

WATERBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES ~ RESCHEDULED REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, July 16, 2019 at 7:15 p.m.

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

PRESENT: President Brown, Commissioners Awwad, Harvey, Hernandez, Pagano, Serrano-Adorno, Stango, Sweeney, Jason Van Stone, and Tom Van Stone.

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent Verna D. Ruffin, Chief Financial Officer Doreen Biolo, Assistant Superintendent Michelle Baker, Director of Special Education Melissa Baldwin, Chief Operating Officer William Clark, Assistant Superintendent Janice Epperson, Deputy Superintendent Greg Rodríguez, and Chief Academic Officer Darren Schwartz.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES: Jacob Adorno, Waterbury Career Academy and Ilene Garcia, Waterbury Career Academy.

1. SILENT PRAYER

President Brown called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. with a moment of silence.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

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

3. ROLL CALL

CLERK: Commissioner Awwad.

AWWAD: Here.

CLERK: Vice President Harvey.

HARVEY: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Hernandez.

HERNANDEZ: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Pagano.

PAGANO: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Serrano-Adorno.

SERRANO-ADORNO: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Stango.

STANGO: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Sweeney.

SWEENEY: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Jason Van Stone.

J. VAN STONE: Present.

CLERK: Commissioner Tom Van Stone.

T. VAN STONE: Present.

CLERK: President Brown.

BROWN: Present.

4. COMMUNICATIONS

Upon a motion by Commissioner Jason Van Stone and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to receive and place on file the following communications:

- a. Communication dated June 17, 2019 from Waterbury Veterans Memorial Committee regarding 22nd Annual Korean War Veterans Remembrance Day.
- b. Email communication dated June 21, 2019 from CABA regarding Policy Highlights.
- c. Copy of communication dated June 25, 2019 from Civil Service certifying Jennifer Marino for the position of Human Resources Generalist.
- d. Email communication dated July 2, 2019 from Imma Rybczyk regarding removal of Ms. Elias.
- e. Email communication dated July 12, 2019 from CABA regarding Policy Highlights.

BROWN: Discussion? All in favor, opposed, abstain. Motion carries.

5. PUBLIC ADDRESSES THE BOARD

Upon a motion by Commissioner Jason Van Stone 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 7:16 p.m.

BROWN: Discussion. All in favor, opposed, abstain. Motion carries.

Samantha Rosen, Middlebury, had the following comments: Good evening. My name is Samantha Rosen, a recent graduate of Waterbury Arts Magnet School. Tonight I would like to discuss the recent announcement of our principal Ms. Elias being transferred to another school. Ms. Elias has been through so much at this school from not having assistant principals when she needs them to losing students and having to mourn and cope all while putting her students first and making sure her students were taken care of. Ms. Elias is the rock of this school. She was always putting the better of her student before anything else. Every year students would go down to her to take care of their schedules because we knew that Ms. Elias would make sure that we had first the classes that we needed in order to graduate. Second the classes that would help us to succeed in life. And third the classes that we wanted to improve our high school career and have fun and enjoy coming to school. Every single schedule was tailored made for each individual student mostly by Ms. Elias because we all knew that she had our high school careers best at heart. Ms. Elias was always going above and beyond for her students. If she knew that a student was going through a tough time whether it was family life, school life, or grades, she would talk to them personally and see what is going on, what is affecting their grades to drop, if they need extra help, if

they just need someone to talk to. She was always there. Ms. Elias never wanted any student to fail and she would make sure that if a student was struggling to graduate she would make sure that they would walk across that stage personally. If a student just wanted to talk to her regardless of the topic she would find at least five minutes in between classes for that student to come talk to her. Ms. Elias knows every single student in this school from sixth grade to 12th grade, she knows them by name. She cares about her students more than any other principal than I personally have ever had. Having a principal that knows you this way and that cares about you thoroughly changes the way that you go through high school and the entirety of your high school career. Removing Ms. Elias would cause the school to crumble and fall apart. She is the glue that holds us together. Without Ms. Elias WAMS is not WAMS. So I ask you to please reconsider this regretful decision and keep Mrs. Elias at WAMS where she belongs. Thank you.

Ellen Rosen, Middlebury, had the following comments: I am not a Waterbury resident but my daughter who just spoke, Samantha, graduated from WAMS. I am grateful for the chance that she came to this school what I'm not happy about is Ms. Elias being taken from us. Dr. Ruffin, you said your decisions were made based on data, I would like to ask you where was that data because if you saw the way this school is then you would not have taken her from here. We are an arts school. Arts are an important decision in schools. With all the arts being taken away, we're an art school that thrives; we're one of the top magnet art schools in Connecticut. Do not take away our principal. She is the one that makes WAMS, WAMS. I'd like you to reconsider and look at the whole picture not just data. And Dr. Ruffin, I would like to make one statement and this I know for a fact, you were invited to every single performance that we put on and not once did you attend. So I'd like to point that out to you. If you came you would have saw WAMS is a family. Thank you.

Ken Baxter had the following comments: I am a Waterbury resident so therefore I am a taxpayer in this town. Like these folks, I'm speaking on behalf of Ms. Elias. My daughter has been trying to get into this school since the sixth grade; she finally got in at the end of this school year she snuck in at the last moment. We were thrilled, she's thrilled. We had Ms. Elias in her elementary school so we haven't seen Ms. Elias in 10 years. We walked into the school and she remembered my name, my daughter's name, my wife's name by first name basis. This is the kind of teacher we're talking about, or a principal, I'm sorry. You talked about the statistics and the facts, none of that was presented to us prior. I mean we would have like to be able to see where you came up with this decision for moving Ms. Elias. The other thing is she really cares about the students; she is part of the school. It's an art school; you have a principal that is in art background, why would you move that person? It doesn't make any sense. And I think all the stuff that has been said prior to me, said it much better than I, but I just felt like I needed to come up here and voice my opinion. I hope you guys really take into consideration and hear what we the people are saying. It's important. I mean you have this open forum and I've been through this before with the Board of Ed and we feel like you have this open forum and you come in and you voice your opinion and it seems like you guys have your mind made up way before so I hope you really reconsider and listen to what we are saying as parents of this school. Thank you.

Sandra Retkowski had the following comments: I come from the Naugatuck School System for this magnet school. My daughter took the tour and my daughter, besides

her mother being enthusiastic, my daughter is the one that wanted to come here and she finally did come here in eighth grade. She graduated here and she is going to be entering the tenth grade here. Ms. Elias is everything that everybody said and I do read a lot . . . in the paper, I do read all of the test scores that came out and I do understand what the Superintendent is saying however I would like to see and I probably am going to start to gather and try to pull myself because I do these things in my free time, the data from other magnet schools in Connecticut and that this is a seven year school that she's supervising and comparing what other arts magnet schools are in the State of Connecticut that are this size, how they are performing academically because this is an accredited arts magnet school, okay, it's a little different. I do know that I was just reading since I heard the news and there a little bit of communication I guess with the Superintendent's Office and the Mayor's office because I got varying stories when I called, when I found out to my dismay that this was being done over the summer when the kids and the teachers weren't around. There was a little bit of a miscommunication because I did call the Superintendent's Office and that person said they didn't think that was happening and then the Mayor's office said no, they thought it was happening, so I just wanted to let you know that there was a lot of miscommunication about this. And I have friends that are administrators, principals, growing up in Naugatuck . . . but I've never seen one car wash for a fundraiser, I've never seen one attend every performance, and for the large amount of students that she has in her student body she cares passionately about this school. If there is an academic issue it is disappointing to me that the Board and the Superintendent did not offer support to a passionate administrator who has invested herself so much in her school. Instead of saying what could we do to help you and make this better, we're removing you. And the other thing is that, if that is the decision and she's not going to be here I'm sure all of the families here and the students are going to be able to give her a proper send off and not in the manner in which this was handled. Thank you.

Imma Rybczyk had the following comments: My daughter has been here since sixth grade and she'll be a ninth grader here in the fall. I'd first like to say I know that we all have the best intentions here with regards to the education of our children. I want nothing more than my children to be happy and healthy and I've always believe that a good, solid education is the best way to achieve those things. With that said I'd like to discuss our school, WAMS, as was stated in the letter that I sent to the Board of Education, both of my kids started off in a catholic school here in Waterbury, my son graduated from that school and went into Kennedy High School SOAR Program and that same year my daughter received her letter that she was admitted to WAMS for sixth grade. My daughter was so excited to get in because of her love of the arts. So it was a huge transition for our family but especially the kids going from a small school environment to a much bigger one. I'm not gonna say I wasn't worried about that, I was for sure, but one of the main things to put my mind at ease was talking to Lauren Elias, the building Principal here. I know for many people she was a big draw to the school with the love of the arts and the kids. The children here absolutely love her, trust her, and above all they respect her which is such an important combination I would say probably hard to achieve for most administrators. I was moved by her involvement with the kids and her willingness to get to know them as well as the parents and I was inspired to get involved with the PTSO here which in turn got my daughter to become more involved in the school and its afterschool activities. She is also an effective administrator. According to Ctmirror.org in February of 2018 WAMS high school scored the highest of all the Waterbury Public High Schools in the state's annual assessment of

school performance which I think is a combination of attendance, scores, AP classes. She truly is the heart of this school. I hope you all took the time to look at the petition at change.org and read some of the comments left by parents and current and past students who believe in the work that Ms. Elias has done here. There are more than 500 signatures and each of those signatures represents the difference she has made in our school community. I am pleading with you all to please reconsider and bring Lauren Elias back to WAMS. She is WAMS and it just wouldn't be the same without her. Thank you.

Melissa Labbe had the following comments: I'm a resident of Waterbury. I'm the proud mom of four children – they're 15, 13, 10, and five. So I have a high schooler, a middle schooler, and two in elementary school and I have been through six buildings in the Waterbury School District. I want to tell you about a beautiful 13 year old girl named Makayla. When she was four years old she was diagnosed with ADHD and the doctors told us to put her on medication. We did not. We tried to do everything that we can and through her school years she struggled immensely; not with her academics but socially and being bullied. In fifth grade we, with a hope and a prayer, we put into the lottery for McKayla to get into WAMS. We got the letter that she was number two on the waiting list. Thank God four days later we got the phone call that she was admitted into WAMS. She came a quiet, shy, individual. She didn't have any friends. She didn't know what she was going to do. She had constant anxiety, panic attacks. But she came, we toured this school four times before she actually came on the first day of school so that she would know where her classes would be and where her locker would be and that she would be okay even though there were 500 other students and no, the high schoolers would not bully her at lunch and that she would be okay. Ms. Elias allowed us to come as much as we wanted to during the summer and one of those times she walked around with us and showed her. This year in seventh grade we finally took Makayla to a child psychologist and she was diagnosed with Asperger's. Ms. Elias sat in her officer while I cried and cried because my daughter now had another diagnosis and what are we gonna do? She held my hand and told me she would be okay. Any Makayla has been okay. Ms. Elias makes a point every day of finding Makayla out of 500 plus students she makes a point of finding my daughter, my 13 year old girl to make sure that she's okay and she'll go Makayla, where are you going next, are you sure that's where you should be going? Oh yea, because my little space cadet sometimes does forget what she has fourth period and going into fifth period. She has been there for us. She has been there for me as Mom. But most importantly she has been there for Makayla. Makayla had a meltdown at her Christmas Concert this year. Ms. Elias got out of her chair and went into the lobby to comfort, again, my child. When the high school and middle school choruses were having a concert so this to me is personal. Yes, I understand data and yes, I understand other things but for the sake of my daughter who needs that support who doesn't do well with change I beg of you to just reconsider, please, look deeper into the things, reconsider, come meet with us parents, let us talk to you, we would love to meet with you and just share what's on our minds and on our hearts. You know Waterbury has this open door policy, invite us in, let us be part of these decisions. Thank you so much.

Nicola Hutchinson had the following comments: I'm another parent at WAMS. I'm a Naugatuck resident, originally from the UK, so I have a different perspective on schools in this country. We put my son in the arts magnet school the first time, he was in sixth grade, this was almost 12 years ago so I've been in this school for a long time. I have a

senior this year. Everybody's been talking about how it's an art school, everything is about the arts. My son came through this school sixth grade through 12, graduated, went onto a four year college in sciences. So it's not just an art school, they are doing their academics; they are succeeding in their academics. My son is gonna be a senior this year, same thing, he is succeeding and is going to go into mechanical engineering, that kind of school, it's not all about the arts. Ms. Elias has made that possible. She, I've been through several principals in this school in the 12 years; I understood why some of those principals have left in those 12 years. This one came as a complete shock. I am also co-president of the PTSO here at WAMS and have been on the PTSO for the past five/six years. I've seen changes in those five/six years with Ms. Elias in this school. She's only just had the ability to get new vice principals in this school. We lost Mr. Edwards to one of the other high schools. He was a great principal in this school too. But he moved on, we understood why. This decision does not make any sense to a lot of parents. As you can see, they talked about the petition that came out, a lot of past students, current students. So please talk to us. Please think about this. It's more than just Lauren Elias, this is the whole school. Thank you.

Stephanie Pinto had the following comments: I live here in Waterbury. My daughter is going to be a freshman in high school. I am the other co-president with Nicola of our PTSO. So I've only been here for three years. During those three years I have, the first year I went through a lot and Ms. Elias was a human being, she wasn't a face behind a desk, she was personable, she was helpful. I'm not sure that you know this but we used to have a sewing class and because of the budget cuts we had to cut that class so there was no one to do the costumes for the big giant shows that we've done. Has anyone been to our shows? They're incredible. So Ms. Elias, I walked in for the book fair or something, I do the book fair here, and I walked past the conference room and Ms. Elias is sitting at the conference table, by herself, with a sewing machine and a bunch a fabric. And I was like Ms. Elias, what are you doing? She said I'm making the costumes for a Chorus Line. I said what do you mean, we have a whole, kids are, send it down to them and she said we don't have that anymore and if I don't make it it doesn't get made. I had chills. I don't know how to sew but I wanted to help because that's the kind of person that I am. Lauren Elias is this school. I really do not think that anyone else could take care of this school and these children the way that she can. I beg of you to think about it again and look at those numbers again because. I apologize, I have memory issues and I don't talk very well cause I forget what I'm talking about so I'm sorry. I've only been here three years and she has changed, Melissa's daughter Makayla, this is Samantha she was a senior last year, this is Thomas, he's a senior this year. All of these kids are here because of this woman because we don't want to lose her. So I beg – please, please, look at your stats and your numbers again and if you have any questions or need to talk to any of us please, we're here. Thank you for your time.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Jason Van Stone and duly seconded by Commissioner Stango, it was voted unanimously to return to the regular order of business at 7:39 p.m.

BROWN: Discussion? All in favor, opposed, abstain.

HERNANDEZ: There's a young lady here.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Jason Van Stone and duly seconded by Commissioner Awwad, it was voted unanimously to suspend the regular order of business at 7:39 p.m.

Victoria Bierce had the following comments: I'm going to be a sophomore in high school. I'm not really good at speaking but Ms. Elias has been my principal since I've been in kindergarten so me being here is a big deal and I really appreciate your time but I do really want you to reconsider your choice to switch her to a different school because she has helped me with so much throughout my life and she is one of the biggest role models in my life and I really look up to her as a person, as a principal, as someone who I want to be when I'm older because she has shown me how to just be real. Like she isn't just a principal, she is actually there for you just like all these stories around us; she's always there to be there for you as a student, you as a person, if you need help with anything. So I think it's really important for you guys to see everyone's stories and everyone here and I really thank you for coming and listening to everyone but this is like something that means a lot to me and I didn't want to miss the opportunity to speak even though I'm not the best at speaking. I grew up dancing and acting and Ms. Elias has put on some of the best shows I've ever been in. I've been an actor and a singer and she has been nothing but encouraging to me and she has shown me to strive to be the best that I can. She has sat there and taught me different things and told me what I can do to be better, how I can improve, and this is what I am today, that's what I want to do, all because she believed in me at a very, very young age. So being there as a little kindergarten and looking up to me saying you should do this, try singing, try acting, it's something that I've always loved to do because of her and she really is very important to me. So thank you for listening.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Jason Van Stone and duly seconded by Commissioner Stango, it was voted unanimously to return to the regular order of business at 7:41 p.m.

BROWN: All in favor, motion carries. Thank you all very much for coming.

6. SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Ruffin read and distributed the following announcements:

- The Academic Academy application closed on June 17th and we received 265 well-thought out applications.
- Of the 265 applicants, 181 Waterbury students have been invited to be inaugural members of the Academic Academy – 24 in 4th grade, 35 in 5th grade, 55 in 6th grade, 39 in 7th grade and 28 in 8th grade. Friday, July 19th is the official signing day for those students who have been invited and who have accepted the invitation for the academically rigorous program. Students alongside their parent/guardian are going to be committing to a contract of academic and ethical excellence during the contract signing. We are very excited for the students, parents and staff members who are helping to move this program forward!
- The first day of school is August 26, 2019. The 2019-2020 school year calendar is available on the Waterbury Schools website.

SUPERINTENDENT: The Welcome Center, which will be opening up, it replaces the concept of the current Intake Center and it takes on the responsibility of providing

community engagement for our parents as they register students within our school district. It is going to be an inclusive one-stop shop that will be able to meet the needs of our students and provide them with the transportation information as well as special testing information and will be an opportunity for new families to obtain information that is relevant to Waterbury as well as our school district.

I have made some staffing changes. I am moving Lauren Elias. She will be serving in a capacity and certainly with all the comments made about her I believe great principals can be great regardless of where they are to be able to impact the lives of our children. She will be assigned as a principal on special assignment working with a large group of students that will be in our Wilby campus. She will be working there as an administrator in charge of all of the operations and because of the expertise she brings in sixth through 12th grade she will be serving in . . . grade level in her new assignment.

I also am making the administrative assignment for Mike LoRusso who is currently the principal at Wallace. He will be a principal on special assignment in charge of operations at Wilby. As you know Wilby is one of our schools that we have worked very hard on to turnaround. It's still currently a Turnaround School but it's also a Turnaround School without any additional funding because it is not one of the three schools that been identified with Commissioners Network. I think those administrators in their reassignment will be an asset to the school both in terms of the operation side and in terms of being able to look at the structure to enhance student participation and the growing of students. And not only the academics but also making certain that they have a real safe environment. So those two changes become effective immediately.

I also want to share with you, as I shared earlier those decisions about any kind of decision making for staff moving is always done with intentionality to make certain I am doing the very best thing for students, all mean all. I certainly can appreciate a concern and I'm deeply committed to making certain that both WAMS and Wallace will have the leadership that will take them to the next level and that will be done through an application which becomes open immediately. There will be another change that I will make that I will discuss with the Board at a later time but those are the two big changes that I have made thus far and I look forward to be able to continue the communication to make certain that all children receive what they deserve.

And I'm deeply committed, just a comment aside from what I've just said in terms of the decisions for reassignment. That decision did not come because someone told me to make the decision, it is based on, so the Commissioners is not to blame for the decision and the Mayor's Office is not to blame for that decision. It really is, when you look at an entire district of 32 schools you want great people, and I believe we have great people, but you want to make certain the great people are in the places that they need optimum growth and consideration for all of our students. That's my final closing statement on that matter.

7. PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

There were no President's Comments.

8. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

8.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner Harvey and duly seconded by Commissioner Jason Van Stone, it was voted unanimously to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement by and between Waterbury Board of Education and the United Public Service Employees Union (UPSEU) Waterbury BOE Administrative Support Staff Local 424 – Unit 69, for the period of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2022.

BROWN: Discussion? Commissioner Awwad.

AWWAD: I apologize; I wanted to ask a question earlier. This is the union contract for the grant funded positions so my question is, running an agency solely on grants, we've calculated raises that we're gonna give, how do we address that when we did a grant application that had certain amount of dollars within them, how do we absorb those raises going out or any other changes? I apologize for my ignorance but I'm just wondering how does that work, how do we negotiate a raise for something we already signed in the past?

ATTORNEY SHAW: Well I can't speak in terms of the grant application process or what goes on on that end but this contract does provide for the Board's ability to eliminate positions if grant funding is unavailable, reduced, or eliminated in some way. So there is the ability to adjust that if needed.

AWWAD: Okay, that answered my question. So there's room to move in that respect and that was the 14 day notice?

ATTORNEY SHAW: That's correct.

BROWN: Thank you very much Tara. All in favor, opposed, abstain. Motion carries.

8.2 Upon a motion by Commissioner Harvey and duly seconded by Commissioner Jason Van Stone, it was voted unanimously to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement by and between Waterbury Board of Education and the United Public Service Employees Union (UPSEU) Waterbury BOE Classroom Assistants Local 424 – Unit 68, for the period of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2022.

BROWN: Discussion? All in favor, opposed, abstain. Motion carries.

9. COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

9.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner Awwad and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve the following agreements for out-of-district placements for students with disabilities as required by their Individual Education Plan (IEP):

Contracts

**Total Amount of
3 yr. Contract**

a. Adelbrook	\$1,342,140.00
b. Boys and Girls Village	\$739,350.00
c. Capitol Region Education Council	\$1,710,000.00
d. Connecticut Holdings, LLC d/b/a Solterra Acad.	\$923,700.00
e. Connecticut Junior Republic Association	\$273,204.00
f. Hope Academy of Milford, Inc.	\$295,290.00
g. University of Saint Joseph	\$917,922.00
h. The Children's Center of Hamden, Inc.	\$665,826.00
i. Wheeler Clinic, Inc.	\$855,594.00

BROWN: Discussion? All in favor, opposed, abstain. Motion carries.

9.2 Upon a motion by Commissioner Awwad and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve to apply for the Connecticut State Department of Education Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Secondary Work-based Learning Enhancement Grant.

BROWN: Discussion? All in favor, opposed, abstain. Motion carries.

9.3 Upon a motion by Commissioner Awwad and duly seconded by Commissioner Serrano-Adorno, it was voted unanimously to approve to apply for the Connecticut State Department of Education Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Student Organization Statewide Improvement Grant.

BROWN: Discussion? All in favor, opposed, abstain. Motion carries.

9.4 Upon a motion by Commissioner Awwad and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve to apply for the Connecticut State Department of Education Family Resource Center Grant for Reed School.

BROWN: Discussion? All in favor, opposed, abstain. Motion carries.

9.5 Upon a motion by Commissioner Awwad and duly seconded by Commissioner Hernandez, it was voted unanimously to approve to apply for the Connecticut State Department of Education Family Resource Center Grant for Wilson School.

BROWN: Discussion? All in favor, opposed, abstain. Motion carries.

9.6 Upon a motion by Commissioner Awwad and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted, by roll call vote, to approve the following transfers in the fiscal year 2018/19 budget:

DESCRIPTION	Acct Unit	Account	TO	FROM
Curriculum Instruction- Substitute Teachers	87510301	511212		(\$475,000)
Operation & Maintenance- Custodians	88031006	511226		(\$50,000)
Operation & Maintenance- School Maintenance	88031006	511225		(\$14,000)

Operation & Maintenance- Building Improvements	88031006	575501	\$539,000	
Transfer is needed for special capital improvement & revenue fund.				
TOTALS			\$539,000	(\$539,000)

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas: Commissioners Awwad, Harvey, Hernandez, Pagano, Serrano-Adorno, Stango, Sweeney, J. Van Stone, and President Brown
Nays: Commissioner T. Van Stone

BROWN: Motion carries. Thank you.

9.7 Upon a motion by Commissioner Awwad and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve an Agreement (template attached), with the following agencies, for Sub-grantee Services under the School Readiness Program for Program Years 2019-2021:

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Grant Award amount</u>
1. The Ark Child Development Center	\$704,996
2. Catholic Charities	\$356,960
3. Children's Community School	\$321,264
4. Children's Village	\$178,480
5. Children's Center of GWHN	\$776,388
6. Easter Seals Rehabilitation Center of Greater Waterbury East and West Campuses	\$1,668,788
7. Naugatuck Valley CC- CDC	\$187,480
8. Muriel H. Moore CDC (NOI Inc.)	\$740,692
9. Rainbow Academy Inc.	\$196,328
10. St. Mary's CDC	\$312,340
11. TEAM SLOCUM Inc.	\$354,816
12. Waterbury BD of Education	\$2,028,000
13. Greater Waterbury YMCA	\$2,088,216

BROWN: Discussion? All in favor, opposed, abstain. Motion carries.

9.8 Upon a motion by Commissioner Awwad and duly seconded by Commissioner Jason Van Stone, it was voted unanimously to approve to rescind the Board's vote of June 20, 2019 of their approval of Amendment #2 to the Professional Services Agreement with PTSMA, Inc., d/b/a Select Physical Therapy, to provide athletic trainer services for interscholastic athletics.

BROWN: Discussion?

AWWAD: What is this?

CLERK: It's in the packet.

AWWAD: I'll be very honest, I didn't see it and can someone help us.

CLERK: What it is is you voted to approve Amendment 2 which was not necessary, it was only to be done by a letter of agreement which Corporation Counsel can do and they want you to rescind the vote.

AWWAD: So we have to undo something we didn't have to do in the first place.

BROWN: Right.

AWWAD: And I apologize for not doing my homework.

CLERK: That's okay.

BROWN: We're in discussion.

J. VAN STONE: Why do we have to rescind it? If it was unnecessary, who cares?

CLERK: I wasn't going to question Corporation Counsel, I did what they asked.

BROWN: Jacob.

JACOB ADORNO: What does d/b/a mean?

SWEENEY: Doing business as.

BROWN: Good question. I really didn't know that either. All in favor, opposed, abstain. Motion carries.

10. COMMITTEE ON CURRICULUM

Upon a motion by Commissioner Awwad and duly seconded by Commissioner Sweeney, it was voted unanimously to take items 10.1 through 10.7 as a whole.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Tom Van Stone and duly seconded by Commissioner Sweeney, it was voted unanimously to approve items 10.1 through 10.7, as listed:

- 10.1 New Grades 6 – 8 Social Studies Curriculum and textbooks/resources for the same.
- Grade 6: World Regional Studies-Eastern Hemisphere/McGraw-Hill Discovering World Geography
 - Grade 7: World Regional Studies-Western Hemisphere/McGraw-Hill Discovering World Geography
 - Grade 8: US History I/McGraw-Hill Discovering Our Past: A History of the United States
- 10.2 New Early Childhood (Pre-k 3 & 4) Curriculum and textbooks/resources for the same.
- The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool

- 10.3 New Grades 9 – 12 Mathematics Curriculum and textbooks/resources for the same.
- Algebra 1-SpringBoard
 - Geometry-SpringBoard
 - Algebra 2-SpringBoard
 - Pre-Calculus-SpringBoard
- 10.4 New K – 5 English-Language Arts (ELA) Curriculum and textbooks/resources for the same.
- 10.5 New K – 5 English-Language Arts (ELA) Curriculum and textbooks/resources for the same.
- 10.6 New Grades 10 and 11 Chemistry Curriculum and resources for the same.
- 10.7 New Grades 9 – 12 High School Health Curriculum and textbooks/resources for the same.
- HPE 840 Health, Wellness and Personal Condition 1
 - HPE 841 Lifetime Health, Wellness and Recreation Skills 1
 - HPE 842 Health, Wellness and Personal Condition 2
 - HPE 843 Lifetime Health, Wellness and Recreation Skills 2

BROWN: Discussion? All in favor, opposed, abstain. Motion carries.

11. COMMITTEE ON BUILDING AND SCHOOL FACILITIES

Upon a motion by Commissioner Hernandez and duly seconded by Commissioner Awwad, it was voted unanimously to take items 11.1 through 11.5 as a whole.

BROWN: Discussion? All in favor, opposed, abstain. Motion carries.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Jason Van Stone and duly seconded by Commissioner Stango, it was voted unanimously to approve items 11.1 through 11.5:

- 11.1 Educational Specifications, as attached, for the proposed Washington School Elevator Project.
- 11.2 Educational Specifications, as attached, for the proposed Bunker Hill School Elevator Project.
- 11.3 Construction Contract with J. A. Rosa Construction, LLC for Elevator Additions at Chase, Hopeville, Kingsbury, and Sprague Schools.
- 11.4 Use of school facilities, at no charge, by the following school organizations and/or City departments:

GROUP	FACILITIES AND DATES/TIMES
C. Swain	WAMS media center: Tues., July 16, 5:30-9:30 pm (Board of Education workshop & regular meeting)
J. Ocasio	WAMS café: 8/20 & 8/21, 7:45 am - 3:30 pm (New Teacher Orientation)
M. Bergin	Rotella café & 1 classroom: Thurs., Aug. 22, 8 am – 3 pm (Prof. Dev.) Rotella café: Fri., Aug. 23, 8 am – 1 pm (Early Childhood Prof. Dev.)
J. Reed	Career Academy café & 4 classrooms: 7/29-8/2/19, 8:30 am - 3:50 pm (computer app program for m/s students)
D. Mortensen	Rotella computer lab: Tues., August 20, 8:30 am - 11:30 am (ELA Dept. – Prof. Dev. Training)

- 11.5 Use of school facilities by outside organizations subject to fees and insurance as required:

GROUP	FACILITIES AND DATES/TIMES
<u>REQUESTING WAIVERS:</u>	
Comm. Tab. Outreach	Reed gym: Saturday, July 27, 9 am – 5 pm
Paul Gladding	(basketball tournament) (\$378.)
Y.M.C.A.	WAMS apron stage: 8/12, 14, 15, 9:30 am - noon (rehearsals)
K. Jones	8/16, 9 am – 6 pm (Pre-Sch. graduation) (\$1,722.)

<u>GROUPS NOT SUBJECT TO FEES OR WAIVER DUE TO TIME OF USE OR PREVIOUS WAIVER:</u>	
P.A.L.	Wilby pool: 7/8 – 8/1/19, Monday thru Thursday, 12:30 pm – 7:15 pm
M. Ford	(swim program/lessons)
Wtby. Patriots	Crosby football field: Sept. 8, 22, Oct. 6, 12, 20, 7 am - 6:30 pm
T. Inabinett	(Pop Warner Football games)
Uplifting a Life	Enlightenment rooms: Mon. thru Fri., 7/8 - 8/16/19, 8:30 am - 3:30 pm
E. Cooper	(youth summer program)

BROWN: Discussion? All in favor, opposed, abstain. Motion carries.

12. SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTIFICATION TO THE BOARD

Upon a motion by Commissioner Jason Van Stone and duly seconded by Commissioner Awwad, it was voted unanimously to receive and place on file items 12.1 through 12.9 as listed:

- 12.1 Middle School Summer Transition Program appointments:
Joseph Deptula – Math/WSMS Lori Medina – ELA/WSMS
Sybil Wynne Jones – ELA/WSMS
- 12.2 High School Summer Bridge Program appointments:
Ellen Perugini – Math/WCA Jillian Jusino – Math/WHS
Rebecca Marold – Beh./WHS Evette Zappone – English/WHS
- 12.3 SOAR to Success Summer School appointments, salary according to contract, contingent upon enrollment:
Carrington/Agati, Rosemari Carrington/Colby, Shannon
Carrington/Fappiano, Marny Carrington/Zylali, Rowena

12.9 Resignations:

Argenta, Taryn – Driggs Special Education, effective 07/10/19.
Asklar, Tracy – MMS Speech/Language Pathologist, effective 08/01/19.
Awwad, David – KHS General Science, effective 06/14/19.
Bacote, Tiffany – Rotella Special Ed IDEA, effective 07/24/19.
Bloemker, Daniel – WCA Manufacturing, effective 06/28/19.
Calderon, Piedad – WCA Spanish, effective 07/11/19.
Daly, Kevin – NEMS Art, effective 07/02/19.
DeSimone, Nadia – Generali Speech/Lang. Pathologist, eff. 07/23/19.
DiFronzo, Jennifer – Duggan grade 7/8 Math, effective 08/02/19.
Edwards, Donna – Bunker Hill Music, effective 07/02/19.
Itano-Malstrom, Kanako – MMS Japanese, effective 07/05/19.
Jurewicz, David – CHS Tech Ed, effective 07/02/19.
Lucian, Jeffrey – KHS Business, effective 07/03/19
McConaghy, Michelle – Districtwide HS Numeracy Facilitator, eff. 06/28/19.
Plunkett, Kathleen – WCA Health Services, effective 07/01/19.
Shocki, Jeff – KHS Guidance Department Chair, effective 06/14/19.
Tracy, Andrew – Gilmartin grade 6, effective 07/02/19.
Zylali, Rowena – Regan/Bucks Hill ESL, effective 07/10/19.


BROWN: Discussion? All in favor, opposed, abstain. Motion carries. Number 13 – Unfinished Business of Preceding Meeting Only. Fourteen – Other Unfinished, New, and Miscellaneous Business. Commissioner Van Stone.

J. VAN STONE: Thank you Madam President, through you. As the Superintendent touched on a couple of different times in both the workshop and here in this meeting, Wendell Cross is progressing. There will be a Building and Facilities Meeting called to discuss that in its own right. In addition I'd like to work with Central Office to set some kind of tour, which we had promised the parents of the Wendell Cross project, as we got to a place where the site was a little more opened to having visitors walk through. So I look forward to getting that on the calendar. Additionally that committee will meet as well to kind of flesh out a better way to do school facilities requests.

BROWN: There's no executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Commissioner Hernandez and duly seconded by Commissioner Sweeney, it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.

ATTEST: 
Carrie A. Swain, Clerk
Board of Education