

WATERBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES ~ REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

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

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

ABSENT: Commissioners Serrano-Adorno and Stango.

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

1. SILENT PRAYER

President Brown 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 our former employees of the Waterbury Public Schools who have passed away:

Ricky A. Banks – retired from Waterbury Department of Education after 20 years of service, passed away on February 11, 2019.

Jennie Caporaso – retired from Waterbury Special Education Department, passed away on February 19, 2019.

Let us remember them and recognize their service and dedication to the students of Waterbury this evening.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Commissioner Jason Van Stone 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 (absent). Commissioner Stango (absent).
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 Hernandez and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to receive and place on file the following communications:

- a. Copy of communication dated December 12, 2018 from Director of Finance Michael J. LeBlanc regarding submission of the City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2018.
- b. Copy of communications dated January 18, 2019 from Civil Service certifying Ronda Hendrickson for the position of Paraprofessional and James Mennillo for the position of Food Service Driver.
- c. Copy of communications dated January 22, 2019 from Civil Service certifying Gregory Rodriguez for the position of Deputy Superintendent of Schools and Candido Carello, Jr. for the position of Food Service Driver.
- d. Email communication dated January 29, 2019 from Hawley Lane Shoes regarding shop local initiative.
- e. Copy of communication dated January 29, 2019 from Civil Service certifying Miguel Lavier for the position of Food Service Driver.
- f. Email communication dated February 1, 2019 from CABA regarding policy highlights.
- g. Copy of communications dated February 1, 2019 from Civil Service to Hayat Abouanni, Jennifer Torres, and Stella Abney regarding their acceptance of employment for the position of Food Service Worker.
- h. Copy of communications dated February 7, 2019 from Civil Service to Rebecca Michaud regarding her acceptance of employment for the position of Food Service Worker and Sharon Nemence regarding her acceptance of employment for the position of Lunchroom Aide.
- i. Copy of communication dated February 7, 2019 from Civil Service certifying Christopher Rajcoomar for the position of Maintainer I.
- j. Email communication dated February 11, 2019 from Harold Miller regarding incident at Gilmartin School.
- k. Copy of communication dated February 11, 2019 from Civil Service to Kayla Maldonado regarding her acceptance of employment for the position of Lunchroom Aide.

- l. Copy of communication dated February 11, 2019 from New England Association of Schools and Colleges regarding Kennedy High School's Collaborative Conference visit.
- m. Email communication dated February 15, 2019 from CAGE regarding policy highlights.

BROWN: Discussion? All in favor, opposed. Motion carries. Thank you Commissioner.

5. PUBLIC ADDRESSES THE BOARD

Upon a motion by Commissioner Jason Van Stone and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to suspend the regular order of business to allow the public to address the Board at 6:33 p.m.

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

Jimmie Griffin, 41 Pilgrim Avenue, had the following comments: Good evening members of the Board, President of the Board, Superintendent of Schools. I'm here because I've been following the diversion program and I wanted to actually ask that you not abandon the program but that you delay the program because I think that there needs to be some input from outside of the police department in formulating this. We need, want a diversion program, however the one proposed by the Waterbury Police Department is not the one our community needs. The proposed diversion plan designed with no input from students, parents, mental health, or behavioral health experts, teachers, or juvenile justice experts. This is designed by three officers with known training in restorative practices, degrees, or credentials relating to education or child development. This disqualifies it as a restorative practice. It's a one size fits all approach. There's no ability to add or subtract interventions and this makes the program unreliable. This program is likely to be unresponsive to diversity of students we have in the city, in our city. This . . . restorative practice. There is no peer to peer mentorship or student led interventions in the proposed program. This disqualifies it as a restorative practice. Excluding all those except the first time offenders combined with others clear entry points or rejection criteria other than first time offenders, this disqualifies it as restorative. Only the police determine student participation and successful completion. Concentrating on the power in the hands of the police department is unfair and would be susceptible to negative impacts of racial biases and stereotyping. Our communities should share those responsibilities. This disqualifies them as a restorative practice. There is no evaluation or assessment standards for this program. The last police run diversion program did not provide reports or evaluations or assessments on its own effectiveness. The public, the students, the parents, and the school staff must be made aware of the ways the program will be evaluated. The lack of these elements disqualifies it also. In response to the Superintendent, I would have her encourage staff to no longer use out of school suspensions for level one and two policy violations. The Superintendent should mandate there be no more arrests for children under 12 years or younger unless otherwise mandated by the Connecticut State law. Superintendent should create with community partners a student and a working group dedicated to adjusting school discipline disparities. The Board of Education should . . . school district leadership to report at least quarterly disaggregated school discipline data to the Board in each school community and make that data available to the district and school websites. Thank you.

Robert Goodrich, 14 Stanrod Avenue, had the following comments: I'm the cofounder of Radical Advocates for Cross-Cultural Education. You've all received this address but I'll try to do it as quickly as possible. The school-to-prison pipeline isn't a unicorn. It's a reoccurring and very evident form of oppression here in Waterbury. For some of you, it has grown and become even more destructive force under your watch as Board of Education commissioners and those who steward the school district at it's the highest level. Let me remind you of the facts. Over the last five years, there have been 61,913 suspensions, over 1,200 school-based arrests, over 17,559 students suspended, and over 1,100 individual students arrested. Through the first 100 days of school this year we've learned there have been 897 police-led interventions in our schools that have led to 211 school-based arrests. The sheer volume and frequency of suspensions and arrests of students should cause you to pause and reevaluate what it is this Board is supposed to be doing and what it should be held accountable for.

However it is the disparate rate of arrest and suspensions of our Black, Hispanic, special education, and English language learning students and the rate that they experience them is what has driven us here to address this board. So hidden in those numbers is where the generational oppression and institutionalized racism can fester and destroy communities. I want to highlight this point. It's been deliberately hidden here. In 2016 at a contested case hearing in front of the Freedom of Information Commission, the district leadership admitted that their data collection system had the capacity to disaggregate data at the student level but the administration chose not to, therefore, leaving our requests for this data unfulfilled and leaving the public in the dark about meaningful and very dangerous disparate rates of suspension and arrests for students here in Waterbury.

Superintendent Ruffin, our message to you is this. We don't blame you. We are looking to you and the new members of your cabinet to implement interventions and training that . . . staff facing and to couple those with new accountability measures and transparency standards that directly address the patterns of systemically racist outcomes for our most vulnerable students. So therefore we are asking you and the Board of Education to abandon your support of the newly proposed police diversion program. We ask you to do so because of some very specific issues that Mr. Griffin mentioned disqualify that program as a restorative practice. It should be noted that any poorly designed and unscientific intervention will be unable to address the root cause of any educational dilemma but a poorly designed and unscientific intervention that is staffed by untrained and non-certified individuals will always worsen the disparities and the outcomes. Mr. Griffin also noted some of the other reasons why the program should be disqualified and we all agreed upon these on Monday night at a community meeting. Fundamentally the Board and I think the Superintendent I think misinformed the public. We now know that the JRB at Waterbury Youth Services was funded with \$150,000 in September of this year and according to Nichole Howe who manages this program at the Office of Policy and Management, that JRB is fully up and running. We don't need the program that was introduced by the Police Department.

So Mr. Griffin also talked about a few other things that we agreed upon. So in summary the design of the program makes it impossible for the impacts of bias, stereotyping, and overt racism to be checked. It is on its face value a dangerous idea. Our students,

parents, teachers, and schools need a diversion program but this one is not it. Start over, include students, parents, issue experts like the Connecticut Juvenile Justice Alliance in Bridgeport or the Juvenile Justice Alliance Oversight Policy Committee or the Tow Justice Institute at the University of New Haven, not three guys that got together to decide to treat an urgent crisis.

So let's keep this out of the hands of the police. So in the interim we have four other requests Dr. Ruffin. We hope that you consider them and we also hope that the Board takes a better stance on building more transparency and accountability about providing the public access to disaggregated discipline data on a formal, consistent basis. Thank you.

Renee Coryatt, Deerwood Lane, Waterbury, had the following comments: I come here as a concerned citizen. I've been a resident of Waterbury for over 20 years. I have an adult child; he's not a child anymore. I have a grandchild who will be entering the system so my concern is valid, I have skin in the game and even if I did not I'm a taxpayer and I have a concern where my funds go. So my initial concern is of course maybe not obvious but the racial disparity that is no secret to anybody who has lived in this town for more than a month, it's quite obvious. There are some patterns and there are some things that need to be addressed. I don't think having police run a reformative program without the input of behavioral health professionals, students, parents, concerned citizens, without that transparency we're losing a lot and we're probably most certainly increasing the problem. You don't fix a problem with a problem. So I'm here hopefully to shed some light that there are just regular folks out here that are concerned, that would appreciate the transparency, again as a citizen, that these things be a little bit more communicated more to the public, that these things are happening and what's going on. I'm a little bit shook up because I'm just learning about this literally at the eleventh hour that this is happening, that this is what's going on, and this is where things are and I'm truly shocked that this got off the ground without the necessary behavioral health and professional intervention that I would think would be required to deal with children. We're talking about children, children don't ask to be here, we should not be treating children like they're a problem. Children having behavioral issues is a result of a problem that started somewhere else but we treat children like they're a problem. I can't see any more poignant way than telling children they're a problem by having police come in and address them and tell them what they need to do to change. That doesn't make any sense to somebody with some critical thinking skills. I don't understand how that could be and how you think you're addressing the problem. All you're doing is telling children this is how you need to behave; you are not fixing what is causing the behavioral issue. So abandon the program, start over, start from scratch start with the right input, start with the right infrastructure, start with the right foundation and the right people and the right input so that you address the problem and you don't create a bigger one. These are kids, they don't ask to be here, we have to show them some compassion and I'm sorry giving them, handing them over to the police and having police guard and watch them is not compassion, we got to do better. Thank you.

Marilyn Robinson, 246 Horseshoe Drive, had the following comments: I'm in a state of confusion about an isolated incident that occurred February 5 at Gilmartin School. I have an 11 year old who attends the Waterbury Public Schools. I feel that the school district failed to provide services to my son that would reasonably be expected in

a middle school setting. He was tripped by another 11 year old and my son fell and he defended himself, he got up and punched the kids and was arrested. The incident has impacted my son's self-esteem and the trust within the Waterbury Public School system. My question is who is overseeing or investigating the teacher and student dynamics that are associated with the discipline and academic achievement gaps in our school system? I'm looking for a resolution and simplicity. I can't make an informed decision on how I should handle this the best way for my son without the appropriate interventions and programs I don't believe and feel that the diversion program is appropriate for my son because there are no evaluation or assessment standards for this program at this time.

Kate Marcel, had the following comments: I am a former resident of Waterbury, I grew up in the Waterbury School System and I just wanted to just briefly share, I don't feel quite prepared to share everything I'd like to so I'll say that but I wanted to at least be able to stand up with everyone else who is working very hard and just put a little bit of my input in and hopefully get on the agenda for the next Board of Ed meeting with some more detailed information. I was really surprised when I read the article in the Waterbury Republican American about this diversion program called KIDS. I had submitted a proposal for a Waterbury program, afterschool program, to, I didn't formally submit it, but I submitted it in various avenues to different people in different ways and it has been, it's never been given more than a thought. The program that I have is based on restorative justice, it looks at social, racial inequities and it looks at mental health and trauma and other behavioral issues, the reasons that kids are struggling in our schools. And so today I just have two articles I wanted to leave with you guys, I do not have copies for everyone, I didn't know how many people would be present. So I have two articles that just sight the importance of having restorative based interventions in school programs and the outcomes of those and then I have five packets that highlight a couple of the important things in here. It also has a copy of my proposal in here. This is an afterschool program, it's already up and running in Watertown, it's called Kids Rise Up and in Watertown it's being implemented in a very small scale, not to the extent that I think Waterbury would benefit from it. And so that's in there. Again this is sort of a rough draft; I proposed it in different ways to different people to try to get it in front of someone who would listen. And so it's important for everyone here, for you guys to hear that I want input, I need input from the students, from the parents, from the teachers, from the Board of Ed, from the Superintendent, and from other mental health experts. I didn't say that in the beginning, I'm a licensed professional counselor and I specialize in child and teen development and trauma. So I would love the opportunity to present further at the next Board of Ed meeting but I want you guys to know that I stand with R.A.C.C.E. and what they are saying to you guys today and I would be happy to be a part of any type of intervention whether it was run by my program or not. So even if there were someone else out there that needed some consulting I think it's important that we get more people on board who have training and specialty in this area. Thank you.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Jason Van Stone and duly seconded by Commissioner Sweeney, it was voted unanimously to return to the regular order of business at 6:50 p.m.

BROWN: Discussion? All those in favor, opposed, abstain. Motion carries. Next is Superintendent's Announcements.

6. SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Ruffin read and distributed the following announcements:

Tomorrow morning on February 22, 2019, I will be meeting with community stakeholders, parents, students and staff at the Waterbury Arts Magnet School's Apron Stage for a Community Forum on "Designing Student Pathways to Success." The forum begins at 9 a.m. and will end at 10 a.m.

A second forum will occur on Wednesday, February 27, from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. I had an opportunity to speak with host Steve Noxon on WATR on Tuesday, February 19 about these activities and the ways in which we are going about planning for the future of our schools and our students.

My team and I have been meeting families, students and community members to receive feedback on what a Waterbury Public Schools graduate should do, know and possess in terms of academics, skills and characteristics. To date, I have held meetings at North End and West Side Middle Schools. I will be conducting one final meeting on Monday, February 25, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Wallace Middle School.

This Saturday, February 23, 2019, teams from our three comprehensive middle schools will compete against each other in a robotics competition at West Side Middle School. The action starts at 10 a.m.

High school students from around the state will be competing against each other at a New England FIRST Robotics event the weekend of March 9th through the 10th at Wilby High School. Teams from Crosby and Kennedy High School will be participating. There is an additional robotics event at Hartford Public High School the weekend of April 6 through the 7.

Additionally, our schools have been celebrating Black History Month with a variety of activities, including both formal events and individual activities within the classrooms. A sampling of the remaining events include Waterbury Career Academy on Tuesday, February 26 at 10 a.m. and then at 1 p.m.; Waterbury Arts Magnet School at the Palace Theater also on Tuesday, February 26 at 1 p.m.; Maloney Magnet School on Wednesday, February 27 first at 5:15 p.m. and then at 6:45 p.m. and at Crosby High School on March 1 at 12 p.m.

SUPERINTENDENT: Before I turn it over I do want to say that we're hearing from our parents, from our students, from our teachers, from our families, on Portrait of a Graduate and it's really designed to be able to help get community voice into what we need to do to help our students succeed and succeed in a very aggressive and rigorous way so that we can challenge them to be able to accept some of those options that are going to be available for all of them. We know that it's quite challenging to be able to say we want our graduates; we want students to graduate from Waterbury Public Schools. Simply to graduate is insufficient; we need to define what that graduate should be able to do, what the graduate should learn, what characters of mind. And very importantly, after we have designed this we really need to have critical conversations on

what do we need to do as a school system to create schools that would allow our students to excel in such a manner. We are getting to that point. We've had some interesting conversations. I look forward to discussing even more of that with our Commissioners on March 7 but I think the exciting thing is that we're getting great feedback from our students and from our parents and from our teachers . . . to afford our students an opportunity . . . meaningful manner that will prepare them for the challenges of the future. So I thank everyone and I want to thank the public for coming out to Portrait of a Graduate. I believe you're going to see your work manifest itself in a strong strategic plan that will lead to some action that will lead to us really making certain that our students are prepared, not just graduated, but actually prepared for the competition and for the world that exists ahead. Thank you.

BROWN: Commissioner Van Stone.

T. VAN STONE: Thank you Madam President, through you. I echo that Dr. Ruffin that the Portrait of a Graduate is something down the road that we're gonna look back on and say we're proud to be a part of it so thank you for bringing that to us.

Madam President. If you would allow me I do have a few comments and then I do have a recommendation I'd like to bring forward to the Dr. Ruffin as well. Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring. Ring with harmony of liberty, let our rejoicing rise. That is a start to an anthem that I've stood proudly with members of our community to sing. Some of us know that anthem; it's a beautiful, beautiful song. We need to educate our students, Dr. Ruffin, on what America is and that encompasses a lot. I've looked back on this past week and I've seen our population not respect our country. My father served in World War II. Not seeing his first born until he was two years old. That brother of mine is also the father of Commissioner Jason Van Stone. It's not like today where you go online and you see your child, he did not see his first born until he was two years old. I also have a cousin that never came home from World War II. I have two brothers who served during Vietnam, one in Vietnam where he now suffers to this day with a cancer because of the environment that he was exposed to. I have a son who served in Afghanistan. Unfortunately he now has a Purple Heart. It takes two minutes to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance but our community recently has chosen not to. Here's my recommendation, we no longer let our students have a day off for Veterans' Day; we no longer have our students take a day off for Dr. Martin Luther King as long as they go to an event that teaches them everything about our American history. If they choose to come to school then the events of the day will only be to honor what those days bring to us. I'm proud to be an American; I don't think it takes a whole lot to stand for two minutes. Thank you.

7. PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

BROWN: Thank you Dr. Ruffin. Okay I just wanted to say that the Governor's Budget was presented on Wednesday and I think this budget recognizes the needs of the cities and I know I would support this budget because it gives more money to Waterbury. So hopefully, it's something to watch, let's see how it plays out but I think it's something all the taxpayers of Waterbury especially those concerned about funding for education need to watch so I would just suggest everybody play close attention to that. Also there are many bills before the legislature pertaining to education and again I would recommend people look at them specifically there is legislation to require African

American curriculum in our school district which I certainly would support so we have to look at that. There's also legislation to look at school climate, early childhood, and a whole host of other bills that impact us. So would just ask the public to look at the Connecticut General Assembly website and weigh in on some of these public policies that do impact us. Sometimes the unintended consequences are there that we have to live with. So just as a for your information. We will move onto the Consent Calendar. Is there anyone who would like anything removed from the Consent Calendar?

President Brown proceeded to read the Consent Calendar, items 8.1 through 8.5.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

Upon a motion by Commissioner Hernandez and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve the Consent Calendar, items 8.1 through 8.5, as listed:

- 8.1 The Committee on Finance recommends that the Waterbury Board of Education approve a Professional Services Agreement with Connecticut Education Network to provide internet services for the Department of Education.
- 8.2 The Committee on Finance recommends that the Waterbury Board of Education approve a State of Connecticut Purchase of Service Contract for the Support for Pregnant and Parenting Teens, Women, Fathers, and Their Families (SPPT) Program.
- 8.3 The Committee of the Whole recommends that the Waterbury Board of Education approve a Memorandum of Understanding/Program Acknowledgment with Connecticut Military Department for STARBASE CT for the academic year 2018-19.
- 8.4 The Committee on Building and School Facilities recommends 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
R. Arroyo	Enlightenment café: Mondays, 2/25, 3/25, 4/29, 5/20, 5:00-7:00 pm (Community dinner-Meals with enlightenment family)
G. Garfman	Rotella café: Wed., Feb. 6, 6:00-7:30 pm (UPSEU union meeting)
M.A. Marold	Rotella comm. rm.: Thurs., Feb. 14, 8:30 am - 2:30 pm (Practices training for Parent Liaisons) Rotella café: Sat., June 8 th 4:30-7:30 pm (Daddy-Daughter Dance)
B. Washington	WAMS atrium: 3/5, 2:00-4:30 pm & 3/6, 5:00-9:00 pm (Murder Mystery Dinner) (Snow dates: 3/13 & 3/15) WAMS courtyard-bus lane: Sat., April 27, 10 am – 3 pm (senior class car wash)
P. Poulter	Regan all-purpose rm.: Wed., Feb. 6, 5:30 - 7:30 pm (Literacy/Movie Night)
M. Vagnini	WAMS recital hall: Mon., May 20, 2:00 - 5:00 pm & Tues., May 21, 4 - 8 pm (MAD Solos)
M. Bergin	Sprague gym: Tues., Feb. 19, 5:00 - 7:00 pm (Family Night) (snow date: 2/26) Sprague gym: Fri., Mar. 8, 8 am – 3 pm (CPR/First Aide Training) Rotella aud.: Fri., Mar. 8, 8 am – 3 pm (Prof. Development)

M. Hulse	Kingsbury gym, café: Thurs., Feb. 21, 5:00 - 6:00 pm (Math Night) Kingsbury gym, café: Thurs., April 11, 5:00 - 7:00 pm (Community Day)
L. Andrzejewski	Crosby café: Thurs., April 4, 6:00 - 10:00 pm (School Dance)
T. Doyle	Career Academy gym & café: Fri., April 5, 5:00 - 8:30 pm (Broadway Review)
N. Hutchinson	WAMS atrium: Fri., April 12, 5:00-8:30 pm (m/s red carpet dance)
Sch. Bus. Off.	Wilby café, gym, aud.: Fri., Sat., Sun., March 8, 9, & 10 (Robotics event)
C. Altieri	Rotella café: Tues., Feb. 26, 5:45 - 7:00 pm (school Zumba night)
I. Cruz	Maloney café: Wed., Feb. 27, 5 - 8:30 pm (Black History Night) (snow date: 3/6)
T. Rinaldi	WAMS café & classroom: Mon., April 8, 5:30 - 8:30 pm (parents' workshop)
G. Perugini	WAMS gym: Tues., Feb. 26, 2:30 - 3:30 pm (Unified sports vs Pomperaug)
K. Effes	WAMS atrium: Wed., May 8, 6:00 - 7:30 pm and Sat., May, 10:00 am - 11:30 am (new student orientation)
M. A. Marold	NEMS media center: Mon., Feb. 11, 6 – 8 pm (snow date: 2/12/19) WMS media center: Wed., Feb. 13, 6 – 8 pm (snow date: 2/25/19) West Side media center: Tues., Feb. 19, 6 – 8 pm (snow date: 2/20/19) (A Portrait of a Graduate community meeting)
M. Valletta	Wilby café & gym: Fri., March 22, 6:00 - 10:00 pm (Senior Night)
M. Bergin	Sprague gym: Wed., Mar. 13, 4:30 - 7:00 pm (Pre-school Family Night)
T. Rinaldi	WAMS café: Tues., Feb. 19, 6 – 7 pm (snow date: 2/20) (8 th Gr. course selection)
Blue Col. Union	Kennedy aud.: Sun., Feb. 10, 9 - 10 am (info meeting on union contract)
Gladys Wright	Reed café: Wed., Mar. 27, 4:30 - 7:00 pm (Title I District Parent Council mtg.)
*J. Reed	WSMS café: Sat., Feb. 23, 8 am – 4 pm (Robotics competition)
*M. Rocco	W. Cross gym: Wed., Feb. 27, 5:00 - 8:30 pm (Family Literacy Night)
*A. Jorge	Crosby lib.: Fri., March 8, 7:30 am - 3:30 pm (Bilingual ESL Dept.)
*N. Steck	WAMS apron stage: 2/22, 3/1, 8:30 am - 11:00 am and 2/27, 3:30 - 6:00 pm (Community forum) (snow date: 3/6 3:30-6:00 pm)

- 8.5 The Committee on Building and School Facilities recommends the Waterbury Board of Education approve of the use of school facilities by outside organizations subject to fees and insurance as required:

GROUP	FACILITIES AND DATES/TIMES
Heart & Sole Dance	Rotella aud., café, 3 rms.: Wed., June 26, 4–10 pm; Fr., June 28, 4:30- 9:30, and Sat., June 29, 1:30 - 9:30 pm (Dance Recital)
Jill Medina	
Porter & Chester	Kennedy aud.: Thurs., May 9, 3:30 - 7:30 pm (graduation ceremony)

REQUESTING WAIVERS:

Disting. Women of CT.	Crosby aud., rm.: Sat. Mar. 2 & Sun. Mar. 3. 9 am – 7 pm	
Laura Thomas	(awards ceremony)	(\$1,848.)
Wtby. Knights	Wilby aud., café: Sunday, Feb. 24,	
C. Jones	(awards ceremony)	(\$588.)
Yeshiva K'Tana of Wtby.	Crosby aud.: Wed., Mar. 6, 5:30 - 8:30 pm, rehearsal and	
S. Metz	Sun., Mar. 10, 10 am – 3 pm, performance	(\$840.)
Chabad Lubaultch	Kingsbury gym: Sun., Feb. 17, 12:30 - 3:30 pm, (puppet show)	(\$168.)
J. Eisenbach/L. Berber	Kingsbury gym: Sun., Apr. 7, 2:00 - 5:00 pm (crafting project)	(\$168.)

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

Girl Scouts of CT.	Carrington café: Tuesdays 3/19-5/21 2:45-4:15 pm
D. Thompson	(afterschool troop meetings)
	Regan rm.: Mondays 3/18 – 5/13/19 2:50-4:15 pm
	(afterschool troop meetings)

	WSMS parking lot: Sat., March 2, 7 am – 3 pm (cookie pick-up)
CT. Rebound D. Parker	Bucks Hill gym: Tues., & Thurs., 5:30 - 9:00 pm, 2/5-7/25/19 (basketball program)
Rivera Mem. Found. J. Ocasio	Reed café: Mon., March 11, 4:30-7:45 pm (Truth About Gangs Seminar)
Bunker Hill Sports N. Meglio	Bunker Hill café: Mon., Feb. 11, Mon., Mar. 4, Wed., Mar. 6 5:30-8:00 pm (sports sign-ups)

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

9 . ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT

There were no items removed from the Consent Calendar.

10. COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL PERSONNEL

10.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Stacy L. Kozlowski as Supervisor of Special Education effective immediately.

BROWN: Discussion?

SUPERINTENDENT: I would like to introduce Ms. Melissa Baldwin who will make a formal introduction and welcome to our new staff.

BALDWIN: Good evening everyone, Melissa Baldwin, Director of Special Education. Stacy is an 18 ½ year veteran of Waterbury Public Schools. She lives in Thomaston and has been married for 13 years. Her two boys ages 10 and 6 attend Maloney Magnet School, they are here with her tonight. Stacey attended East Farms School which many of you know now as Generali. Stacy has a Bachelors Degree in Special Education with a cross-endorsement in elementary education. In addition she received her Masters of Education from the University of Bridgeport and Administrator Certificate from Sacred Heart University. She plans to continue her higher education by enrolling in an autism and ABA program in order to provide the utmost supervision to our autism program. Stacey has served as a special education teacher for several elementary schools and was nominated by her colleagues as Teacher of the Year four years in a row. Stacy has volunteered for numerous committees for almost two decades in order to grow her profession. She was chosen as the Interim Supervisor of Special Education for various schools over the past year and a half. She currently supervises the district's K-12 autism program and is a member of the member of the Restraint and Seclusion Legislation Committee. Thank you. And I highly endorse her.

BROWN: Any other comments? All in favor, opposed, abstain. Motion carries unanimously. Congratulations.

(applause)

KOZLOWSKI: I would like to thank the Board of Education Commissioners and Dr. Ruffin for this unbelievable opportunity. I would like to thank Melissa Baldwin and

Darren Schwartz for allowing me to showcase my ability to be an effective administrator in the interim supervisor position. Mrs. Baldwin has always had an open door policy providing advice, support, and guidance that I greatly appreciate and have learned so much from her leadership style. I also like to thank my fellow colleagues and administrators over the past 18 ½ years. My administrators have built my capacity as a leader by allowing me to take on leadership roles throughout these years. I have taken all the experience and expertise of my colleagues to build my skillset. I can truly say without a doubt we have some of the most talented and dedicated professionals working for our school system. Last but not least I would like to thank my husband, my boys, and my parents who have supported and helped me achieve my dreams. I look forward to continuing my tenor with Waterbury Public Schools in this new role and I will continue to advocate for and support our special needs population. Thank you.

(applause)

11. COMMITTEE ON POLICY & LEGISLATION

11.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Jason Van Stone, it was voted unanimously to approve the following addition/revision to the Bylaws of the Board of Education (9010):

Duties of President:

d) The President or his/her designee will conduct orientation/training for all new Board Members.

SWEENEY: This is the second reading of that bylaw.

BROWN: Thank you. Any comments? Vice President.

HARVEY: I am very pleased that we are moving forward with this particular bylaw. There was a need to, or has been a need to have orientation for our new members. Now this is taking nothing away from anyone wishing to run for the Board of Education that they do their homework, that they sit in and watch our meetings and try to learn about the processes on the Board of Ed but I noticed, and other Commissioners have noticed, that there are times when our new members have to learn about the processes, learn about how we do things here in Waterbury in terms of running meetings, etc. So after analyzing and looking at different things that are done in other districts, I felt it was important to bring this forward. And we did discuss this a couple of times in our policy meetings but it's important that we, those who are experienced, help our new members along. We have that responsibility not only for our students to help that but to help our district and to help it so our committee members hit the ground running. So I am pleased that we are moving forward with this but I would like to see a little bit more written in our bylaws in terms of what that will involve. We have CAFE, classes that are offered, that's fine, but learning about what we do and how we run our meetings I believe will help our new committee members or Board of Education members to adapt to the Board of Ed. So I am very pleased that we are moving forward with this. I look forward to adding a little bit more to the policy or to the bylaws in terms of what we will train the candidate on and particularly how long that orientation process will last. So I'm again just thankful that we're doing this. Thank you Madam President.

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

11.2 Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Jason Van Stone, it was voted unanimously to approve the revised Tuberculosis Control Screening Policy (5141.31), as attached.

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 Harvey, it was voted unanimously to receive and place on file items 12.1 through 12.7 as listed:

12.1 Grant funded appointments:

- Bartley, Elizabeth – 21st Century Afterschool Program, salary per contract.
- Caceres, Laura – Temporary Parent Liaison, WSMS, part time, \$15.12 p/hour, non-union and without benefits, funded by Title I Public.
- Coniku, Vistela – Recreation Specialist, part time, \$12 p/hour, non-union and without benefits, funded by 21st Century.
- Harrell, Donnica – Recreation Specialist, part time, \$12 p/hour, non-union and without benefits, funded by 21st Century.
- Irizarry, Jorge - 21st Century Afterschool Program, salary per contract.
- Kozloski, June – Substitute Teacher, 21st Century Afterschool Program, salary per contract.
- Stein, Chaya – Tutor, Yeshiva K’Tana, part time, \$32 p/hour, non-union and without benefits, funded by Title I Non-Public.
- Stephens, Lindsey – Tutor, Yeshiva K’Tana, part time, \$32 p/hour, non-union and without benefits, funded by Title I Non-Public.
- Sullivan, Mariannina – Substitute Teacher, 21st Century Afterschool Program, salary per contract.

12.2 Wilson Family Resource Center Books and Basketball Before School Program appointments, Monday through Thursday, 7 – 8 a.m., beginning 02/19/19, funded by Wilson FRC Grant:

- Kelly Fengler – Teacher
- Donna Orsatti – Paraprofessional
- Linda Fitzgerald – Tutor
- Rebecca James – Paraprofessional
- Amy Densmore – Title I/Basic Skills Coach

12.3 Teacher hires:

<u>Name</u>		<u>Assignment</u>		<u>Effective</u>
Rich	Lawrence	WAMS HS	Math	1/2/2019
Cruz Irizarry	Gisselle	Crosby	Bil. Science	11/6/2018
Malinosky	Raymond	State Street	Special Ed.	1/14/2019
Walsh	Molly	Reed	Speech Path.	10/22/2018
Pagnoni	Philip	North End	Math Lab	1/28/2019
Sawyers	Hillary	WAMS	HS Math	1/28/2019

12.4 Teacher transfers:

Albino, Christine- from Sprague Grade 1 to Driggs Reading/Title I Literacy,
effective 01/22/19.

12.5 Teacher transfers effective 2019/20 school year:

LAST	FIRST	FROM	TO	EFFECTIVE
Alexandrou	Steven	WMS Math Lab (Int.)	WMS Math Lab (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Amodeo-Titley	Nichole	WMS Art	KHS Art	2019-20 SY
Arbachauskas	Mary	Bucks Hill Special Ed – CBL (Int.)	Bucks Hill Special Ed – CBL (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Arias	Eulini	Bucks Hill Bil. Gr 3	Wilby Spanish	2019-20 SY
Barbieri	Amber	Bunker Hill Special Ed BDLC Gr K-2 (Int.)	Bunker Hill Special Ed BDLC Gr K-2 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Barnick	Sara	Chase SLP (Int.)	Chase SLP (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Battaglia	William	CHS Tech Ed-Electronics/ Graphics (Int.)	CHS Tech Ed-Electronics/ Graphics (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Brown	Edith	Tinker Gr 2 (Int.)	Tinker Gr 2 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Brown	Charlene	Duggan Library Media (Int.)	Duggan Library Media (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Burke	Kaitlin	KHS PE/Health (Int.)	KHS PE/Health (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Caffrey	Emily	Wilby Special Ed – Resource (Int.)	Wilby Special Ed – Resource (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Carey	Kevin	WCA Gr 11 Spanish (Int.)	WCA Gr 11 Spanish (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Calabro	Marissa	WMS Special Ed	Carrington Lib/Media	2019-20 SY
Carr	Howard	Wilby Tech Ed – Computers (Int.)	Wilby Tech Ed – Computers (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Cipriano	Stacy	Regan Gr 2 (Int.)	Regan Gr 2 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Costa	Eileen	KHS Allied Health (Int.)	KHS Allied Health (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Cruz	Gisselle	CHS Bil Science (Int.)	CHS Bil Science (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Culver	Edwin	CHS Science/Physics (Int.)	CHS Science/ Physics (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
D'Alessio	Jennifer	Hopeville Gr 4	Duggan Gr 4	2019-20 SY
Daley	Samantha	CHS Math (Int.)	CHS Math (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Daniels	Christi	CHS Science (Int.)	CHS Science (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
DeFoe	Audra	State Street Special Ed BDLC Gr 3-4 (Int.)	State Street Special Ed – BDLC Gr 3-4 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
DeLucia	Patricia	Buck Hill Annex Pre-K SPED (Int.)	Buck Hill Annex Pre-K SPED (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Dickey	Maegan	Regan Gr K (Int.)	Regan Gr K (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Doolan	Heidi	Wilby Music	Carrington Music	2019-20 SY
Drewry	Emily	KHS ELA Gr 9 (Int.)	KHS ELA Gr 9 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Dunn Brown	Fallon Gay	WSMS Theater Arts (Int.)	WSMS Theater Arts (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Evanoski	Jessica	CHS Special Ed (Int.)	CHS Special Ed (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Fernandez	Arelys	Reed Library Media (Int.)	Reed Library Media	2019-20 SY

Troche			(Perm.)	
Ferreira	Daniel	CHS Music (Int.)	CHS Music (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Field	Lauren	Wendell Gr 2 (Int.)	Wendell Gr 2 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Frank	Elizabeth	NEMS Numeracy Title I (Int.)	NEMS Numeracy Title I (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Gaipa	Timothy	WMS Literacy Unified Arts (Int.)	WMS Literacy Unified Arts (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Giacomi	Melissa	Chase Gr 2 (Int.)	Chase Gr 2 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Giannelli	Alexandra	Tinker Gr 3 (Int.)	Tinker Gr 3 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Gonzalez	Stephanie	Chase Bilingual Gr 2 (Int.)	Chase Bilingual Gr 2 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Gosturani	Marinela	WSMS Math Gr 7 (Int.)	WSMS Math Gr 7 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Grillo	Heather	Wilson Special Ed	Driggs Special Ed	2019-20 SY
Henebry	Colleen	CHS Special Ed – ABA (Int.)	CHS Special Ed – ABA (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Herbert	Sharell	WMS ELA Gr 7 (Int.)	WMS ELA Gr 7 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Itano-Malstron	Kanako	Maloney Japanese (Int.)	Maloney Japanese (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Johnson	Koral	Carrington Gr 4 (Int.)	Carrington Gr 4 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Johnson	Tennyson	CHS Tech Ed – Video Production (Int.)	CHS Tech Ed Video Production (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Jones	Lauren	Driggs Art (Int.)	Driggs Art (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Kuhsel	Robert	WCA Gr 10 & 11 Tech Ed Manufacturing (Int.)	WCA Gr 10 & 11 Tech Ed Manufacturing (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Kulesza	Kimberly	WSMS ELA (Int.)	WSMS ELA (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
LaBarba	Louis	NEMS Science (Int.)	NEMS Science (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Labbe	Jennifer	Chase Music (Int.)	Chase Music (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Lance	Michele	Bunker Hill Gr 4 (Int.)	Bunker Hill Gr 4 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Levasseur	Armand	WCA Math HS (Int.)	WCA Math HS (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Lundquist	Jessica	WMS ELA Gr 7 (Int.)	WMS ELA Gr 7 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Mayes	Tristan	Reed Music (Int.)	Reed Music (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
McConaghy	Michelle	Numeracy Facilitator/ Coach HS Districtwide (Int.)	Numeracy Facilitator/ Coach HS Districtwide (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
McKeeman	Erin	Gilmartin Gr 3	Maloney Gr K	2019-20 SY
McKenna	Eibhilin	Chase Gr 5 (Int.)	Chase Gr 5 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Mirles Vazquez	Charito	Chase Bilingual Gr 2 (Int.)	Chase Bilingual Gr 2 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Mitchell	Deszreen	Bunker Hill Gr 5 (Int.)	Bunker Hill Gr 5 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Muratori	Katie	Kingsbury Gr 3 (Int.)	Kingsbury Gr 3 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Napoli	Nicolas	NEMS Tech Ed – Woodshop (Int.)	NEMS Tech Ed – Woodshop (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Nazario	Jonathan	Regan/Wendell Music (Int.)	Regan/Wendell Music (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Nigam	Nirupama	KHS Science/	KHS Science/	2019-20 SY

		Chemistry (Int.)	Chemistry (Perm.)	
Nowak	Carolyn	WMS Special Ed	Walsh Special Ed	2019-20 SY
O'Connor	Jessica	Sprague Gr 3 (Int.)	Sprague Gr 3 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
O'Hara	Meaghan	Driggs Gr 4 (Int.)	Driggs Gr 4 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Olmo	Melody	Bucks Hill Gr 4 (Int.)	Bucks Hill Gr 4 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Osborne	Arielle	Kingsbury Gr 4 (Int.)	Kingsbury Gr 4 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Osterhout	Alexa	WMS Special Ed	Sprague Special Ed	2019-20 SY
Pike	Amanda	State Street Sp Ed (Int.)	State Street Sp Ed (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Plaza-Rodriguez	Katerine	CHS Bil History (Int.)	CHS Bil History (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Porter	Heather	NEMS Math Gr 8 (Int.)	NEMS Math Gr 8 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Pritchard	Molly	Regan/Washington Library Media (Int.)	Regan/Washington Library Media (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Rangel Garcia	Alicia	Chase Bilingual Gr 3 (Int.)	Chase Bilingual Gr 3 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Renzoni	Matthew	Enlightenment PE Health (Int.)	Enlightenment PE Health (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Richards	Randall	Wilby Business (Int.)	Wilby Business (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Rivera-Saez	Briselle	WMS Bilingual Science (Int.)	WMS Bilingual Science (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Scarfone	Concetta	WAMS Spanish/Italian (Int.)	WAMS Spanish/Italian (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Schrader	Jordan	WMS Science Gr 7 (Int.)	WMS Science Gr 7 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Singley	Paul	Wilby ELA (Int.)	Wilby ELA (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Spinella	Abby	Chase Gr 5 (Int.)	Chase Gr 5 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Suarez	Wanda	CHS Spanish (Int.)	CHS Spanish (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Thibodeau	Hannah	WMS Health (Int.)	WMS Health (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Timaul	Simarprett	Regan Gr 4 (Int.)	Regan Gr 4 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Tyrrell	Nikole	Regan Gr 2 (Int.)	Regan Gr 2 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Vinca	Shipe	Chase Gr 5 (Int.)	Chase Gr 5 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
White	Nancy	Bunker Hill Special Ed - Resource	NEMS Special Ed	2019-20 SY
Yuiza	Gladynell	WSMS Special Ed - BDLC (Int.)	WSMS Special Ed - BDLC (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Zajac	Olivia	Tinker Gr 5 (Int.)	Tinker Gr 5 (Perm.)	2019-20 SY
Zupperoli	Robert	Regan/Washington Art (Int.)	Regan/Washington Art (Perm.)	2019-20 SY

12.6 Resignations:

Fonseca, Fatima – Generali Social Worker, effective 01/16/19.

Green, Natalie – WMS Grade 7 ELA, effective 01/25/19.

Metaj, Robin – Carrington Library Media Specialist, effective 01/09/19.

Rich, Lawrence – WAMS Math, effective 01/18/19.

Ronalter, Joanne – Driggs Special Education, effective 01/25/19.

12.7 Retirements:

Burgos, Elizabeth – WSMS Science Grade 6, effective 06/30/19.

DeBonis, Michael – Adult Education History, effective 06/30/19.

Giuffre, Maureen – Duggan Pre-k School Readiness, effective 02/28/19.

Mobilio, John – WAMS Music/Performing Arts Department Head, eff. 06/30/19.

Post, Bruce – WAMS Theater, effective 06/30/19.

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

SWEENEY: I would like to take a few moments to extend my sincere thanks to Dr. Ruffin, Will Clark, and Jeff Hunter for immediately addressing a safety issue at a bus stop. As we all too often hear cars are running through the bus stop lights. In this case from behind and approaching the bus while students are crossing what already is a very busy road. Jeff Hunter took action to insure the bus would leave students on their side of the street so now no student will need to cross the road. Will Clark has contact the Police Department for their assistance with law enforcement. I am grateful for their quick response to insure the safety of our students. Will reminded me that unfortunately this is not an isolated incident, this happens throughout the City. I am appalled that there are drivers who think where they need to go is more important than the safety and the lives of our children. This district will not tolerate such blatant disregard for life and law. I urge anyone who witnesses a vehicle running the bus stop lights to report the incident to the district or the police. Our children deserve better. Thank you.

BROWN: Thank you. Any other New Business? Commissioner Awwad.

AWWAD: I just wanted to thank Dr. Ruffin and other members of the administration. You might have read in the paper that the Workforce Board was successful in securing a Youth Build Grant which is really quite an opportunity for those students who didn't realize the opportunity that they had when they were enrolled in our district high schools. So we're working diligently to put together a program. Dr. has been very responsive. The Adult Ed department will be assisting us in providing GED training so that those students not only secure occupational skills but secure their GED as well. So I just wanted to thank you for all that. We will be recruiting in earnest. I'll just give you a head's up since this is on the airway, we're going to look to recruit about 90 students over the next three or four months. From those 90 students they'll be asked to participate in a two-week mental toughness camp and from that two-week mental toughness camp we'll choose 30 to participate in the program. Those that aren't chosen in the first round will have the opportunity to compete again to be chosen in the second round and again we'll engage to seek 90 students to participate in what will be the mental toughness camp for the second round. We are extremely interested in that. We believe that Habitat for Humanity who is a building partner has really stepped up and we're really excited about the opportunity. So stay tuned. You'll see us get out there strongly on social media to promote the program and we're gonna ask the district to assist us with that as well. So we're very excited about the opportunity and again Dr. I would like to thank you for the support you showed us early on. And two other programs that we're doing I just want to bring a highlight two – our Future Bankers

Academy which was actually featured on the Chamber's website today, will have its 12 participants, we're going to do a little signing day that we're gonna work with you guys to develop so when you get picked to go play basketball with Villanova you get to wear a hat and sign so now that these students are going to go to work at the banks we're gonna have the bank presidents come in and sit and sign with the students. So that's their signing day.

And lastly we just saw 14 students finish our afterschool manufacturing program getting to NIMS level certification in manufacturing but more important they took what's called the National Career Readiness Certification Exam, you can place a bronze, a silver, a gold and a platinum and what that does is identifies your strengths in reading for information, problem solving, and those types of workforce skills that an employer would look for. So I've given this test to adults, we struggle to get bronze and silver out of our adults, well our after-school program of students made up from our comprehensive high schools scored bronze, silver, gold, and platinum. So our kids are doing well and I think we need to do a better job of promoting, we're getting there but we have to continue to promote the good things in our district.

BROWN: Thank you. Vice President Harvey.

HARVEY: Thank you. As has been mentioned earlier that it is Black History Month, Black History Month runs from February 1 to February 28. It is as a result of historian Carter G. Wilson, first started out as a Black History Week and then it went to a Black History Month. So I'm very pleased to hear the activities that will be throughout the district. I wish there were more but again I'm very pleased. I know Walsh School has something planned for tomorrow and I think we did have WAMS. In regards to the legislation before the General Assembly, Representative Bobby Gibson has, is promoting bill HB7082 for the study of African American History. There is a public hearing on March 6, that's next Wednesday, happens to be my birthday, from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Legislative Office Building, Room 2C. So if anyone wants to give testimony in regards to this bill, again it's bill HB7082, March 6 from one to seven at the LOB in room 2C please feel free to go and give your testimony. Thank you Madam President.

BROWN: I just want to give a thank you to Joe Gorman who's here tonight and Waterbury Health Department. We have been working very hard in the district to address the prevalence of asthma in our children and I'm happy to say every one of our schools now has a nebulizer and we also, children who are in stress and forget their inhaler, the school nurse now has packets of the albuterol that can be hooked up to the nebulizer so hopefully it will prevent the child from having to go to the ER and hopefully be able to help that student immediately. And I'm very excited about that opportunity in addressing asthma. We have other things planned to do that and we welcome the community input and support for that. A lot of the triggers of asthma rally are things that we need to be aware of – dust, rugs, all those things that inhibit the breathing passage way. I'm not an expert on it but I do, I'm very excited that we have a team in Waterbury, a cross-sector team working on trying to address this in a very systematic way. So I think that the more we can do to help our kids the better, there's a direct correlation between health and student achievement. If our kids are not in school, if our kids are sick, then it inhibits learning. So I think we need to pay a lot more attention to the

health of our children when we're looking at the achievement gap and some of the factors. So I'm very excited to be working with Mr. Gorman and the Health Department to rally look at the impact of health on our students.

AWWAD: Could I ask a question about that? Joe, you may need to come up here. Is there a standing order for the student?

BROWN: Yes. They would have to have a standing order.

AWWAD: And what are we doing about mouth pieces? So we have multiple ones?

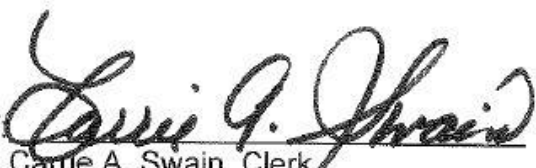
BROWN: Oh yes.

AWWAD: It's a fair question.

BROWN: They're discarded, they come in individual packets, they're disposable. No Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Commissioner Harvey and duly seconded by Commissioner Hernandez, it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:22 p.m.

ATTEST 
Carrie A. Swain, Clerk
Board of Education