

WATERBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Workshop/Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 2, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.
(For the February 16, 2023 Board Meeting)

WORKSHOP/COMMITTEE MEETING

The Board of Education Committee meetings were held on Thursday, February 2, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. at Wallace Middle School, 3465 East Main Street, Waterbury, Connecticut.

PRESENT: President Sweeney, Commissioners Brown, Hernandez, Ireland, Navarro, Orso, Serrano-Adorno, and Van Stone.

ABSENT: Commissioners Nardozzi and O'Brien.

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools Dr. Verna Ruffin, Director of Security & School Safety Daniel Barry, Attorney Joseph Britton, Interim Chief Academic Officer Janet Frenis, Assistant Superintendent Jade Gopie, Assistant Superintendent Joseph Johnson, Interim Facilities Manager Rosh Maghfour, Assistant Superintendent Juan Mendoza, Director of Communications Belen Michelis, Director of Pupil Services Miguel Pabón, Deputy Superintendent Darren Schwartz, Director of College and Career Readiness Nyree Toucet, Director of Equity and Inclusion Lara White, and Supervisor of Management, Information, and Technology Will Zhuta.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES: Grace Henderson of Waterbury Arts Magnet School.

President Sweeney called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. Reports were submitted to the various committees of the Board and discussed, as per the following agenda:

A.G.E.N.D.A

SILENT PRAYER

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG – *led by Wallace Middle School students.*

PUBLIC SPEAKING – *there were no public speakers.*

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – *Principal Vincent Balsamo.*

Wallace student tour guides were introduced followed by a performance from the musical "Seussical the Musical Junior" that will take place at Wallace on Friday and Saturday.

Mr. Balsamo commented on the following:

- Fourth Grade Academy teacher Elaine Hill received the Milken Family Foundation Award. She was the only winner in Connecticut out of 40 teachers from the entire country.

- Wallace was featured on Fox61 news for their use of Varsity Tutors.
- As a Commissioner Network School, Wallace has received additional funding for reading and math including the implementation of the Wilson Reading System for grade 6.
- New collaborative classroom furniture, new café furniture and painting of many classrooms has taken place.
- The School Governance Council is focusing on family engagement. Activities include a Family Literature Night, Family STEM Night, and various activities in February for Black History including a pot luck dinner.
- Administration and staff present were introduced.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Hernandez and duly seconded by Commissioner Serrano-Adorno, it was voted unanimously to add item #4a, Agreement with Ben Bronz Academy for educational services for students with special needs, to the agenda.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Hernandez and duly seconded by Commissioner Serrano-Adorno, it was voted unanimously to add item #4b, Agreement with Yale University, on behalf of Cedarhurst School, for educational services for students with special needs, to the agenda.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Hernandez and duly seconded by Commissioner Serrano-Adorno, it was voted unanimously add item #8a, second amendment to the Construction Contract with M. J. Daly, LLC, to the agenda.

1. Committee of the Whole/5 minutes: Request approval of a Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Waterbury Board of Education and United Public Service Employees Union (UPSEU) Local 424-Unit 68-Classroom Assistants – ~~Attorney Emily Cadman~~, Attorney Tara Shaw. *Four-year agreement retroactive to July 1, 2022.*
2. Committee of Whole/5 minutes: Request approval of an Agreement with Southern Connecticut State University for Type “A” Tuition and Fee Waiver for qualified high school students to take college level SCSU courses – N. Toucet.
3. Committee of Whole/5 minutes: Request approval of an Agreement with Southern Connecticut State University for Type “C” Tuition and Fee Waiver for qualified high school students to take college level SCSU courses – N. Toucet.
4. Committee on Finance/5 minutes: Request approval of an Assignment and Assumption Agreement between Edgenuity, Inc. and Imagine Learning, LLC – N. Toucet.

ADD: 4a. Committee on Finance: Agreement with Ben Bronz Academy for educational services for students with special needs – M. Pabon.

ADD: 4b. Committee on Finance: Agreement with Yale University, on behalf of Cedarhurst School, for educational services for students with special needs – M. Pabon.

5. Committee on Finance/5 minutes: Request approval to apply for the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) “Public Educational and Governmental Programming and Education Technology Investment Account” (PEGPETIA) Grant – L. Allen Brown, W. Zhuta.
6. Committee on Finance/5 minutes: Request approval of Amendment Three (3) to the Contract with Environmental Systems Corp. (ESC) for School Security Video Surveillance and Access Control System Expansions and Upgrades – D. Barry, W. Zhuta.
7. Committee on Finance/5 minutes: Request approval of a Construction Contract with J. A. Rosa Construction, LLC for Elevator Additions at Washington and Bunker Hill Schools – R. Maghfour.
8. Committee on Finance/5 minutes: Request approval of a Contract with Sarracco Mechanical Services, Inc. for boiler system replacement at International School – R. Maghfour.

ADD: 8a: Committee on Finance: Construction Contract with M. J. Daly, LLC for Chiller replacement at Maloney Magnet School – R. Maghfour.

9. Committee on Finance/5 minutes:
 - a) FYI - ARP/ESSER Update – D. Schwartz. (R. Maghfour)
 - b) FYI - Monthly Expenditure Report – D. Schwartz.
 - c) FYI - Budget Timeline/Development Process Fiscal Year 2024 – D. Schwartz.
 - d) Approval of transfer in the General Fund Operating Budget – D. Schwartz.
 - e) Approval of transfer in Capital Improvement Budget – R. Maghfour.
10. Superintendent’s Update: Dr. Ruffin.

Dr. Ruffin presented a PowerPoint sharing the following:

- Presentation of Superintendent’s Student Awards begins February 10. Selection criteria is based on community service, academic progress, and leadership in the school community.
- Listing of Black History Month events throughout the District.

11. Committee on Building & School Facilities/3 minutes: Use of school facilities by school organizations and/or City departments – W. Zhuta.
12. Committee on Building & School Facilities/3 minutes: Use of school facilities by outside organizations and/or waiver requests – W. Zhuta.

13. Superintendent’s Notification to the Board/5 minutes:

a. Athletic appointments:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Hart, Richard	Intramural Boys Basketball	Duggan	01/25/23
Salemme, Cassandra	Intramural Girls Basketball	Duggan	01/24/23
Sincuir, Silvia	Assistant Indoor Trach	WHS	01/26/23

b. Grant funded appointments:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>FT/PT</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Union</u>	<u>Funding</u>	<u>Eff.</u>
Fuller, Diane	Certified Adult Ed Instructor	PT	\$33/hr	NON BOE	Adult Ed 22-23	01/30/23
Vixama, Marjorie	Hall Monitor Crosby	PT	\$98/day	NON BOE	General Fund	01/26/23

c. After-school Programs appointments:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Grant</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Position</u>
Garcia, Sharyn	21st Century	Academic Academy	Teacher
James, Joelizz	21st Century	Bucks Hill	Rec Specialist
Williams, Chelcey	21st Century	Regan	Teacher
Renna, Karen	ARP ESSER	Carrington	Site Administrator
Gwiazdoski, Kristen	ARP ESSER	Carrington	Administrator Sub
Doolan, Heidi	ARP ESSER	Carrington	Teacher
Kearns, Maura	ARP ESSER	Carrington	Teacher
Rosa, Marissa	ARP ESSER	Carrington	Teacher
Therault, Patricia	ARP ESSER	Carrington	Teacher
Salemme, Cassandra	ARP ESSER	Duggan	Site Administrator
Ferrare, Patricia	ARP ESSER	Duggan	Administrator Sub
DiGiovanni, Melissa	ARP ESSER	Duggan	Administrator Sub
DeFeo, Dawn	ARP ESSER	Duggan	Teacher
Lucian, David	ARP ESSER	Duggan	Teacher
Morales, Elizabeth	ARP ESSER	Duggan	Teacher
St. Pierre, Theodora	ARP ESSER	Duggan	Rec Specialist

d. Miscellaneous appointments:

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Program</u>
Caruso, Anthony	KHS	Mastery Based Learning Panel
Veneziano, Ellen	CHS	Edgenuity Site Coordinator
Wells, Traci	Enlightenment	Mastery Based Learning Panel Lead
Aresti, Robert	DW	School Equity Leadership Team
Bajraktarevic, Zehra	DW	School Equity Leadership Team
Caldarone, Paula	DW	School Equity Leadership Team
Catricala, Julia	DW	School Equity Leadership Team
D'Alessio, Jennifer	DW	School Equity Leadership Team
Dali-Parker, Suzanna	DW	School Equity Leadership Team
DiBella, Lee	DW	School Equity Leadership Team
Doolan, Heidi	DW	School Equity Leadership Team
Ferrare, Patricia	DW	School Equity Leadership Team
Gonzalez Casanova, Ilea	DW	School Equity Leadership Team
Grant, Nataine	DW	School Equity Leadership Team
Johnson, Joshua	DW	School Equity Leadership Team
Klesyk, Mary	DW	School Equity Leadership Team
Mancinone, Taylor	DW	School Equity Leadership Team
Mulhern, Jacqueline	DW	School Equity Leadership Team
Norton, Dianna	DW	School Equity Leadership Team
O'Neill, Patrick	DW	School Equity Leadership Team
Parker, Marlene	DW	School Equity Leadership Team
Parker, Marly	DW	School Equity Leadership Team
Pitcairn-Broughton, Dorothea	DW	School Equity Leadership Team
Rincon, Catalina	DW	School Equity Leadership Team

Rivera, Michael	DW	School Equity Leadership Team
Velez, Crystal	DW	School Equity Leadership Team
Westerville, Jennifer	DW	School Equity Leadership Team
Williams, Chelcey	DW	School Equity Leadership Team

e. Resignations:

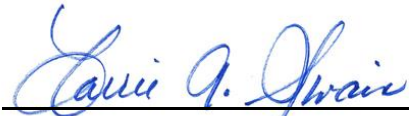
<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Gordon, Sonia	Enlightenment Math	02/28/23
McNamara, Hannah	Wilson Grade 3	01/27/23
Pannoni, Andrea	Carrington Special Education	01/27/23
Saverino, Yesika	CHS Spanish	01/24/23
Zold, Kristine	Sprague Special Education	02/03/23

f. Retirements:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Negron, Nicole	WMS Math Grade 8	06/30/23
Nonamaker, Rhonda	Generali Kindergarten	06/30/23

EXECUTIVE SESSION – *there was no executive session.*

ADJOURNMENT at 6:48 p.m.

ATTEST: 
Carrie A. Swain, Clerk
Waterbury Board of Education