### Board of Education

#### REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, May 18, 2017 – 6:30 p.m. Waterbury Arts Magnet School, 16 South Elm Street, Waterbury, CT

### AGENDA

- 1. Silent Prayer
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
- 3. Roll Call
- 4. Communications
- **Public Addresses the Board**: All speakers are encouraged to submit prepared written statements to the Commissioners. Comments shall be limited to a maximum of five minutes. There will be no responses this evening to any questions or concerns raised; they will be referred to the Administration for review and response.
- 6. Superintendent's Announcements
- 7. President's Comments
- 8. Consent Calendar
- 8.1 *Committee on Finance:* Request approval to apply for the CT Department of Administrative Services "Alliance District's School Buildings Grant Program/Second Round".
- 8.2 *Committee on Finance:* Request approval of a Construction Contract with Waters Construction Company, Inc. for pavement preservation services at Wilby and Crosby High, and North End and Wallace Middle Schools.
- 8.3 *Committee on Finance:* Request approval of Amendment 3 to the Agreement with College Board.
- 8.4 *Committee on Finance:* Request approval to apply for the 2017-2019 CSDE Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Entitlement Grant.
- 8.5 *Committee on Finance:* Request approval of an Agreement with Area Cooperative Educational Services to provide educational services to students per their IEP.
- 8.6 *Committee on Finance:* Request approval of an Agreement with American School for the Deaf to provide educational services to students per their IEP.
- 8.7 *Committee on Finance:* Request approval of an Agreement with Benhaven, Inc. to provide educational services to students per their IEP.

- 8.8 Committee on Finance: Request approval of an Agreement with Specialized Education of Connecticut d/b/a High Roads School to provide educational services to students per their IEP.
- 8.9 *Committee on Finance:* Request approval of an Agreement with St. Vincent's Special Needs Center, Inc. to provide educational services to students per their IEP.
- 8.10 *Committee on Curriculum:* Request approval of the Department of Education's Educational Technology Plan.
- 8.11 *Committee on School Facilities & Grounds:* Use of school facilities by school organizations and/or City departments.
- 8.12 *Committee on School Facilities & Grounds:* Use of school facilities by outside organizations.
- 8.13 *Committee on School Facilities & Grounds:* Waiver request of Shekinah Christian Church for the use of Wilby Auditorium.

#### 9. Items Removed from Consent Calendar

#### 10. Superintendent's Notification to the Board

#### 10.1 Athletic appointments effective immediately:

Colgan, Mary – Unified Sports Lead, NEMS.

DiGiovanni, Stacey – Unified Sports Lead, WAMS.

Elsemore, Lisa – Softball Coach (split), WSMS.

Jannetty, Dana – Year-long Unified Sports Associate, WMS.

Klein, Jeremy – Baseball Coach, WMS.

Palladino, Erica – Softball Coach (split), WSMS.

Pearl, Amy – Cross Country Coach, NEMS.

Perugini, Gianni – Unified Sports Associate Coach, WAMS.

Tansley, Stephen – Unified Sports Associate Coach, WAMS.

#### 10.2 Appointments:

Theriault, Michael – Summer School Coordinator, SOAR to Success.

#### 10.3 Grant funded appointments:

Correa, Marlene – Recreation Specialist, 21<sup>st</sup> Century After School Program, maximum of 10 hours p/week at \$12 p/hour.

Gibson, Yamia – Recreation Specialist, 21<sup>st</sup> Century After School Program, maximum of 10 hours p/week at \$12 p/hour.

Holguin-Gil, Sameiry – Recreation Specialist, 21<sup>st</sup> Century After School Program, maximum of 10 hours p/week at \$12 p/hour.

Kanwal, Sibgha – Recreation Specialist, 21<sup>st</sup> Century After School Program, maximum of 10 hours p/week at \$12 p/hour.

Samih, Hadir – Recreation Specialist, 21<sup>st</sup> Century After School Program, maximum of 10 hours p/week at \$12 p/hour.

### 10.4 <u>Teacher transfers effective August 2017:</u>

Azzara Rachel Chase Gr 2 Temp Chase Gr 2 Perm Bacote Tiffany WMS Special Ed Rotella Special Ed Barone Stephen WSMS Gr 7 Soc. St. Temp WSMS Gr 7 Soc. St. Perm Briggs Alyson Reed Gr 7 ELA Temp Reed Gr 7 ELA Perm Prown Cara WHS Special Ed NEMS Special Ed Perm Special Ed NEMS Special Ed Byrnes Kristina Bucks Hill Annex Pre-K SPED Perm SPED Temp Special Ed Bucks Hill Annex Pre-K SPED Perm Special Ed Bucks Hill Annex Pre-K SPED Perm Special Ed Bucks Hill Gr 3 Tinker Gr 4 Bucks Hill Literacy/ Title I Bucks Hill Annex Pre-K Special Ed Specia	NAME	T	FROM	ТО
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	Walczyszyn	Magdalena		Wilson Art
1	Williams	Alana	WSMS Gr 6 ELA	WSMS Gr 6 Math

#### 10.5 Retirements:

Buerkle, Michele – Principal, WHS, effective 01/31/18. Frigon, Margaret – Allied Health, WCA, effective 08/31/17. Haxhi, Rami – Music Teacher, Tinker School, effective July 1, 2017.

#### 10.6 Resignations:

Brown, Stacey – Science, Reed School, effective 05/19/17. Cheatham, Major (Doug) – Speech/Language Pathologist, eff. 06/21/17. Cook, Michael – Information Technology, WCA, effective 05/12/17. Rubock, Naomi – Special Education, CHS, effective 06/30/17.

- 11. Unfinished Business of Preceding Meeting Only
- 12. Other Unfinished, New, and Miscellaneous Business
- **13. Executive Session** for discussion concerning the appointment, employment, performance, evaluation, health, or dismissal of a public officer or employee.
- 14. Adjournment

Waterbury, Connecticut

### **COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Item #8.1

May 18, 2017

To the Board of Education Waterbury, CT

Ladies and Gentlemen:

With the approval of the Committee on Finance, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of the submission of the CT Department of Administrative Services "Alliance District's School Buildings Grant Program/Second Round", as attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:	
Charles E. Pagano	

Waterbury, Connecticut

### **COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Item #8.2

May 18, 2017

To the Board of Education Waterbury, CT

Ladies and Gentlemen:

With the approval of the Committee on Finance, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of a Construction Contract with Waters Construction Company, Incorporated, for pavement preservation services at Wilby and Crosby High and North End and Wallace Middle Schools.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved.	
Charles E. Pagano	

Waterbury, Connecticut

### **COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Item #8.3

May 18, 2017

To the Board of Education Waterbury, CT

Ladies and Gentlemen:

With the approval of the Committee on Finance, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of Amendment 3 to the College Board Contract/College Readiness System Solutions Agreement with College Board to provide College Board exams, products, and services related to College Readiness System.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:	
Charles E. Pagano	

Waterbury, Connecticut

### **COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Item #8.4

May 18, 2017

To the Board of Education Waterbury, CT

Ladies and Gentlemen:

With the approval of the Committee on Finance, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission be granted to apply for the 2017-2019 Connecticut State Department of Education's Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Entitlement Grant.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:	
Charles E. Pagano	WELLOW AND ADDRESS OF THE STREET

Waterbury, Connecticut

### **COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Item #8.5

May 18, 2017

To the Board of Education Waterbury, CT

Ladies and Gentlemen:

With the approval of the Committee on Finance, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of an Agreement with Area Cooperative Educational Services to provide educational services to students with disabilities per their Individual Education Program.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:		
Charles F	Pagano	 

Waterbury, Connecticut

### **COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Item #8.6

May 18, 2017

To the Boar	d d	of	Education
Waterbury,	СТ	Γ	

Ladies and Gentlemen:

With the approval of the Committee on Finance, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of an Agreement with American School for the Deaf to provide educational services to students per their IEP.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:		
Charles F	Dogono	

Waterbury, Connecticut

### **COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Item #8.7

May 18, 2017

To the Board of Education Waterbury, CT

Ladies and Gentlemen:

With the approval of the Committee on Finance, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of an Agreement with Benhaven, Inc. to provide educational services to students per their IEP.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:	
Charles E. Pagano	

Waterbury, Connecticut

### **COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Item #8.8

May 18, 2017

To the Board of Education Waterbury, CT

Ladies and Gentlemen:

With the approval of the Committee on Finance, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of an Agreement with Specialized Education of Connecticut d/b/a High Roads School to provide educational services to students per their IEP.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:		
Charles F	Pagano	 

Waterbury, Connecticut

### **COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Item #8.9

May 18, 2017

To the Board of Education Waterbury, CT

Ladies and Gentlemen:

With the approval of the Committee on Finance, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of an Agreement with St. Vincent's Special Needs Center, Inc., to provide educational services to students per their IEP.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:	
Charles E. Pagano	

Waterbury, Connecticut

### **COMMITTEE ON CURRICULUM**

Item #8.10

May 18, 2017

To the Board of Education Waterbury, CT

Ladies and Gentlemen:

With the approval of the Committee on Curriculum, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of the Waterbury Public School's Educational Technology Plan, as attached, pending appointment of community, parent, and students members to the Planning Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Approvea:			
Thomas Va	an Stone, S	 Sr.	

### Waterbury, Connecticut

#### **COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FACILITIES & GROUNDS**

Item #8.11

May 18, 2017

To the Board of Education Waterbury, CT

Ladies and Gentlemen:

With the approval of the Committee on School Facilities and Grounds, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of the use of school facilities, at no charge, by the following school organizations and/or City departments:

GROUP	FACILITIES AND DATES/TIMES	
C. Harris	Wilby aud. & lobby: Tues., May 16. 6:00 - 8:30 pm	
	(Book Club awards night)	
M. Hulse	Kingsbury café & gym: Sat., May 13, 8:30 - 11:30 am	
	(100th Celebration/fashion show & bldg. walk-thru)	
R. Abell	Rotella community rm.: Wed., May 17, 12:30 - 3:00 pm	
	(Speech Dept. teacher collaboration)	
T. King-Johnson	WAMS room #224: Thurs., May 25, 2:00 - 4:30 pm (Prom Dress Drive)	
D. Currier	Chase gym: Thurs., May 11, 3:30 - 7:30 pm (Family Health Night)	
T. St. Pierre	Duggan café: Thurs., June 1, 2:30 - 4:30 pm (Parent garden club)	
	(rain date: Fri., June 2 <sup>nd</sup> )	
K. Card	Driggs gym & café: Fri., June 9, 4:00 - 7:00 pm	
	(School Governance Council-Families of Excellence ceremony)	
Blue Collar Union	Kennedy aud.: Sun., June 11, 10 am - 1 pm (membership meeting)	
PTO	Maloney gym: Fri., June 2, 4:00 - 8:00 pm (school dance)	
C. Swain	WAMS Media Center: Thursdays, 6/29, 7/27 & 8/31, 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm	
	(Board workshops)	

Approved:	Respectfully submitted,
	Dr. Kathleen M. Ouellette
John E. Theriault	Superintendent of Schools

Waterbury, Connecticut

#### **COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FACILITIES & GROUNDS**

Item #8.12

May 18, 2017

To the Board of Education Waterbury, CT
Ladies and Gentlemen:

GROUP

John E. Theriault

With the approval of the Committee on School Facilities and Grounds, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of the use of school facilities by outside organizations subject to fees and insurance as required:

FACILITIES AND DATES/TIMES

Camp Revach	Crosby pool: 6/26 to 8/18/17, 2 weekdays 12:30-2:30 pm		
Rabbi Karr	(swim program)		
Albanian Center	Kennedy aud. & rms.: Sat. & Sun. May 20 & 21, noon to 4:00 pm		
Rakip Etemi	(Albanian dance event)		
Shekinah Christian Church	Wilby aud.: Thurs.& Fr., July 6 & 7, 6:00 pm to 11:00 pm		
Jose Reyes	(annual convention)		
GROUPS NOT SUBJECT TO F	EES OR WAIVER DUE TO TIME OF USE OR PREVIOUS WAIVER:		
Erika Cooper	Reed café: Wed., June 14, 6:00 - 8:00 pm		
Wtby. Neighborhood Services	(meeting/catered food)		
P.A.L.	Wilby pool: July 10 thru Aug. 3, Mon. thru Thurs.		
Ofc. C. Amatruda	12:30 to 7:00 pm (learn to swim program)		
Clayton Memorial Church	Crosby track: Sat., July 8, 9:00 am to 12:00 noon		
Rev. Delones Patterson	(annual church walk/use of track only)		
Almost Home/Uplifting Life,	Walsh rooms: 7/5 to 8/18, Mon. thru Fri., 8:30 am - 3:00 pm		
Wtby. Neighborhood Services	(summer program)		
Erika Cooper			
Approved:	Respectfully submitted,		
, FF	roopootanj odomitod;		

Dr. Kathleen M. Ouellette

Superintendent of Schools

Waterbury, Connecticut

### **COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FACILITIES & GROUNDS**

Item #8.13

May 18, 2017

To the Board of Education Waterbury, CT	
Ladies and Gentlemen:	
With the approval of the Committee on Sch Superintendent of Schools recommends approval Christian Church, in the amount of \$1,512.00, for Auditorium on July 6 and 7, 2017.	of the waiver request of Shekinah
	Respectfully submitted,
	Dr. Kathleen M. Ouellette Superintendent of Schools
Approved:	•
John E. Theriault	

### Waterbury, Connecticut

#### SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTIFICATION TO THE BOARD

Item #10.1

May 18, 2017

To the Board of Education Waterbury, CT

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Superintendent of Schools notifies the Board of Education of the following athletic appointments effective immediately:

Colgan, Mary – Unified Sports Lead, NEMS.
DiGiovanni, Stacey – Unified Sports Lead, WAMS.
Elsemore, Lisa – Softball Coach (split), WSMS.
Jannetty, Dana – Year-long Unified Sports Associate, WMS.
Klein, Jeremy – Baseball Coach, WMS.
Palladino, Erica – Softball Coach (split), WSMS.
Pearl, Amy – Cross Country Coach, NEMS.
Perugini, Gianni – Unified Sports Associate Coach, WAMS.
Tansley, Stephen – Unified Sports Associate Coach, WAMS.

Respectfully submitted,

### Waterbury, Connecticut

#### SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTIFICATION TO THE BOARD

Item #10.2

May 18, 2017

To the Board of Education Waterbury, CT

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Superintendent of Schools notifies the Board of Education of the following appointments effective immediately:

Theriault, Michael – Summer School Coordinator, SOAR to Success.

Respectfully submitted,

### Waterbury, Connecticut

#### SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTIFICATION TO THE BOARD

Item #10.3

May 18, 2017

To the Board of Education Waterbury, CT

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Superintendent of Schools notifies the Board of Education of the following grant funded appointments effective immediately:

Correa, Marlene – Recreation Specialist, 21st Century After School Program, maximum of 10 hours p/week at \$12 p/hour.

Gibson, Yamia – Recreation Specialist, 21<sup>st</sup> Century After School Program, maximum of 10 hours p/week at \$12 p/hour.

Holguin-Gil, Sameiry – Recreation Specialist, 21<sup>st</sup> Century After School Program, maximum of 10 hours p/week at \$12 p/hour.

Kanwal, Sibgha – Recreation Specialist, 21<sup>st</sup> Century After School Program, maximum of 10 hours p/week at \$12 p/hour.

Samih, Hadir – Recreation Specialist, 21<sup>st</sup> Century After School Program, maximum of 10 hours p/week at \$12 p/hour.

Respectfully submitted,

### Waterbury, Connecticut

### SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTIFICATION TO THE BOARD

Item #10.4

May 18, 2017

To the Board of Education Waterbury, CT

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Superintendent of Schools notifies the Board of Education of the following teacher transfers effective August 2017:

NAME		FROM	ТО
Alonzo	Joanne	Wilson Gr 3	Washington Gr 3
Azzara	Rachel	Chase Gr 2 Temp	Chase Gr 2 Perm
Bacote	Tiffany	WMS Special Ed	Rotella Special Ed
Barone	Stephen	WSMS Gr 7 Soc. St. Temp	WSMS Gr 7 Soc. St. Perm
Briggs	Alyson	Reed Gr 7 ELA Temp	Reed Gr 7 ELA Perm
Brown	Cara	WHS Special Ed	NEMS Special Ed
Byrnes	Kristina	Bucks Hill Annex Pre-K SPED Temp	Bucks Hill Annex Pre-K SPED Perm
Carroll	Shabana	Rotella Gr 4	Bunker Hill Gr 3
Chasse	Christa	Regan Gr 5	Tinker Gr 4
Ciccone	Melissa	Wilson Reading/Title I	Bucks Hill Literacy/ Title I
Connor	Heather	Bucks Hill Annex Pre-K Special Ed	Districtwide Community Sites Pre-K Special Ed
Couture	David	Tinker BDLC	Tinker Special Ed
Defilio	Rachel	Wilson Gr 5	Tinker Gr 5
Dodge	Melissa	NEMS Special Ed Temp	NEMS Special Ed Perm
Dombrowski	Jason	Regan Gr 4	Maloney Gr 4
Donohue	Kelly	CHS Gr 10 ELA	CHS TAG
Gendron	Courtney	Wendell Cross	Wendell Cross
		Pre-K SPED	Gr K Reg. Ed
Grella	Micaela	CHS Italian Temp	CHS Italian Perm
Jacobs-Vazquez	Shakira (Corrected)	Bucks Hill Gr 5 Temp	Bucks Hill Gr 5 Perm
Liguz	Anna (Corrected)	NEMS Science Gr 6 Temp	NEMS Science Gr 6 Perm
Lucian	David	Duggan/Reed Computer Temp	Duggan/Reed Computer Perm
Marcal	Nicolette	Tinker Gr 4 Temp	Tinker Gr 4 Perm
Matthews	Heather	CHS Special Ed	Enlightenment Sp Ed
Modenese	Heather	NEMS Gr 8 Math Temp	NEMS Gr 8 Math Perm

### Waterbury, Connecticut

Item #10.4 Page 2

Olsen	Lauren	Tinker Gr 1	Maloney Gr 1
Palmer	Christina	Carrington Gr 4	Driggs Gr 4
Pawson	Erica	Walsh Gr K (Involuntary Transfer)	Walsh Writing Gr 1,2,3
Quintana	Michelle	Wendell Cross Gr K (Involuntary Transfer)	Wendell Cross Gr 1
Robalino	Alexandra	Bucks Hill Bilingual Gr 1 Temp	Bucks Hill Bilingual Gr 1 Perm
Saucier	Anne Marie	Reed Special Ed Temp	Reed Special Ed Perm
Shaposhnikova	Marianna	WMS Math	WHS Math
Strumi	Manuela	Chase Gr 2 Temp	Chase Gr 2 Perm
Walczyszyn	Magdalena	Rotella Art	Wilson Art
Williams	Alana	WSMS Gr 6 ELA	WSMS Gr 6 Math

Respectfully submitted,

### Waterbury, Connecticut

#### SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTIFICATION TO THE BOARD

Item #10.5

May 18, 2017

To the Board of Education Waterbury, CT

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Superintendent of Schools notifies the Board of Education of the following retirements:

Buerkle, Michele – Principal, WHS, effective 01/31/18. Frigon, Margaret – Allied Health, WCA, effective 08/31/17. Haxhi, Rami – Music Teacher, Tinker School, effective July 1, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

### Waterbury, Connecticut

### SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTIFICATION TO THE BOARD

Item #10.6

May 18, 2017

To the Board of Education Waterbury, CT

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Superintendent of Schools notifies the Board of Education of the following resignations:

Brown, Stacey – Science, Reed School, effective 05/19/17. Cheatham, Major (Doug) – Speech/Language Pathologist, eff. 06/21/17. Cook, Michael – Information Technology, WCA, effective 05/12/17. Rubock, Naomi – Special Education, CHS, effective 06/30/17.

Respectfully submitted,

# Communications



Packet week ending: 5/16/17



236 Grand Street Waterbury, CT 06702 (203) 574-6761

### The City of Waterbury

#### Connecticut

Department of Human Resources
Office of the Civil Service Commission

May 5, 2017

Jason Rosado 41 Sonstrom Rd. Bristol, CT 06010

Dear Mr. Rosado:

Welcome to employment with the City of Waterbury. Your name is being certified to the Education Department for the position of HVAC Technician (Req. #2017118) at \$22.37 per hour. Please contact Shannon Sullivan, School Inspector at (203) 574-8013 with any questions you may have in regards to this position.

We have scheduled your orientation for Thursday, May 11, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. at the Department of Human Resources located at 236 Grand Street in Waterbury. You must attend this orientation session in order to work for the City. Your first day reporting to your new department/supervisor will be May 12, 2017 at your regular scheduled time.

At the orientation, we will provide you with a brief overview of the City, review its employment practices and complete all required paperwork. In addition, if you are an employee eligible for benefits, it is useful to bring the social security numbers and birth dates of your spouse and children in order to complete the insurance enrollment forms.

Please call us prior to the orientation session if you should have any questions regarding the process.

Your new probationary period in accordance with your applicable contract will be 9 months in duration. The department head will be responsible for executing your probationary evaluation no later than 9 months from your first day in your new position.

Again, welcome to the City of Waterbury.

Sineerely,

Carlyne St. Felix

Human Resources Generalist

CSF/sd

cc: Board of Education

Shannon Sullivan, School Insp. Dr. Ouellette, Supt. of Schools

file

#### **Carrie Swain**

From:

Theresa DeMars <CABE@embrams-mail.com>

Sent:

Friday, May 12, 2017 7:01 AM

To:

Carrie Swain

Subject:

CABE Policy Highlights 5-12-2017

**Attachments:** 

May 12 2017.pdf



Hello,

Attached you will find CABE's Policy Highlights Publication for May 12, 2017. Policy Highlights are designed to contain informative topics of interest for your district.

Please feel free to contact the Policy Department at 860-571-7446 with any questions or concerns.

The publication is attached as a PDF file. You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader which is available by <u>clicking here</u>.

To unsubscribe to this publication, please email Terry DeMars at <a href="mailto:tdemars@cabe.org">tdemars@cabe.org</a> and state that you would like to unsubscribe from Policy Highlights.

### Connecticut Association of Boards of Education

81 Wolcott Hill Road Wethersfield, CT 06109 Phone 860-571-7446 ~ Fax 860-571-7452

#### **Carrie Swain**

From:

MATTHEW CALABRESE

Sent:

Friday, May 12, 2017 7:39 AM

To:

Carrie Swain

Subject:

RE: question

Yes... It is named after the former, long standing principal at H.S. Chase, Marie J. Kunkel.

From: Carrie Swain

Sent: Thursday, May 11, 2017 5:38 PM

To: MATTHEW CALABRESE < mcalabrese@waterbury.k12.ct.us>

Subject: question

Is your library/media center named after anyone?

Carrie A. Swain, Clerk Waterbury Board of Education 203.574.8009

The information in this transmittal (including attachments, if any) is privileged and/or confidential and is intended only for the recipient(s) listed above. Any review, use, disclosure, distribution or copying of this transmittal is prohibited except by or on behalf of the intended recipient. If you have received this transmittal in error, please notify me immediately by reply email and destroy all copies of the transmittal. Thank you.



# Connecticut Association of Boards of Education

Vincent A. Mustaro, Senior Staff Associate for Policy Services

# PRESENTS POLICY HIGHLIGHTS

May 12, 2017

Volume 16 – Issue #23

<u>National High–School Graduation Rate Hits 83.2%</u>: The national high-school graduation rate was 83.2% in 2015, according to a report by researchers at Johns Hopkins University. Data reveal graduation gaps among some student groups, such as Hispanic students and those from low-income families.

Low-income students and students of color continue to lag behind their peers in high school graduation rates, according to a recently released study. While the average national graduation rate for the year 2015 was 83.2 percent, it was only 77.8 percent for Hispanic students and 74.6 for black students, according to the report issued by Civic Enterprises and the Everyone Graduates Center at the Johns Hopkins University. The report represented an analysis of federal data released in December and policy recommendations. The report indicates that these are the highest graduation rates the country has seen.

On the bright side, black and Hispanic students are catching up faster than their peers. Graduation rates have increased 7.6 percentage points for black students and 6.8 percentage points for Latino students since 2011, compared to 3 to 4 percentage points for white students. However, for low-income and minority students and students with disabilities, more help is needed.

The report indicated that increased access to early childhood education appeared to increase academic outcomes, including graduation rates. In addition, dual enrollment, allowing students to enroll in college-level courses while still in high school, has been shown to improve graduation rates for underprivileged groups of students.

Source: "Low-income, minority students lag in high school rates," by Maria Danilova, Associated Press, May 3, 2017.

Connecticut Results: In Connecticut the six-year high school graduation rate increased over four consecutive years, reaching an all-time high of 90.5 percent for the 2013-14 cohort. The release of the data comes on the heels of the news that the state reached an all-time high four-year graduation rate in 2016 of 87.4 percent, significantly higher than the national average of 83.2 percent.

The six-year graduation rate measures the percentage of first time ninth grade students who received a standard high school diploma within six years, including early and summer graduates. The six-year rate is included as an indicator in Connecticut's Next Generation Accountability System, along with the four-year graduation rate. The six-year graduation rate is considered a more complete reflection of the successes of all students, especially English learners, students with disabilities, and students from low-income families, because some of them benefit from extra time to graduate.

Commissioner of Education Wentzell stated, "The six-year graduation rate is an important indicator that gives credit for students who stay in school, work hard to overcome challenges, and achieve success. The fact that the rate has increased for four consecutive cohorts is a strong sign that we are making progress toward our goal of equity for Connecticut students. I am proud of and inspired by our educators' commitment to ensuring our students are graduating from high school ready for college and career."

The Commissioner added, "This is great news for Connecticut." High-needs students, a group comprised of all students from low-income families, English language learners, and students with disabilities, experienced the largest increase in six-year graduation rates over four years. From the 2010-11 cohort to the 2013-14 cohort, the six-year graduation rate for high needs students increased 9.9 percentage points from 72.1 percent to 82 percent, a 13.7 percent increase. Students eligible for free or reduced price lunch increased 12.9 percentage points during the same time period with rates rising from 66.2 percent to 79.1 percent, a 19.5 percent increase. English language learners and students receiving special education services experienced more modest improvements.

Graduation rates for black and Hispanic students also increased during the same period. Black students experienced a 7.6-point increase to 84.5 percent, and Hispanic students experienced a 9.8-point increase to 79.3 percent. The gap between black and Hispanic students and their white peers decreased by 4.8 percentage points and 7 percentage points, respectively.

Despite the gains, gaps between these subgroups and their peers persist. For example, at 79.3 percent, the graduation rate for Hispanic students was 15.4 percentage points lower than the rate for white students, and at 84.5 percent, the graduation rate for black students was 10.2 percentage points lower. The graduation rate gaps for English learners and students with disabilities were even greater.

Source: Press Release - "Gov. Malloy Announces Six-Year High School Graduation Rate Reaches Historic High, Graduation Gaps Closing," 5/2/17

**Policy Implications:** Policy #6146, "Graduation Requirements," pertains to this topic. There is currently legislation pending (SB 1026) which will require revisions to this policy. The pending legislation, which has passed the Senate, extends for another two years the current graduation requirements. Heightened graduation requirements, would take effect with the freshman class beginning in the 2019-20 school year. We are currently tracking this legislation, and if it is successful, our sample policy will be modified and made available.

Reducing Chronic Absenteeism: The Connecticut State Department of Education has made available a new guidance document, <u>Reducing Chronic Absence in Connecticut Schools: A Prevention and Intervention Guide for Schools and Districts.</u> This resource will support the work in districts, schools and communities to develop and implement effective strategies to reduce chronic absence. The Guide provides examples of local strategies, state and national resources and a multi-tiered approach to dealing with chronic absence. The Guide can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2663&q=336658">http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2663&q=336658</a>

Additional information to improve attendance can be found on the CSDE Chronic Absenteeism webpage (http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2678&Q=334924).

According to SDE data, progress is being made in the reduction of chronic absence rates. The latest data reveal that the number of chronically absent students dropped to 9.6 percent in 2015-2016, down from 10.6 percent in the previous year and down from a high of 11.5 percent in 2012-2013. The decline in Connecticut's chronic absence rate means that over 10,000 more students are attending school on a daily basis than four years ago.

However, in 2015-2016 there were 50,376 students who were chronically absent, many from subgroups that research has shown to underperform academically. Chronic absence rates for students eligible for free meals is more than three times that of those who are not eligible for such lunch subsidies. In addition, English Language Learners and disabled students exhibit substantially higher chronic absence rates when compared to their general education peers.

Source: "Reducing Chronic Absence in Connecticut's Schools: A Prevention and Intervention Guide for Schools and Districts," Dr. Dianna R. Wentzell memorandum to superintendents of schools, April 19, 2017

**Policy Implications:** P.A. 15-225, now codified as C.G.S. 10-198d, requires boards of education to monitor and address absenteeism rates in schools. Specifically, boards are required to:

- 1. Establish attendance review teams for their school district or individual schools when chronic absenteeism rates reach a certain percentage; and
- 2. Report annually to the Commissioner of Education the number of truant and chronically absent students for each school and the entire district.

The legislation defines "absence" as either an (1) excused, unexcused, or disciplinary absence or (2) in-school suspension for at least half a school day. A "chronically absent child" means a child whose total number of absences at any time during a school year meets or exceeds 10 percent of the total days the student has been enrolled during that school year.

The Act calculates chronic absenteeism rates similarly for school districts and individual schools within districts. It calculates a "district chronic absenteeism rate" by dividing the total number of chronically absent children enrolled in a school district in the previous school year by the total number of children enrolled in that district in the previous school year. It calculates a "school chronic absenteeism rate" by dividing the total number of chronically absent children for a school in the previous school year by the total number of children enrolled in that school for the previous school year.

Boards of education must establish attendance teams under the following circumstances: (1) a team for the district must be established when the district chronic absenteeism rate is 10 percent or higher; (2) a team for the school must be established when the school chronic absenteeism rate is 15 percent or higher; and (3) a team for either the district or each school must be established when (a) more than one school in the district has a school chronic absenteeism rate of 15 percent or higher or (b) a district has a district chronic absenteeism rate of 10 percent or higher and one or more schools in the district have a school chronic absenteeism rate of 15 percent or higher.

As a result of the legislation, policy #5113, "Attendance and Excuses," and policy #5113.2, "Truancy," have been revised and samples are available to member districts. Boards of education have the leadership responsibility for adopting school attendance policies and procedures. Boards should also review district data on chronic absence in conjunction with student performance.

Connecticut Association of Boards of Education ~ 81 Wolcott Hill Road, Wethersfield, CT 06109 ~ 860-571-7446

#### **Carrie Swain**

From:

KAREN HARVEY

Sent:

Tuesday, May 16, 2017 8:49 AM

To:

Carrie Swain

Subject:

Fwd: Dress code

Carrie,

Correspondance.

Karen

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE device

----- Original message-----

From: Kalia Hardy

Date: Mon, May 15, 2017 10:19 PM

To: KAREN HARVEY;

Cc:

Subject:Dress code

Hi, I'm writing this e-mail to tell you why the dress code is a little outrageous and should be changed as quickly as possible. I and many many others think dress code is not necessary. As long as kids are getting an education, why should it matter what they're wearing. Me being a 10th grader at Waterbury arts magnet school, I feel like dress code is especially not necessary. We're an arts school, we should be able to EXPRESS ourselves right? So I'm just writing this to make you guys consider easing up on the dress code next year. Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

#### THE WATERBURY RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO OUR 22nd ANNUAL MEMORIAL CELEBRATION

THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2017 at 10:30 A.M. SAINTS PETER and PAUL CHURCH 67 SOUTHMAYD ROAD WATERBURY, CT 06705



#### THE CHURCH IS ACCESSIBLE WITH RAMP AND ELEVATOR.

#### IN MEMORIAM OF OUR FELLOW COLLEAGUES:

Veronica Barile

Vincent Festa

**Donald Miller** 

John Bellino

Mary Flaherty

Anna M. Paul

Sophie Cantamessa

Charles F. Gilhooley Jr.

Patricia Alberta Periello

Anthony Cellelo Jr.

Francis E. Grosso

August Ranaudo

John Cianciulli

Matthew Guarini Jr.

John P. Reilly

Harold J. Colbassani Jr.

Russell Hansen

Louis Ruggiero

**Domenic Coviello** 

Robert J. Joy

**Dolores Sirica** 

Ann Denault

Mildred McKay

**Genevieve Strileckis** 

### LUNCHEON BUFFET FOLLOWING THE SERVICE AT:

LA BELLA VISTA 380 FARMWOOD ROAD WATERBURY, CT 06704

PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN BY WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 2017 TO:

Ellen Blake 308 Lake Plymouth Blvd. Plymouth, CT 06782

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO W.R.T.A. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$30.00

NAME	# OF ATTENDEES
IAMIAIL	

