



HAMDEN BOARD OF EDUCATION
MARCH 4, 2025
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Melissa Kaplan, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:04 P.M.

Board Members: Melissa Kaplan, Peter Downhour, Marcia Brown, Mario Ciccarini (6:07 P.M.), Nancy Hill, Greta Johnson(Virtual), and Christopher Piscitelli.

Staff: Gary Highsmith, Tom Ariola, Erin Bailey and Susan Smey (Virtual 6:15 P.M.)

Student Representatives: Matilda Ryder and Kalu Ogbaa

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no Public Comments on Agenda Items.

INFORMATION ITEM

Peter Downhour presented the changes made to the Superintendent's 2025-2026 Operating Budget from the Finance Committee, with the result being the same 3.62% increase.

Tom Ariola went through the major changes within the Operating Budget from last year. Several Board members asked questions.

Tom Ariola went through last year's capital budget. He also presented the 2025-2026 Board of Education Capital Budget. Several Board members asked questions.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Move to approve the 2025-2026 Board of Education operating budget in the amount of \$101,436,949 for a 3.62% increase.

Kaplan

Seconded by: Downhour

In Favor: Kaplan, Downhour, Brown, Ciccarini, Hill, Johnson, and Piscitelli

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

2. Move to approve the 2025-2026 Board of Education capital budget in the amount of \$1,500,000.

Kaplan

Seconded by: Downhour

In Favor: Kaplan, Downhour, Brown, Ciccarini, Hill, Johnson, and Piscitelli

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

3. Move to adjourn at 6:42 P.M.

Kaplan

Seconded by: Piscitelli

In Favor: Kaplan, Downhour, Brown, Ciccarini, Hill, Johnson, and Piscitelli

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully Submitted,
Peter Downhour, Board Secretary