

## **WATERBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

### *MINUTES – SPECIAL MEETING*

Thursday, March 3, 2022 at 6:45 p.m.

The Board of Education's Special Meeting was held on Thursday, March 3, 2022 at Waterbury Arts Magnet School, 16 South Elm Street, Waterbury, Connecticut.

**PRESENT:** President Sweeney, Commissioners Brown, Hernandez, Ireland, O'Brien, Orso, Serrano-Adorno, and Van Stone.

**ABSENT:** Commissioners Nardozzi and Pagano.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Superintendent Verna D. Ruffin, Chief Financial Officer Doreen Biolo, Chief Turnaround Officer Matthew Brown, Assistant Superintendent Jade Gopie, Assistant Superintendent Joseph Johnson, Interim Chief Operating Officer Rosh Maghfour, Assistant Superintendent Juan Mendoza, Director of Communications Belen Michelis, Director of Pupil Services Miguel Pabón, Interim Deputy Superintendent/Chief Academic Officer Darren Schwartz, Attorney Tara Shaw, Director of College and Career Readiness Nyree Toucet, Director of Equity and Inclusion Lara White, and Supervisor of Management, Information and Technology Will Zhuta.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES:** Fatima Aly and Mary Jane Vazquez of Waterbury Career Academy.

#### **1. SILENT PRAYER**

President Sweeney called the special meeting to order at 6:58 p.m. with a moment of silence.

#### **2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

Commissioner Orso led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

#### **3. ROLL CALL**

CLERK: Commissioner Brown.

BROWN: Here.

CLERK: Vice President Hernandez.

HERNANDEZ: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Ireland.

IRELAND: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Nardozzi (absent). Commissioner O'Brien.

O'BRIEN: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Orso.

ORSO: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Pagano (absent). Commissioner Serrano-Adorno.

SERRANO-ADORNO: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Van Stone.

VAN STONE: Present.

CLERK: President Sweeney.

SWEENEY: Present.

**4. Committee of the Whole – Vice President Hernandez**

- 4.1 Discussion concerning COVID metrics – Dr. Ruffin/Superintendent of Schools, Darren Schwartz/Interim Deputy Superintendent, Aisling McGuckin/Director of Public Health.

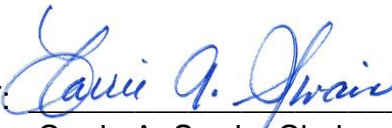
*Mr. Schwartz and Ms. McGuckin presented a PowerPoint with the current COVID-19 local metrics.*

**Upon a motion by Commissioner Hernandez and duly seconded by Commissioner Brown, it was voted, by roll call vote, to suspend Board Policy C-01, Policy Concerning the Use of Face Masks/Coverings, until such time the Board deems appropriate, effective for staff and students on Monday, March 7, 2022.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas – Commissioners Brown, Hernandez, Ireland, O'Brien, Orso, Serrano-Adorno, Van Stone, and President Sweeney.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Upon a motion by Commissioner Orso and duly seconded by Commissioner O'Brien, it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:22 p.m.**

ATTEST:   
Carrie A. Swain, Clerk  
Board of Education