



HAMDEN BOARD OF EDUCATION
MARCH 5, 2024
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Melissa Kaplan, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:07 P.M.

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

Student Representative: Mark Hu and Matilda Ryder

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

Board Chair stated that Mariam Khan has resigned from the Board effective March 1, 2024. There is a need to find a Democratic replacement for her seat.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Peter Downhour stated there was one Public Comment on Agenda Items received from Nicole Chardiet, concerning the lack of slots open for Lyman Hall.

INFORMATION ITEMS

The Superintendent reminded everyone that the 2024-2025 Operating budget he presented was a maintenance budget and no new programming added.

Tom Ariola also spoke about the maintenance budget and that there would be only three major expenditures: a roof and HVAC.

Peter Downhour, Finance Chair, spoke about the three budget deliberation meetings the committee held. They went through each line item.

COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

The following Board members spoke this evening:

Melissa Kaplan, David Asbery, Kevin Shea, Peter Downhour, Mario Ciccarini, Andrew Tammaro, Greta Johnson and Christopher Piscitelli.

ACTION ITEM

1. Move to adopt 2024-2025 Board of Education Operating Budget in the amount of \$101,190,655 with adding \$100,000 to the Professional Services line item.
Asbery
Seconded by: Tammaro
In Favor: Kaplan, Asbery, Johnson, and Tammaro
Against: Downhour, Ciccarini, Piscitelli and Shea

MOTION FAILS

2. Motion to adopt 2024-2025 Board of Education Operating Budget in the amount of

\$101,090,655.

Downhour

Seconded by: Kaplan

In Favor: Kaplan, Downhour, Ciccarini, Johnson, and Piscitell

Against: Asbery, Shea and Tammaro

MOTION PASSES

ADJOURNMENT

3. Motion to Adjourn at 8:37 P.M.

Downhour

Seconded by: Kaplan

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

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter Downhour, Board Secretary