



HAMDEN BOARD OF EDUCATION  
JANUARY 9, 2024  
MEETING MINUTES

Melissa Kaplan, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M.

Board Members: Melissa Kaplan, Peter Downhour, David Asbery, Mario Ciccarini, Greta Johnson, Christopher Piscitelli, Kevin Shea (virtual) and Andrew Tammaro.

Student Representative: Mark Hu and Matilda Ryder

Staff: Gary Highsmith, Tom Ariola, Erin Bailey and Sue Smey

#### SUPERINTENDENT/BOARD RECOGNITION

January Hamden Heroes:

Julian DiLeone, Dunbar Hill Student  
Derek Matthews, Dunbar Hill Custodian  
Heather Kissel, Dunbar Hill Community Member  
Brianna Aikins, Helen Street Student  
Rosie Persiani, Helen Street Clerk  
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Helen Street Community Helpers

#### CORRESPONDENCE

Peter Downhour stated there were no 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 or emailed for Public Comment tonight: Beth Seibert with David Bomke.

#### STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Mark Hu stated there wasn't anything to report.

#### INFORMATION ITEMS

The Superintendent stated that he and the Core Team was interested in hearing what items are the priorities of the Board for this upcoming Budget. The following Board members stated their priorities: Melissa Kaplan, Andrew Tammaro, David Asbery, Peter Downhour, Greta Johnson, Mario Ciccarini, Christopher Piscitelli. The following Student representatives stated their priorities: Mark Hu and Matilda Ryder.

#### SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

The Superintendent stated that he would forgo his report and email the Board.

ACTION ITEMS  
PENDING ACTIONS

1. Move to approve committee assignments.  
Kaplan  
Seconded by: Tammaro  
In Favor: Kaplan, Downhour, Asbery, Ciccarini, Johnson, Piscitelli, Shea and Tammaro

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

CONSENT AGENDA

2. Move to approve Consent Agenda  
Downhour  
Seconded by: Tammaro
  - i. Approval to repeal Policy #1411 Law Enforcement Officials (Second Read, Policy Committee, November 2023)
  - ii. Approval to revise Policy #4116 Hiring of Certified Staff (Second Read, Policy Committee, November 2023)
  - iii. Approval to repeal Policy #4118.51 Social Networking (Second Read, Policy Committee, August 2023)
  - iv. Approval to repeal Policy #4133 Travel Expenses (Second Read, Policy Committee, August 2023)
  - v. Approval to revise Policy #4152.6 Family and Medical Leave (Second Read, Policy Committee, November 2023)
  - vi. Approval to repeal Policy #5010 Goals and Objectives (Second Read, Policy Committee, November 2023)
  - vii. Approval to repeal Policy #5110 Attendance Areas (Second Read, Policy Committee, November 2023)
  - viii. Approval to repeal Policy #5116 School Census (Second Read, Policy Committee, November 2023)
  - ix. Approval to repeal Policy #5121 Grading/Testing of Student Achievement (Second Read, Policy Committee, November 2023)
  - x. Approval to repeal Policy #5122 Assignment to Classes (Second Read, Policy Committee, November 2023)
  - xi. Approval to repeal Policy #5125.11 Health/Medical Records (Second Read, Policy Committee, November 2023)
  - xii. Approval to repeal Policy #5126 Student Awards (Second Read, Policy Committee, November 2023)
  - xiii. Approval to repeal Policy #5127 Student Participation in Special Events (Second Read, Policy Committee, November 2023)
  - xiv. Approval to repeal Policy #5131.11 Video Cameras on School Buses (Second read, Policy Committee, November 2023)
  - xv. Approval to repeal Policy #5131.111 Video Surveillance, (Second read, Policy Committee, November 2023)

In Favor: Kaplan, Downhour, Asbery, Ciccarini, Johnson, Piscitelli, Shea and Tammaro

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURMENT

3. Move to adjourn at 7:57 P.M.

Kaplan

Seconded by: Asbery

In Favor: Kaplan, Downhour, Asbery, Ciccarini, Johnson, Piscitelli, Shea and  
Tammaro

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter Downhour, Board Secretary