



HAMDEN BOARD OF EDUCATION
OCTOBER 8, 2024
MEETING MINUTES

Melissa Kaplan, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

Board Members: Melissa Kaplan, Peter Downhour, David Asbery(Virtual), Mario Ciccarini, Nancy Hill, Greta Johnson(Virtual), Christopher Piscitelli, and Andrew Tammaro.

Student Representative: Matilda Ryder

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

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda

Board Chair, Melissa Kaplan, removed the following items for the agenda:

6 a. Welcoming new student representatives for 2024-2025 year.

11 i.a. Discussion and possible approval of the of the Security Resource Officer (SRO) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Move to approve the minutes from the September 10, 2024 Board of Education meeting
Kaplan

Seconded by: Downhour

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

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence this evening.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

The following person spoke during Public Comments: Kevin Mann

The following person's comment was explained during Public Comments: Richard Shultz

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACES/Wintergreen - No report this evening.

Curriculum Committee - Committee Chair, Mario Ciccarini, stated the next meeting will be this month.

Equity Committee - Committee Chair, Nancy Hill, stated next meeting will be October 16, 2024

Finance Committee - Committee Chair, Peter Downhour, reported on the activities of the committee.

Goals and Evaluations Committee – Committee Chair, Andrew Tammaro, stated there was nothing to report at this time.

Operations Committee - Committee Member, Greta Johnson, reported on the activities of the committee.

Personnel Committee - Committee Chair, David Asbery, stated next meeting will be October 15, 2024

Policy Committee - Committee Chair, Christopher Piscitelli, stated next meeting will be October 15 6 PM

INFORMATION ITEMS

The Superintendent gave a quick overview of the process of Racial balancing and then introduced Simone Carpenter and Michele Sumter, from District Management Group (DMG), who gave a presentation on Racial balancing update.

The Superintendent introduced Hamden High School Principal Eric Jackson who shared a presentation regarding the NEASC accreditation process.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

2. Move to Executive Session to discuss the Superintendent's evaluation, possible contract extension, and salary increase. Besides the Board, Gary Highsmith was invited to join.

Kaplan

Seconded by: Hill

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

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Return to Public Session at 9:47 PM.

ACTION ITEMS

PENDING ACTIONS

3. Move to approve the extension of the Superintendent's contract for one year with a 2% salary increase.

Tammaro

Seconded by: Johnson

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

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

4. Move to approve the Hamden Middle School Athletics agreement

Kaplan

Seconded by: Piscitelli

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

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

CONSENT AGENDA

5. Move to approve the Consent Agenda.

Kaplan

Seconded by: Hill

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

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

- i. Discussion and approval of a donation of books to the Hamden High School media center in honor of a retired Hamden High School teacher by class of 1962 alumnus (Special Operations, October 2024)
- ii. Approval of the building use by Hamden Fathers Basketball to use the gymnasium at Hamden Middle School on October 12, 19, 26, 2024 from 9:30am – 1:30pm for girls' tryouts (Special Operations, October 2024)
- iii. Approval of the building use by Hamden Fathers Basketball to use the gymnasium at Hamden High School on October 12, 19, 26, 2024 from 12:30pm – 5:30pm for boys' tryouts (Special Operations, October 2024)

- iv. Approval of the building use by Hamden Commission on Disability and Opportunity to use the cafeteria at Hamden Middle School on November 1, 2024 from 6pm – 9pm for a Halloween Dance fundraiser (Special Operations, October 2024)
- v. Approval of the building use by Hamden Fathers Basketball to use the gymnasium at Hamden Middle School on Saturdays from November 2 – November 30, 2024 from 8:30am – 4:30pm for practices (Special Operations, October 2024)
- vi. Approval of the building use by Hamden Fathers Basketball to use the gymnasium at Hamden High School on Saturdays from November 2 – November 30, 2024 from 12:30pm – 6:30pm for practices (Special Operations, October 2024)
- vii. Approval of the building use by Hamden Fathers Basketball to use the gymnasium at Shepherd Glen School December 2 – 5, 2024 from 5:30pm – 9pm for practice (Special Operations, October 2024)
- viii. Approval of the building use by Hamden Fathers Basketball to use the gymnasium at Ridge Hill School on Saturdays from December 7 – April 26, 2025 from 9am – 2pm for games (Special Operations, October 2024)
- ix. Approval of the building use by Hamden Fathers Basketball to use the gymnasium at Hamden High School on Saturdays from December 7 – April 26, 2025 from 12:30pm – 5:30pm for games (Special Operations, October 2024)
- x. Approval of the building use by Hamden Fathers Basketball to use the gymnasium at Dunbar Hill School Monday-Friday from December 2 – April 24, 2025 from 5:30pm – 9pm for practice (Special Operations, October 2024)
- xi. Approval of the building use by Hamden Fathers Basketball to use the gymnasium at Hamden Middle School on Saturdays from December 7 – April 26, 2025 from 7:30am – 6:30pm for clinics and games (Special Operations, October 2024)
- xii. Approval of the building use by Hamden Fathers Basketball to use the gymnasium at Hamden Middle School on Fridays from December 6 – April 25, 2025 from 5:30pm – 9:30pm for games (Special Operations, October 2024)
- xiii. Approval of the building use by Hamden Fathers Basketball to use the gymnasium at Hamden Middle School on January 25 & February 1 ,2025 from 5:30pm – 9:30pm for girls' All Star Games (Special Operations, October 2024)
- xiv. Approval of the building use by Hamden Fathers Basketball to use the gymnasium at Hamden High School on January 25 & February 1 ,2025 from 5:30pm – 9:30pm for girls' All Star Games (Special Operations, October 2024)
- xv. Approval of budget transfers in the amount of \$17,925
From 114 Teachers Salary
To: 641 Band Uniforms
(Finance, October 2024)

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

The Superintendent spoke briefly about the Special Education Audit and mentioned that he reached out to three firms for guidance.

The Administration will be trained on trauma.

ADJOURNMENT

6. Move to adjourn at 9:58 PM.

Kaplan

Seconded by: Johnson

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

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter Downhour, Board Secretary