

WATERBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Committee Meeting/Workshop Minutes

Thursday, June 4, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

(For the June 18, 2020 Board Meeting)

COMMITTEE MEETING/WORKSHOP

The Board of Education Committee Meetings/Workshop were held on Thursday, June 4, 2020 beginning at 5:31 p.m.

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 Channel 96, Frontier Channel 6096) and available via teleconference by calling 1-701-802-5064 with access code 230-567-3.

PRESENT: President Pagano, Commissioners Brown, Harvey, Hernandez, Orso, Serrano-Adorno, Stango, Sweeney, Jason Van Stone (6:42 p.m.), and Tom Van Stone.

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 Human Resources and Talent Management Juan Mendoza, Deputy Superintendent Greg Rodríguez, Chief Academic Officer Darren Schwartz, and Director of Communications Sujata Wycoff.

Reports were submitted to the various committees of the Board and discussed, as per the following agenda, no votes were taken:

A G E N D A

SILENT PRAYER

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

PUBLIC SPEAKING (via teleconference call)

Shaquana Webb, 159-3 Stonefield Drive – parent of WAMS student. Would like something more than a virtual graduation for students.

Tanayisha Wilson, 65 Brewster Street – her sister is at the top of her class, would like her to walk across the stage.

Cheree Pringle, 605 Woodtick Road – her daughter accomplished so much throughout the year and would like a regular graduation.

Jalia West – 2016 WAMS graduate. Concerned about current events affecting Waterbury students' future. The district should strive for opportunities to make better connections. Encourages a candidate of color to apply for the soon to be vacated position of Education Liaison. Suggested utilizing the diploma pickup at the high schools to encourage people to register to vote and completing the 2020 Census.

Nachor Vincent, 99 Raymond Street – Waterbury Career Academy Class of 2020 Vice President. He would like to schedule a meeting with the Board to revisit the graduation plan.

Natasha Dandrige, 83 Hauser Street – mother of Wilby High School senior. Would like a graduation for class of 2020.

Brandy Webb, 141 Stonefield Drive – nephew attends Waterbury Career Academy and would like him to walk across the stage to receive a diploma.

Carol Meglio, 145 Devonwood Drive – parent of three children in Waterbury schools. She feels it's important the students are recognized for their achievement. She's also concerned about the materials the students are getting and the work they're receiving. They're not keeping up with everyone else. She stated teachers are not allowed to teach their own material, the district is handing out the Math/English. She is locked out of PowerSchool and has no idea the status of her children. Disappointed with pass/fail system.

Gaylynn Hadley, 39 Calumet Street – suggested using the Stadium for graduation.

Jamie Cossett, 50 Pleasant Street – does not think graduation is fair for the students. Also suggested somehow using the Stadium and doing a three day schedule with only the parents.

1. Committee on Finance/5 minutes ~ Request approval of a Professional Services Agreement with Access Rehab Centers, LLC, to provide occupational and physical therapy services – K. Gabrielson. *Chosen through RFP process; interviewed and references checked. Currently providing services and have been phenomenal during the closure.*
2. Committee on Finance/5 minutes ~ Request approval of a Professional Services Agreement with EBS Healthcare, Inc., d/b/a Educational Based Services (EBS) to provide speech and language therapy services – K. Gabrielson. *Chosen through RFP process; interviewed and references checked. Currently providing services and have been phenomenal during the closure.*
3. Committee on Finance/5 minutes ~ Request approval of a Professional Services Agreement with Access Rehab Centers, LLC, to provide speech and language therapy services – K. Gabrielson. *Chosen through RFP process; interviewed and references checked. Currently providing services and have been phenomenal during the closure.*

4. Committee on Finance/5 minutes ~ Request approval of a contract with Teaching Strategies, LLC, to provide preschool curriculum, assessment material and professional learning services – D. Schwartz. *Five-year contract for early childhood education, chosen through RFP process, currently using their services.*
5. Committee on Finance/5 minutes ~ Request approval of a contract with Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company for Middle School Mathematics Curriculum – D. Schwartz. *Chosen through RFP process, five year contract.*
6. Committee on Finance/5 minutes ~ Request approval of a contract with CollegeBoard (SpringBoard) for High School English Language Arts and Mathematics Curriculums – D. Schwartz. *CollegeBoard is sole source. Three year contract for both content areas for all four grade levels.*
7. Committee on Finance/5 minutes ~ Discussion: April 2020 monthly expenditure report - D. Biolo.
8. Committee on Finance/5 minutes ~ Discussion: projected savings in 2019/2020 fiscal year budget due to COVID-19 – D. Biolo. *Monies to be transferred to sinking fund.*
9. Committee on Finance/5 minutes ~ Request approval of transfers in the 2019/2020 fiscal year budget – D. Biolo.
10. Committee on Finance/5 minutes ~ Discussion: proposed 2020/21 fiscal year budget – D. Biolo. *Reduction of \$570,400.*
11. Committee of the Whole/5 minutes ~ Update: Status of Preschool Programs and School Readiness Funded Programs – Dr. Ruffin, D. Schwartz. *Our programs have been closed. Waterbury Hospital and YMCA has been up and running with limited capacity. Watching advice from Office of Early Childhood about reopening.*

ADDED:

Committee on Building & School Facilities ~ Use of school facilities by school organizations and/or City departments – W. Clark.

Park & Recreation Departments request to use various rooms at Crosby/Wallace and Wilby/North End locations for the City's Summer Camp. Concerns were raised. Mr. Clark stated their plan was approved by the State of Connecticut Early Childhood Office and they meet all CDC requirements.

12. Superintendent's Notification to the Board/5 minutes:
 - a. Secondary English Language Arts Curriculum Committee appointments, salary according to contract:

Name	Grade Level	School
Farley, Amanda	6	Wallace
Griffin-Crosby, Denise	6	Reed
Dudek, Caitlyn	6	NEMS
Mancini-Bellemare, Doris	7	WSMS
Pratt, Lena	7	WSMS
Terenzi, Adriana	7	NEMS
Rosa, Jennifer	8	NEMS
Romano, Lisa	8	Wallace
Boratko, Jessica	8	Reed
Travisano, Tara	9	Kennedy
Winstanley, Kristin	9	WAMS
Zappone, Evette	9	Wilby
Goodman, Jillian	10	Kennedy
Mancini, Dana	10	Wilby
Ospalek, Patrick	10	WAMS
DeVeau, Heather	11	Kennedy
Pannoni, Michael	11	Wilby
Singley, Paul	11	Wilby
Cybart-Persenaire, Alena	12	Kennedy
Franks-Blanchard, Lauren	12	Wilby
Cook, Brandy	Middle School Committee Lead	NEMS
Cremins, Alison	Middle School Committee Lead	Wallace
De Paolo-Gagne, Victoria	High School Committee Lead	Crosby
Williams, Patricia	High School Committee Lead	Crosby

b. Retirements:

DiMaio, Dante – KHS Technology Education, effective 11/06/2020 (*correction from resignation*).

Frageau, Patricia – Principal, Duggan School, effective 06/30/20.

Marold, Mary Ann – Education Liaison to Government, Business & Community, effective 06/30/20.

ADJOURNMENT at 6:50 p.m.

ATTEST: 
Carrie A. Swain, Clerk
Board of Education