'm fine with the amendment. But at this point I would say put it to a vote of the Board.

HAYES: Any further discussion on the amendment? All in favor of the amendment, opposed, roll call please.

ROLL CALL VOTE ON AMENDMENT:

Yeas: Commissioners D'Angelo, Flaherty-Merritt, Stango, Sweeney, Theriault, and President Hayes - 6

Nays: Commissioners Harvey, Laccone, Pinto, and White – 4

HAYES: Amendment passes six to four. Now we have to move to the motion as amended. Any discussion on the motion as amended?

FLAHERTY-MERRITT: I'd ask that even if you didn't agree with the amendment, if you understand the importance of this, and that we would like to state to our legislators that you support this in lieu of the amendment.

HAYES: Any further discussion?

THERIAULT: I do agree with Commissioner Laccone with regard to various amendments that come before, the amendments normally should come to the Board member or through the Clerk of the Board and the President and the President should be responsible for gendering the legislative body here and the terminology and the nomenclature. This being said, with time being a very important factor here, I think the outcome ultimately would be the same and even though the gentleman in question that has presented the information is not a Board Member per se, this information was presented as a motion by one of our Board members. So it just didn't come from the general public, it came in a sense to a Board member, the motion was made, seconded, there was a modification of the motion made and I think ultimately we could sit on this a week or two, but I think ultimately the outcome would be the same. The outcome is that we need more money and anybody that can get us money we want to let them know that we're gonna be their friend. So that outcome is not gonna change and as of when we wake up Thursday morning we're gonna find out that we either have a lot more friends in the world or a lot more enemies in the world. Not enemies, so to speak, but there are gonna be people out there that might want us to operate on a whole lot less. And I think we need to tell our friends right away – help, help, help.

HAYES: Again, with regard to the process, I know this process wasn't what we normally do, but we called that Special Committee Meeting so we could hash these things out and we really didn't hash anything out, we agreed to come back to this meeting to hash it out otherwise it wouldn't have been handled that way.

HARVEY: **I'd like to call the question please.**

THERIAULT: **Second.**

HAYES: Motion has been made and seconded to call the question. All in favor, roll call.

ROLL CALL VOTE TO MOVE THE QUESTION:

Yeas: Commissioners D'Angelo, Flaherty-Merritt, Harvey, Laccone, Stango, Sweeney, Theriault, and President Hayes – 9

Nays: Commissioner Pinto – 1

HAYES: Do you want to do a roll call? Roll call please.

ROLL CALL VOTE ON AMENDED MOTION:

Yeas: Commissioners D'Angelo, Flaherty-Merritt, Harvey, Stango, Sweeney, Theriault, and President Hayes – 7

Nays: Commissioner Laccone, Pinto, and White – 3

Resolution to support Education Funding in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

WHEREAS, The Waterbury Board of Education understands that approximately 49 percent of the City budget is funded by state, federal and third party grants; AND

WHEREAS, The Waterbury Board of Education believes that underfunded mandates need to be fully funded in order to assist the City of Waterbury to be financially stable and provide necessary and adequate service; AND

WHEREAS, The Waterbury Board of Education acknowledges that IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) Law set the federal share of special education funding at 40 percent in the 1980s, but that level has never been appropriated and is currently funded at approximately 10 percent; AND

WHEREAS, The Waterbury Board of Education acknowledges \$13 billion in new funding for K-12 education for the disadvantaged (Title I) in the Congressional bill titled the "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009" which would increase funding to the City of Waterbury by approximately 83 percent; AND

WHEREAS, The Waterbury Board of Education acknowledges the Congressional bill titled the "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009" would fund Title I (K-12 education for the disadvantaged) and would add approximately \$4.6 million more in funding to the City of Waterbury; AND

WHEREAS, The Waterbury Board of Education acknowledges that the Congressional bill titled the "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009" through increased funding to IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) would add approximately \$2.7 million more in funding to the City of Waterbury

THEREFORE:

BE IT SO RESOLVED, The Waterbury Board of Education supports the increased funding of \$13 billion in Title I (K-12 education for the disadvantaged) as contained in the Congressional bill titled the "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009" and would add approximately \$4.6 million more in funding to the City of Waterbury.

BE IT SO RESOLVED, The Waterbury Board of Education supports the increased funding of \$13 billion to rise to 18 percent the federal share of special education funding through IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) as contained in the Congressional bill titled the "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009" would add approximately \$2.7 million more in funding to the City of Waterbury.

BE IT SO RESOLVED, The Waterbury Board of Education supports the consideration to allow movement of a percentage of these funds received to be spent on ANY education initiative.

BE IT SO RESOLVED, The Waterbury Board of Education urges our Congressional Delegation; Congressman Chris Murphy, Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro, Senator Chris Dodd and Senator Joseph Lieberman to prioritize support for the increased funding of \$13 billion in Title I (K-12 education for the disadvantaged) as contained in the Congressional bill titled the "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009"

would add approximately \$4.6 million more in funding to the City of Waterbury and the increased funding of \$13 billion in IDEA to raise to 18 percent the federal share of special education funding as contained in the Congressional bill titled the “American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009” would add approximately \$2.7 million more in funding to the City of Waterbury. We also urge support for funds for School Modernization, Renovation, and Repair.

HAYES: The motion passed. So we need to put together the amendment in the resolution. Now we move to Item 13.

13. SUPERINTENDENT’S NOTIFICATION TO THE BOARD

Upon a motion by Commissioner D’Angelo and duly seconded by Commissioner Stango, it was voted unanimously to receive and place on file items 13.1 through 13.9, Superintendent’s Notification to the Board, as listed:

- 13.1 Athletic appointments effective immediately:
Russo, Joseph – Varsity Boys’ Swimming Coach, CHS.
- 13.2 Athletic resignations effective immediately:
Walker, Michele – Assistant Girls’ Basketball Coach, CHS.
- 13.3 Grant funded appointments:
Clay, Davey J. – Parent Liaison, Driggs School, 180 days, 30 hours per week @ \$15.12 per hour, non-union position with benefits governed by the SEIU agreement.
Martinez, Kristina (to replace Doreen Wallace), teacher, 21st Century Learning Center Cohort VII/Project 2, Sprague School.
Mendello, Joseph A. – Instructional Tutor, WAMS, ten months per year, 18 hours per week @ \$30.00 per hour without benefits.
- 13.4 TPTA appointments, two hours per day (with bus duty 2 ½ hours per day), salary according to contract:
Kingsbury School:
Subs: Anthony Ciuffo, Eric Feeney, Lee DiBella, Kari Knightly
- 13.5 Extended School Hours appointments, maximum of 6 hours per week, salary according to individual’s contract, funded by the ESH Grant:
- | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Brunnock, Erin | Teacher | Generali School |
| Augelli, Martin | Sub Paraprofessional | Walsh School |
| DeMatteis, Jennifer | Teacher | Walsh School |
| Foy, Talisha | Teacher | Walsh School |
| Velezis, Elpiniki | Teacher | Walsh School |
| Buinauskas, Marci | Sub Teacher | Bunker Hill School |
| Fleming, Sonya | Sub Teacher | Bunker Hill School |
| Mahan, Eileen | Sub Teacher | Bunker Hill School |
- 13.6 Transfers:

Fortier, Danielle – from Hopeville Special Education to Generali Special Education/ABA Program, effective 01/05/09.
Mikael-Chartouni, Tagrid – from WSMS Guidance to KHS Guidance, effective TBD.
Morotto, Susan – from Driggs 1 to Driggs DI, effective 01/12/09.

13.7 Teacher new hires:

130	Carlson, Sandy	WMS	Literacy	MA	1	10/01/08
131	D'Aniello, Kara	Walsh	2	MA	1	12/08/08

13.8 Retirements:

Konans, Jane – Carrington grade 3, effective 07/01/09.
Sanford, Donna – Social Worker, Bucks Hill, effective 06/30/09.

13.9 Adult Education appointments:

Murray, Diana – Substitute, as needed @ \$24.00 p/hour.
Plourde, Michael – Substitute, as needed @ \$24.00 p/hour.
Rodriquez, Melissa – HSD Guidance Counselor, 20 hours p/wk at \$29.00 p/hour.

HAYES: Motion has been made and seconded. No discussion. All in favor, opposed.
Next we move to New Business.

D'ANGELO: Dr. Snead, if the President agrees, the issue tonight that one parent brought up about a program at Wallace, is that something you could look into in the next day or two and get back to the Board because I think some of us have heard similar complaints. Not necessarily about that but about other.

HAYES: My understanding is that is one of the presentations that the Police Department makes. Anything else under New Business?

WHITE: Are we going to ask the Rules and Regulations Committee to look at the change in the dress code that the North End Middle School . . .

CLERK: Mrs. Cullinan is addressing that at the Discipline Committee.

SUPERINTENDENT: They're working on it now and will bring it to us.

HAYES: Anything else under New Business? Hearing none – Old Business.

PINTO: I have two items under old business – one is the dates for Finance Committee Meeting regarding the budget, those will be emailed out tomorrow morning, so the dates and times will be emailed out tomorrow morning. I'm not going to announce them here so you'll get them in your emails.

D'ANGELO: You already gave the 26th of both months.

PINTO: The only one that's changed is the one for next week, the 12th, because it's a holiday and school isn't in so we don't have facilities. So that one I just cancelled because we have a Workshop that week.

HAYES: It's on our colorful note.

PINTO: Dr. Snead, I had a question on the IT Audit for the District Improvement Program. We had an IT Audit that was distributed in our packets, and it was part of the District Improvement Program. So my question is on the IT Audit, items five and six which were still outstanding, which is security passwords and secure Wi-Fi. Did you have any...

SUPERINTENDENT: I got your email; I'm not prepared to respond intelligently right now but I do understand your rationale of the request and that will be an item for discussion with our Cabinet tomorrow morning.

GUIDONE: I did have an opportunity to discuss that with Will Zhuta earlier today. He's looking into both of those issues and will update Dr. Snead and I on some things that hopefully can resolve your areas of concern.

PINTO: Thank you.

HAYES: Anything else under Old Business?

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Commissioner Pinto and duly seconded by Commissioner D'Angelo, it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:14 p.m.

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