

WATERBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES ~ REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, August 19, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting via ZOOM

In an effort to adhere to social distancing guidelines, this meeting was held without normal in-person public access. However, the meeting was broadcasted live on the City of Waterbury's Government Access Channel (Comcast 96, Frontier 6096), streamed live at <https://youtu.be/197DFcH50xU> or listened or listened to via teleconference by calling 1-701-802-5303 with access code 7755337.

PRESENT: President Pagano, Commissioners Brown, Harvey, Nardozzi, Orso, Serrano-Adorno, Stango, Sweeney, and Van Stone.

ABSENT: Commissioner Hernandez.

ALSO PRESENT: Chief Financial Officer Doreen Biolo, Assistant Superintendent Noreen Buckley, Chief Operating Officer William Clark, Assistant Superintendent Jade Gopie, Assistant Superintendent Juan Mendoza, Director of Pupil Services Miguel Pabon, Chief Academic Officer Darren Schwartz, Attorney Tara Shaw, and Director of Communications Sujata Wycoff.

1. SILENT PRAYER

President Pagano called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with a moment of silence.

SCHWARTZ: In our moment of silence this evening let us remember former members of the Waterbury Public Schools education community who have passed away:

Steven Gorman: Maintainer at Wilby High School. Passed away on July 23, 2021.

John Vassallo: Retired teacher of 38 years, first at Sprague Elementary School and then as a Spanish teacher at Kennedy High School. Passed away on July 30, 2021.

William Mecca: Retired teacher of 35 years, most of which was spent at North End Middle School. Passed away on August 7, 2021.

Mary Paternostro: Former teacher's aide at Walsh School. Passed away on August 8, 2021.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

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

3. ROLL CALL

CLERK: Commissioner Brown.

BROWN: Here.

CLERK: Vice President Harvey.

HARVEY: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Hernandez (absent). Commissioner Nardozzi.

NARDOZZI: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Orso.

ORSO: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Serrano-Adorno.

SERRANO-ADORNO: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Stango.

STANGO: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Sweeney.

SWEENEY: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Van Stone.

T. VAN STONE: Present.

CLERK: President Pagano.

PAGANO: Present.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to add item 13.4, appointment of Curriculum Supervisor of Secondary Math, to the Agenda.

4. COMMUNICATIONS

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Serrano-Adorno, it was voted unanimously to receive and place on file the following communications as listed:

- a) Copy of communications dated July 12, 2021 from Civil Service certifying Nicholas Napp and Lisa Rodriguez for the position of Paraprofessional.
- b) Copy of communications dated July 12, 2021 from Civil Service certifying Shonda Wiggins for the position of Administrative Associate I and Christine Mazzaferro for the position of Administrative Associate III.
- c) Copy of communication dated July 13, 2021 from Civil Service certifying Miriam Cintron for the position of Paraprofessional.
- d) Copy of communications dated July 19, 2021 from Civil Service certifying Thomas Abraham, Nicholas Chapman, and Vittorio Caligiuri for the position of Network Administrator – Education.

- e) Copy of communications dated July 16, 2021 from Civil Service to Earl Knight and Dwight Moore regarding temporary and at will employment for the position of Temporary Maintainer I.
- f) Copy of communication dated July 19, 2021 from Civil Service to Marianela Sanchez regarding acceptance of employment for the position of Food Service Worker.
- g) Copy of communication dated July 21, 2021 from Civil Service certifying Bridgett Gomez for the position of Teaching Vice Principal – Washington School.
- h) Copy of communication dated July 22, 2021 from Civil Service to Durell Anderson regarding temporary and at will employment for the position of Temporary Maintainer I.
- i) Copy of communication dated July 22, 2021 from Civil Service certifying Edlira Selmanaj for the position of Paraprofessional.
- j) Email communication dated July 22, 2021 from Michia Hamer regarding school uniforms.
- k) Copy of communication dated July 26, 2021 from Civil Service to George Walters, III regarding temporary and at will employment for the position of Temporary Maintainer I.
- l) Copy of communications dated July 26, 2021 from Civil Service certifying Karlanda Floyd and Shahie Dervishi for the position of Paraprofessional.
- m) Copy of communications dated July 29, 2021 from Civil Service certifying Jonathan Mitchell for the position of Paraprofessional and Jacqueline Velez for the position of Administrative Associate I.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Serrano-Adorno, it was voted unanimously to approve the minutes of January 21, 2021 Special Workshop, January 21, 2021 Regular Meeting, February 4, 2021 Workshop, February 4, 2021 Special Meeting, February 18, 2021 Regular Meeting, March 4, 2021 Workshop, March 18, 2021 Regular Meeting, April 1, 2021 Workshop, April 1, 2021 Special Meeting, April 15, 2021 Regular Meeting, May 6, 2021 Workshop, May 6, 2021 Special Meeting, May 20, 2021 Regular Meeting, June 3, 2021 Workshop, June 3, 2021 Special Meeting, June 12, 2021 Special Meeting, June 17, 2021 Regular Meeting, July 1, 2021 Workshop, July 1, 2021 Special Meeting, July 15, 2021 Regular Meeting, and July 28, 2021 Special Meeting, August 5, 2021 Workshop, and August 5, 2021 Special Meeting.

6. PUBLIC ADDRESSES THE BOARD

The public was offered the opportunity to address the Board during the public portion of the meeting by calling 1-203-530-9756 between 6:00 and 6:15 p.m.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to suspend the regular order of business at 6:36 p.m. to allow the public to address the Board.

Drew Serrano of 344 Chipman Street Extension, Waterbury, shared his thoughts about COVID, lack of transparency, masks requirements and the effects on children, and a study by Brown University.

Reverend Ollie Gray III of 2929 East Main Street, Waterbury, shared his concerns with masks and that we need to unmask our children. He feels so many kids learned nothing this year with distance learning. Asked for the curriculum that will be taught to the students in K through 12.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to return to the regular order of business at 6:48 p.m.

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Schwartz informed the public that it is not the Board's choice to mask or unmask the students, it is an executive order.

August 30 is the first day of school. Teaching staff will be back on Monday.

8. PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

President Pagano wished everyone a continued safe summer.

9. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES' COMMENTS

There were no student representatives present.

PAGANO: Does anyone wish to remove an item from the Consent Calendar?
Commissioner Harvey.

HARVEY: I'd like to remove item 10.7 please.

PAGANO: Commissioner Charles Stango.

STANGO: I wanted the same item removed.

President Pagano proceeded to read the Consent Calendar, items 10.1 through 10.6 and 10.8 through 10..

10. CONSENT CALENDAR

Upon a motion by Commissioner Harvey and duly seconded by Commissioner Sweeney, it was voted unanimously to approve the Consent Calendar, items 10.1 through 10.6 and 10.8 and 10.9, as read and listed:

- 10.1 The Committee of the Whole moves to approve a Student Teacher Affiliation Agreement with The University of Hartford, for a three-year period and at no cost, for Student Teaching Opportunities.
- 10.2 The Committee on Finance moves that the Waterbury Board of Education approve an Affiliation Agreement with the University of Connecticut for their Teacher Education/Residency Program.
- 10.3 The Committee on Finance moves that the Waterbury Board of Education approve a Contract with West State Mechanical, Inc. for installation of a heat pump and air conditioning system for property located at 32 Hillside Avenue, Waterbury, Connecticut.
- 10.4 The Committee on Finance moves that the Waterbury Board of Education approve the submission of the Connecticut State Department of Education “Bridge” Funding – Educational of Homeless Children & Youth Grant.
- 10.5 The Committee on Finance moves that the Waterbury Board of Education approve a Professional Services Agreement with Vivian Sue, Consultant, to provide services under the School Readiness Quality Enhancement Grant.
- 10.6 The Committee on Finance moves that the Waterbury Board of Education approve a Professional Services Agreement with Easterseals Rehabilitation of Greater Waterbury, Inc., to provide consulting services under the School Readiness Quality Enhancement Grant.
- 10.8 The Committee on Building & School Facilities moves that the Waterbury Board of Education approve the use of school facilities, at no charge, by the following school organizations and/or City departments:

GROUP	FACILITIES AND DATES/TIMES
D. Basile	Wilby gym: Thursday, October 21, 8:30am – 11:00am (Annual College Fair)
Adult Education A Musto	Kennedy classrooms: Sept. 20 thru Dec. 9, 5:30–9:30pm (Fall Enrichment Programs)
R. McDonald	Career Academy gym: Aug. 9 thru Aug. 27, 11:00am – 1:30pm Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays (Cheerleading Team practice)
Mayor’s Office	West Side M.S.: Sat., August 28, 10:00am – 12:00pm (Suit Drop Off)
*Human Resources C. Lamb	Wilby library & classrooms: Saturday, September 18, 7:00am – 2:00pm (Fire Lieutenant Oral Exam)
*G. Huckins	Wallace M.S. parking lot: Wednesday, August 25, 6:00-8:00 pm (meeting of swim officials to be held in parking lot)
*Blue Collar Union L. Calo	Kennedy aud.: Sun., Sept. 26, 10:00am to 12:00pm, (membership meeting) Rotella auditorium: Wed., Sept. 15, 2:00pm to 3:00pm (meeting with members of Blue Collar Union)

*Registrar of Voters Crosby, Chase, Maloney, International Sch.: Tues., Sept. 14, 2021

T. Begnal 5:00am to 9:00pm (Democratic Primary)

*C. Newmark Crosby café & lobby: Sat., Aug. 21, 7:30am – 1:00pm, (Walk for Success)

- 10.9 The Committee on Building & School Facilities moves that the Waterbury Board of Education approve the use of school facilities by groups and organizations subject to fees and insurance as required:

GROUP FACILITIES AND DATES/TIMES

REQUESTING WAIVERS:

*Be a Baller Not a Bully Wilby gym: Saturday, September 11, 12:00pm to 9:00pm
D. Zimmerman (basketball game/anti-bullying campaign) (\$840.)

GROUPS NOT SUBJECT TO FEES OR WAIVER DUE TO TIME OF USE OR PREVIOUS WAIVER:

Waterbury Youth Football Crosby field: Sundays, 8am to 8pm
T. Inabinett Sept. 19 & 26 and Oct. 10 & 17 (field only)
*P.A.L. Reed School soccer field: 9/1 – 11/20/21
Sgt. Bessette Thursdays, 5:00pm – 8:30pm
Saturdays & Sundays – 9:00am to 5:00pm

11. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT

Committee on Curriculum

- 10.7 Upon a motion by Commissioner Van Stone and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted, by roll call vote, to approve the new high school course “African American/Black and Puerto Rican/Latino Studies”.

ROLL CALL: Yeas: Commissioners Brown, Harvey, Nardozzi, Orso, Serrano-Adorno, Sweeney, Van Stone, and President Pagano – 8
Nays: Commissioner Stango – 1

12. COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

- 12.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner Orso and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve to apply for the Connecticut State Department of Education Family Resource Center Continuation Grant 2021-22 for Reed School.
- 12.2 Upon a motion by Commissioner Orso and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve to apply for the Connecticut State Department of Education Family Resource Center Continuation Grant 2021-22 for Wilson School.
- 12.3 Upon a motion by Commissioner Orso and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve a College Readiness and Success Agreement with College Board for PSAT/SAT testing.

- 12.4 Upon a motion by Commissioner Orso and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve a Construction Contract with Connecticut Hydronics, LLC. subject to any non-substantive changes approved by the Corporation Counsel's office, to provide for Boilers and Heating Pumps Replacement at Regan School.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to convene into executive session at 7:17 p.m. for discussion concerning the appointment, employment, performance, evaluation, health, or dismissal of a public officer or employee.

PRESENT: Commissioners Brown, Harvey, Nardozi, Orso, Pagano, Serrano-Adorno, Stango, Sweeney, and Van Stone.

ALSO PRESENT: Darren Schwartz, Juan Mendoza, and Tara Shaw.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to return to the regular order of business at 7:58 p.m. with no votes taken.

13. COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL PERSONNEL

- 13.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner Stango and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Dr. Lara D. White as Director of Equity and Inclusion, effective August 26, 2021, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.
- 13.2 Upon a motion by Commissioner Stango and duly seconded by Commissioner Brown, it was voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Kathleen M Ferrucci as Middle School Vice Principal, West Side Middle School, effective immediately, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.
- 13.3 Upon a motion by Commissioner Stango and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Jessica G. Ocasio as Elementary Principal, Walsh School, effective immediately, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.
- 13.4 Upon a motion by Commissioner Stango and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Dr. Susan B. Miller as Curriculum Supervisor, Secondary Math, effective 08/26/21, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

14. SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTIFICATION TO THE BOARD

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to receive and place on file items 14.1 through 14.4, Superintendent's Notification to the Board, as listed:

14.1 Various Summer School Program appointments:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Position</u>
Bardhollari, Rudian	ESY	NEMS Res. Room
Burrus, John	High School Summer School	Hall Monitor
Schepis, David	EAS Middle School Summer	Hall Monitor
Crimi Buffa, Tara	ESY	Paraprofessional
Wilson, Marines	ESY	Essential Skills
King, Linell	ESY	Paraprofessional
Turner, Mary	ESY	Paraprofessional

14.2 Grant funded appointments:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>FT/PT</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Union</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Jo-Mel McPhail	Grants Specialist Competitive Grants	FT	\$26.50/hr	Non	07/01/21
Edmund Generali	School Social Worker Catholic Academy	PT	\$33.00/hr	Non	09/07/21
Tabitha Cruz	Asst. Tutor to the Homeless McKinney Vento	PT	\$16.00/hr	Non	09/09/21
Gerron Pendarvis	Hall Monitor Wilby High School	PT	\$90.00/day	Non	8/23/21
Samantha Warren	Network Specialist Wallace (Promotion)	FT	\$19.00/hr	UPSEU69	8/12/21
Elizabeth Solano	Classroom Assistant Maloney	FT	\$13.00/hr	UPSEU68	8/26/21
Hima Ginjupalli	Classroom Assistant International School	FT	\$13.00/hr	UPSEU68	8/25/21
Saima Rashid	Classroom Assistant Sprague	FT	\$13.00/hr	UPSEU68	8/25/21
Cynthia Tun	ABE Instructor Adult Education	PT	\$33.00/hr	Non	8/23/21
Randford Brooks	Prevention Specialist Enlightenment	FT	\$18.14/hr	Non	8/12/21
Nathaniel Shore	Tutor Yeshiva K'Tana	PT	\$25.00/hr	Non	8/26/21
Pamela Karabeinikoff	Tutor Bunker Hill	PT	\$25.00/hr	Non	8/26/21
Sabrina White	Hall Monitor Wallace	PT	\$90.00/day	Non	11/01/21
Alexis Tucker	Classroom Assistant International School	FT	\$13.00/hr	UPSEU68	08/26/21
Deanne Moore	Tutor/WAMS	PT	\$33.00/hr	Non	8/26/21
Micxel Martinez	Classroom Assistant	FT	\$13.00/hr	UPSEU68	8/26/21

	International School				
Kamary Rivera	Classroom Assistant Chase	FT	\$13.00/hr	UPSEU68	8/26/21
Stephen Lubin	Tutor Yeshiva K'Tana	PT	\$33.00/hr	Non	8/26/21
Louis Santiago	Parent Liaison International School	FT	\$15.88/hr	UPSEU69	8/26/21
Palma Medina	Classroom Assistant Rotella	FT	\$13.00/hr	UPSEU68	8/26/21
Sabrina White	Hall Monitor Wallace	PT	\$90.00/day	Non	8/26/21

14.3 Retirements:

Barbieri, Katharine – MMS Special Education, effective 08/03/21.
 Harvey, Anne – Hopeville Grade 3, effective 06/16/21.
 Lopez, Doreen – WAMS Library Media, effective 07/01/21.

14.4 Resignations:

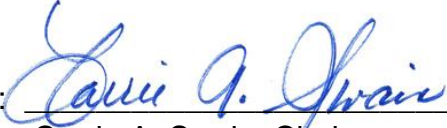
Accomando, Taylor – MMS PreK Special Education, effective 07/28/21.
 Aviles, Zuheill – Bucks Hill Bilingual Kindergarten, effective 07/15/21.
 Avxhiu, Bjanka – Bunker Hill Grade 3, effective 07/23/21.
 Bartoletti, Heather – Driggs Grade 1, effective 08/05/21.
 Blaney, Sean – State Street Special Education, effective 08/06/21.
 Brady, Joseph – WAMS Math, effective 07/13/21.
 Broggi, Jessica – MMS PreK Special Education, effective 08/02/21.
 Burns, Dorothy – Duggan Co-taught Kindergarten, effective 07/30/21.
 Cadelina, Carissa – Rotella Kindergarten, effective 07/22/21.
 Cieslewski, Sarah – WSMS Special Education, effective 07/29/21.
 Cordon, Amy – WAMS Science, effective 08/12/21.
 Devine, Mike – WAMS PE/Health, effective 07/26/21.
 Fess, Michael – KHS Social Studies, effective 08/02/21.
 Geary, Caitlin – Districtwide SLP, effective 08/03/21.
 Giannelli, Alexandra – MMS Special Education, effective 08/05/21.
 Giddings, Jennifer – Driggs Art, effective 08/11/21.
 Kelly, Stephanie – WCA Tech Ed-Information Technology, effective 08/02/21.
 Kozma, Tarra – WAMS Math, effective 07/29/21.
 Loi, Marisa – MMS Grade 3, effective 08/11/21.
 LoRusso, Angela – Gilmartin Speech Pathologist, effective 08/11/21.
 Negrón, Emily – MMS Grade 3, effective 08/02/21.
 Newman, Michael – Reed Music, effective 07/25/21.
 Noss, Alysha – Wilson PreK, effective 07/29/21.
 Obst, Karen – MMS PreK, effective 08/13/21.
 Parisot, Lindsay – NEMS English Grade 8, effective 07/14/21.
 Pasnick, Sarah – State Street Special Education, effective 07/26/21.
 Perkins, Melissa – WSMS Guidance Counselor, effective 07/30/21 (date change).
 Porcaro, Rachael – Kingsbury Grade 1, effective 08/05/21.
 Richard, Taylor – WCA Health Services, effective 08/02/21.

Sawyers, Hillary – WAMS Math, effective 07/14/21.
Turecek, Rachel – NEMS Art, effective 08/16/21.
Velleco, Jake – Bunker Hill Special Education, effective 07/14/21.
Viegas, Stacy – Wilson Art, effective 07/28/21.
Xavier, Carlos (First Sergeant) – WHS JRROTC, effective 08/29/21.

Mr. Schwartz introduced Jade Gopie as the new Assistant Superintendent of Schools.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Brown, it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:21 p.m.

ATTEST: 
Carrie A. Swain, Clerk
Board of Education

This meeting in its entirety may be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jrDSiV3AM-o>