



HAMDEN BOARD OF EDUCATION
MAY 9, 2023
MEETING MINUTES

An Informational meeting of the Board of Education began at 7:15 P.M.

SUPERINTENDENT/BOARD RECOGNITION

The Superintendent recognized the Penelope Jordan-from West Woods School.

The Superintendent along with Judy Antignani, recognized the following Hamden Heroes from Alice Peck Learning Center

Denise Shea- AP Staff Member

The Superintendent along with Darce DeCosta recognized the following Hamden Heroes for Hamden Collaborative Learning Center

Susan Ford- HCLC Staff Member

Kaosha McLain- HCLC Staff Member

Heather Taylor-Little- Delta T Support Member

The Superintendent along with Barbara Perrotti, recognized the following Hamden Hero from Shepherd Glen School:

Susan Rubino, Hamden Youth Services Bureau Coordinator

Melissa Kaplan, Board Chair, called the public meeting to order at 7:22 P.M.

Board Members Present: Melissa Kaplan, David Asbery, Crystal Dailey, Peter Downhour, Mariam Khan, and Gary Walsh

Student Representative: Mark Hu and Ishnan Khan

Staff: Gary Highsmith, Tom Ariola, Erin Bailey, Linda Tran, and Susan Smey

The Board Chair, Melissa Kaplan, named David Ashbery acting secretary.

CORRESPONDENCE

David Asbery stated there was 8 correspondence since the last meeting.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

The following people spoke during Public Comments on Agenda Items:

Jay Kaye, Cindy Simell, Tome Falzone, Ken Simell, Janet Ellis, Amy Sheen, Joe Colello, Mike Luzzi, Brenda Florio Ruggiero, Tina Greys, Sue Rubino, Mary Elle McQue, Cheryl Berube, Falon Digato, Janine Sacramone, and Mayor Garrett.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Ishnan Khan asked for a moment of silence for Elijah on the one-year anniversary of his death. Ishnan reported on activities and events

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACES/Wintergreen – There was no report.

Curriculum Committee – Committee Chair, Peter Downhour, reported on the activities of the committee.

Equity Committee – There was no report.

Finance Committee – Committee Member, Peter Downhour, along with the Superintendent as well as Chief Financial Officer, Tom Ariola, reported on the activities of the committee.

Operations Committee – Committee Member, Gary Walsh, reported on the activities of the committee.

Personnel Committee – There was no report.

Policy Committee – Committee Chair, David Asbery, stated the next meeting would be May 16, 2023.

ACTION ITEMS

PENDING ACTION

1. Move to discuss and approve to revise Policy #9160 Student Representative on the Board of Education (Second Read) with all edits suggested by the Board.

Walsh

Seconded by: Asbery

Motion to send policy back to the Superintendent for further revisions.

Downhour

Kaplan

Unanimous

2. Move to refer Approval of Mayor's request to dedicate the Hamden High School pool to Laura Luzzi, to the Operations Committee.

Downhour

Seconded by: Walsh

Unanimous

3. Move to approve the reauthorization of the annual Healthy Food Certification Statement pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-215f, the Hamden Board of Education certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or non-school organizations and groups. (Special Operations Committee, May)

4. Move that pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-215f, the Hamden Board of Education will allow the sale to students of food items that

do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards, provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event and 3) the food items are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An "event" is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practice, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The "regular school day" is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. "Location" means where the event is being held and must be the same place as the food sales. (Special Operations Committee, May)

Walsh

Seconded by: Downhour

Unanimous

5. Move to allow the sale of beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes to students, provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event and 3) the beverages are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An "event" is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting or extracurricular activity. The "school day" is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. "Location" means where the event is being held, and must be the same place as the beverage sales. (Special Operations Committee, May)

Walsh

Seconded by: Downhour

Unanimous

Peter Downhour asked to remove 9.b.viii. Approval of new course Dual Enrollment WL – SCSU (Curriculum Committee, April) and 9.b.ix. Approval of cap on auditorium rentals for Hamden High and Hamden Middle (Special Operations Committee, May)

CONSENT AGENDA

6. Move to approve the Consent Agenda.

Kaplan

Seconded by: Walsh

Unanimous

- i. Approval to rescind Hamden Board of Education Policy #6141.321 Computers: Acceptable Use (Second reading, Policy Committee January)
- ii. Approval to revise Hamden Board of Education Policy #6140 Curriculum (Second reading, Policy Committee January)
- iii. Approval to adopt Hamden Board of Education Policy #6159.1 Teachers Aides (Second reading, Policy Committee January)
- iv. Approval of new course Unified Theater (HHS Fine and Performing Arts) (Curriculum Committee, April)
- v. Approval of new course Acting for the Camera I (HHS Fine and Performing Arts) (Curriculum Committee, April)

- vi. Approval of new course Art 1 – Mixed Media and Collage (HHS Fine and Performing Arts) (Curriculum Committee, April)
 - vii. Approval of new course name changes – World Theater to Reclaiming Our Voices; Venture Yearbook to Freshmen Yearbook, Sophomore Yearbook, Junior Yearbook, and Senior Yearbook; Drawing to Art 1 Drawing; World Art to Art 1 World Art; Advanced Art to Art II; Advanced Ceramics to Ceramics II; Advanced Photography to Photography II; Advanced Digital Art to Digital Art II (Curriculum Committee, April)
 - viii. Approval of the building use by The Joan Lynn Dance Company to use the auditorium, the Black Box, dressing rooms and C107 at Hamden High School for a Summer Dance recital on June 2nd from 3pm-9pm for rehearsals and June 3rd from 12-2pm for the performance (Special Operations Committee, May)
 - ix. Approval of the building use by Academy of Dance to use the auditorium, the Black Box, dressing rooms and C107 at Hamden High School for their Dance 2023 on June 23rd from 3:30-10pm for rehearsals and on June 24th from 3:30-9:30pm for performances (Special Operations Committee, May)
- 7. Move to approve of new course Dual Enrollment WL – SCSU (Curriculum Committee, April)
Downhour
Seconded by: Kaplan
Unanimous
 - 8. Move to table Approval of cap on auditorium rentals for Hamden High and Hamden Middle (Special Operations Committee, May)
Downhour
Seconded by Walsh
Unanimous

Board Member, Peter Downhour, requested the following be pulled from the Consent Agenda:

9.b.i. Approval to revise Policy #6144 Controversial Issues (First Read-Policy Committee, March 2023).

SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT

The Superintendent stated he would give his report at the next meeting.

COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

The following Board members spoke this evening:
Hu, Kaplan, Downhour, Asbery, and Dailey

ADJOURNMENT

- 9. Move to adjourn at 9:52 P.M.
Kaplan
Seconded by: Walsh
Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted,

David Asbery, Acting Board Secretary