

WATERBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES ~ REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, March 18, 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/tB0Kh3xZFsc>, or listened to via teleconference by calling 1-701-802-5303 with access code 7755337.

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

ABSENT: Commissioners Brown and Hernandez.

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent Verna D. Ruffin, Chief Financial Officer Doreen Biolo, Assistant Superintendent Noreen Buckley, Chief Operating Officer William Clark, Assistant Superintendent Janice Epperson, Interim Director of Personnel Juan Mendoza, Chief Academic Officer Darren Schwartz, Attorney Tara Shaw, and Director of Communications Sujata Wycoff.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES: Liani Diaz and Mateo Macias of Waterbury Arts Magnet School.

1. SILENT PRAYER

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

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

- Gloria DeVito: Former Board of Education member many years ago, passed away on February 13, 2021.
- Michael Canby: Foreman for Connecticut Masons working on the Wendell Cross project, passed away on February 18, 2021.
- Nicholas Perugini Jr.: Former elementary school teacher, passed away on February 18, 2021.
- Raymond Emons Jr.: Retired technical education teacher at Crosby High School for 35 years, passed away on February 20, 2021.
- John Cronin Jr.: Bus driver for Durham Services for 13 years, passed away on February 24, 2021.
- Diane McManus: Retired school secretary at Wallace Middle School for 20 years, passed away on March 13, 2021.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Commissioner Van Stone led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

3. ROLL CALL

CLERK: Commissioner Brown (absent). 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.

4. COMMUNICATIONS

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

- a) Copy of communication dated February 17, 2021 from Civil Service certifying Dale LeGree for the position of Maintainer I.
- b) Email communication dated February 17, 2021 from Thomas Mallon regarding parent concern.
- c) Copy of communications dated February 19, 2021 from Civil Service certifying Shawn Lasky and Zachary Grillo for the position of Maintainer I.
- d) Email communication dated February 19, 2021 from CAFE regarding Policy Highlights.
- e) Copy of communication dated February 23, 2021 from Civil Service certifying Adrian Rijos for the position of Maintainer I.
- f) Copy of communications dated March 1, 2021 from Civil Service offering employment for the position of Food Service Worker to Arellys Cruz Velazquez, Larissa Espinosa Acevedo, Maria Talbot, and Angela Rossi.
- g) Copy of communication dated March 5, 2021 from Civil Service offering employment for the position of Food Service Worker to Donna Hassinger-Synott.
- h) Email communication dated March 5, 2021 from CAFE regarding Policy Highlights.

- i) Copy of communications dated March 9, 2021 from Civil Service offering employment for the position of Food Service Worker to Elizabeth Lopez and Carolyn Thorpe.
- j) Copy of communication dated March 10, 2021 from Civil Service certifying Abigail Gyampo for the position of Paraprofessional.
- k) Copy of communications dated March 22, 2021 from Civil Service offering employment for the position of Food Service Worker to Genevieve Manfredi and Iris Lebron.

5. PUBLIC ADDRESSES THE BOARD

There were no public speakers.

6. SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Ruffin presented a video message from students and staff to the Board of Education in honor of Connecticut Board Appreciation Month.

Dr. Ruffin introduced Sean Mosley as Interim Assistant Principal of Crosby High School and leadership role for Early College High School.

Dr. Ruffin shared a PowerPoint presentation with the Board with information on the following:

- Full day back to school status.
- Read Across America Day
- Gear Up Swag Bag Giveaway
- Students winning various college scholarships.

7. PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

PAGANO: Thank you Dr. Ruffin. My comments are as brief as I can be. I wanted to congratulate all of my Commissioners on this Board of Education appreciation month and thank you for being part of this team, thank you for your commitment, and most of all for supporting me as I got my feet wet in this job. I thank you very much.

8. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES' COMMENTS

LIANI DIAZ: I just wanted to say that a lot of the people in my school have been adjusting really well to the full day in school. There have been questions regarding if there's going to be any developments in after school programs, field trips in the near future, graduation, prom especially for seniors. Personally, as a junior, I really hope that the seniors get to have their graduation and their prom because they worked really hard for that and I hope to have that for my senior year next year. So those are just a few of the concerns.

PAGANO: Thank you very much for sharing.

MATEO MACIAS: I think right now I speak for the seniors in saying that graduation is probably one of the things we're really hoping to get to do this year. We don't care if it has to be outside or anything. I don't know it's just something we're all looking forward to and hopefully we can get to that point. I would also just like to say I've been on the Board of Education as a student representative for last year and this year so this is my last year and I'd like to say thank you to all of you for letting me do this.

PAGANO: Well I think I speak for the Board and we thank you for being part of this and thank you for your involvement and your commitment to helping it get better. *(applause)*

Our next item is the Consent Calendar. Question – does anyone wish to remove an item from the Consent Calendar?

President Pagano proceeded to read the Consent Calendar, items 9.1 through 9.10.

9. CONSENT CALENDAR

Upon a motion by Commissioner Harvey and duly seconded by Commissioner Sweeney, it was voted unanimously to approve the Consent Calendar, items 9.1 through 9.10, as listed:

- 9.1 The Committee on Finance recommends the Waterbury Board of Education approve a Professional Services Agreement with Family and Children's Aid, Inc. to provide consulting services under the School Readiness Quality Enhancement Grant.
- 9.2 The Committee on Finance recommends the Waterbury Board of Education approve an Agreement with Waterford Country School, Inc., for a three-year period, to provide special education services to students with disabilities.
- 9.3 The Committee on Finance recommends the Waterbury Board of Education approve a Student Intern Affiliation Agreement with Southern Connecticut State University, for a three-year period and at no costs, for Social Work Student Internships.
- 9.4 The Committee on Finance recommends the Waterbury Board of Education approve to apply for the Connecticut State Department of Education Career & Technical Education Secondary Special Populations Recruitment and Retention Grant 2021. Further, it is the intent of the District to sustain the project after the grant period ends.
- 9.5 The Committee on Finance recommends the Waterbury Board of Education approve to apply for the Connecticut State Department of Education Promoting Middle School Financial Literacy Statewide Grant 2021. Further, it is the intent of the District to sustain the project after the grant period ends.
- 9.6 The Committee on Finance recommends the Waterbury Board of Education approve a Construction Contract with SK Mechanical, LLC, for the Walsh Elementary School Boiler Replacement Project.

- 9.7 The Committee on Finance recommends the Waterbury Board of Education approve Amendment One to the Professional Services Agreement with Stanley Convergent Security Solutions, Inc.
- 9.8 The Committee on Policy & Legislation recommends the Waterbury Board of Education approve revised Policy #4000.1 - Title IX (staff).
- 9.9 The Committee on Policy & Legislation recommends the Waterbury Board of Education approve new Policy #5145.44 - Title IX (students).

10. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT

There were no items removed from the Consent Calendar.

11. COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

- 11.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner Orso and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve a Construction Contract with Creative Recreation, LLC, for Wendell Cross Elementary School Playground Construction – Playscape Equipment and Installation/Phase 4 of the Wendell Cross Construction Project.

- 11.2 Upon a motion by Commissioner Orso and duly seconded by Commissioner Sweeney, it was voted unanimously to approve a contract with Connecticut Communications, LLC, for Voice Over IP Equipment and Services.

12. COMMITTEE ON BUILDING & SCHOOL FACILITIES

- 12.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Serrano-Adorno, it was voted unanimously to approve Final Plans, Form SCG-042, for the Margaret M. Generali Elementary School Project, State Project 151-0306 RR.

13. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

- 13.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner Harvey and duly seconded by Sweeney, it was voted unanimously to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement (contract) between The Waterbury Board of Education and School Crossing Guards Association for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023.

14. SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTIFICATION TO THE BOARD

Upon a motion by Commissioner Harvey and duly seconded by Commissioner Sweeney, it was voted unanimously to receive and place on file items 14.1 through 14.8, Superintendent's Notification to the Board, as listed:

- 14.1 Appointments:
Moriarty, Shea – Middle School Athletic Director, effective immediately.

14.2 Maloney Magnet School's Before and After School Program appointments:
 Kelly Lund – Teacher

14.3 Commissioner's Network/SIG Appointments:

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Title</u>
Shortt, Katia	WMS	Science Instructional Tutor/SIG
Torres, Lianne	WMS	Math Instructional Tutor/SIG
Pelosi, Emily	WMS	After-school Math Teacher/Comm. Network
Meringer, Cynthia	WMS	After-school Math Teacher/Comm. Network
Banks, Melissa	WMS	Social Studies Tutor/SIG
Greene, David	WMS	ELA Instructional Tutor/SIG

14.4 Grant Funded appointments:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>FT/PT</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Union</u>	<u>Effective</u>
NeShanda Johnson	Behavior Counselor Wilby High School	FT	\$22.00	UPSEU 69	02/25/2021
Julianne Burdo	Grant Facilitator Rotella	FT	\$20.00	UPSEU 69	02/25/2021
Stephaniel Carlo	Secretary 2 WSMS	FT	\$16.18	UPSEU 69	02/25/2021
Rhiana Murphy	Parent Educator Reed Elementary	PT	\$15.12	Non BOE	03/04/2021
Pedro Silva II	Birth-3 Transition Coord./Early Childhood	FT	\$22.00	UPSEU 69	03/04/2021
Craig Everitt Jr	Network Specialist Maloney	FT	\$19.00	UPSEU 69	03/04/2021
Louis SantaBarbara	Classroom Aide Adult Education	PT	\$21.50	NonBOE	03/11/2021
Joan Kelly	Tutor Yeshiva K'Tana	PT	\$33.00	NonBOE	03/18/2021
Mary Simms	Tutor Holy Cross	PT	\$33.00	NonBOE	03/18/2021
Nicholas Napp	Extended Hours Tutor Carrington	PT	\$25.00	NonBOE	01/28/2021
Elizabeth Swartz	Extended Hours Tutor Regan	PT	\$25.00	NonBOE	2/09/2021

14.5 Extended School Hours (ESH) appointments:

<u>School</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
Bunker Hill	Brayton	Katie	Teacher
Bunker Hill	Santulli	Nicole	Paraprofessional
Tinker	Wehry	Nina	Secretary
Tinker	Mastrianna	Catherine	Substitute Teacher

Tinker	Gannon	Danielle	Substitute Teacher
Tinker	Jones	Imani	Sub. Admin./or Sub. Teacher
Tinker	Sagendorf	Janet	Administrator
Duggan	DeFeo	Dawn	Teacher (replacing Maureen McCasland)
Duggan	Peters	Courtney	Substitute Teacher
Duggan	Ciarlo	Marion	Substitute Teacher

14.6 New teacher hires:

<u>Last</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Assignment</u>		<u>Effective</u>
Bickley	Robert	Wilby	General Science	01/28/2021
Camacho	Reule	North End MS	Music (Chorus)	01/22/2021
Cassidy	Lauren	North End MS	Special Ed-ABA	01/04/2021
Coniku	Vistela	West Side MS	Math	03/11/2021
Cummings	Thomas	Wallace	SEL Counselor	03/11/2021
Kozma	Tarra	Waterbury Arts	Guidance Counselor	03/08/2021
Munoz	Trevor	Wallace	Social Studies	03/01/2021
Muro	Candida	Rotella	Gr 4	03/11/2021
Notchick	Maria	North End MS	English	03/11/2021
Pete	Latasha	Wallace	Math Gr 6-8	01/25/2021
Rivera	Kalyrin	Generali	Gr 1	02/18/2021
Weinstein	Irene	Tinker	Library Media	02/22/2021

14.7 Resignations:

Alberstadt, Karyn – CHS ELA, effective 02/25/21.
 Carroll, Amy – Reed Special Education, effective 03/17/21.
 Nott, Timothy – Wilson BDLC, effective 03/03/21.

14.8 Retirements:

Glass, Rosalyn – KHS Vice Principal, effective 09/30/21.
 Quattrociocchi, Domenic – WAMS Social Studies, effective 06/30/21.
 Rek, Lori – WMS ELA, effective 06/30/21.
 Tasimi, Donika – Generali ESL, effective 08/31/21.
 Van Amburg, Sandra – Kingsbury Art, effective 03/31/21.
 Warhola, Gayle – WSMS Special Education, effective 03/22/21 (date correction).
 Williams, Richard – WMS Math, effective 06/30/21.
 Zillo, Maria – Chase Vice Principal, effective 04/01/21.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

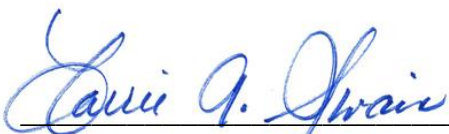
Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to convene into Executive Session for discussion concerning the appointment, employment, performance, evaluation, health, or dismissal of a public officer or employee.

Present: President Pagano, Commissioners Harvey, Nardozi, Orso, Serrano-Adorno, Stango, Sweeney, Van Stone. Also present were Superintendent Verna Ruffin and Assistant Superintendent Juan Mendoza.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to return to the regular order of business. Let the record reflect no votes were taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Commissioner Harvey and duly seconded by Commissioner Sweeney, it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:20 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=1ddyGpf5GsE&t=1102s>