



HAMDEN BOARD OF EDUCATION
MARCH 11, 2025
MEETING MINUTES

Peter Downhour, Acting Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Board Members: Peter Downhour, David Asbery(Virtual), Marcia Brown, Mario Ciccarini, Christopher Piscitelli, and Andrew Tamaro.

Student Representative: Kalu Ogbaa(Virtual)

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

Peter Downhour named Christopher Piscitelli as Acting Secretary.

SUPERINTENDENT/BOARD RECOGNITION

The Superintendent along with Spring Glen School Principal Mr. Howard Hornreich introduced March Hamden Heroes from Spring Glen School:

Yizhar Yakir, SPG Grade Student

Misha Serfillippi, SPG Parent-PTA

Jessica Mangini, SPG Math Specialist

The Superintendent along with Hamden Collaborative Learning Center Principal Ms. Darce Decosta introduced the March Hamden Heroes from Hamden Collaborative Learning Center

I'Johnah Fuller, HCLC Student

Betty Murray, HCLC/AP Clerk

Ashley Mulligan, HCLC Science Teacher

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Acting Chair, Peter Downhour added 10.a.vii. Approval of a donation in the amount of \$14,387.30 from the Hamden Alumni Association to be used for fence coverings at the athletic fields.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Move to approve the minutes from the February 14, 2025 Board of Education meeting.

Downhour

Seconded by: Piscitelli

In Favor: Downhour, Asbery, Brown, Ciccarini, Piscitelli and Tamaro

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

2. Move to approve the minutes from the March 4, 2025 Special Board of Education meeting

Downhour

Seconded by: Piscitelli

In Favor: Downhour, Asbery, Brown, Ciccarini, and Piscitelli

Abstain: Tammaro

MOTION PASSES

CORRESPONDENCE

Peter Downhour reported there was no correspondence since the last meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no Public Comments on Agenda Items.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Kalu reported that PBIS trips have been well received as well as the cell phone use policy. He does have a concern that the roof leaks on the 3rd floor D wing when it rains.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACES/Wintergreen - There was no report tonight.

Curriculum Committee - Committee Chair, Mario Ciccarini, reported on the activities of the committee.

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 - There was no report tonight

Personnel Committee - Committee Chair, David Asbery, stated there was nothing to report and there will be a meeting next month.

Policy Committee - Committee Chair, Christopher Piscitelli, stated there would be a meeting next Tuesday, March 18, 2025.

INFORMATION ITEMS

There were no Information Items this evening.

ACTION ITEMS

PENDING ACTIONS

3. Move to approve the building use by the Hamden Soccer Association to use the soccer fields at Beat Path, Dunbar Hill, Shepherd Glen and Hamden Middle Schools Monday-Friday from March 17- June 9, 2025 from 5:30- 7:30pm for community soccer

Downhour

Seconded by: Piscitelli

In Favor: Downhour, Asbery, Brown, Ciccarini, Piscitelli and Tammaro

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

4. Move to approve the building use by the Hamden Soccer Association to use the soccer fields at Dunbar Hill Monday-Friday from March 24- June 9, 2025 from 5:30- 7:30pm for community soccer
Downhour
Seconded by: Piscitelli
In Favor: Downhour, Asbery, Brown, Ciccarini, Piscitelli and Tammaro

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

5. Move to approve the building use by the Hamden Soccer Association to use the soccer fields at Bear Path Monday-Friday from April 14- June 9, 2025 from 5:30- 7:30pm for community soccer
Downhour
Seconded by: Piscitelli
In Favor: Downhour, Asbery, Brown, Ciccarini, Piscitelli and Tammaro

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

6. Move to approve the building use by the Hamden Soccer Association to use the soccer fields at Shepherd Glen and West Woods Saturday and Sunday from April 5- June 9, 2025 from 9am- 6pm for community soccer
Downhour
Seconded by: Piscitelli
In Favor: Downhour, Asbery, Brown, Ciccarini, Piscitelli and Tammaro

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

7. Move to approve proposed UI LED lighting project agreement for Hamden Middle School
Downhour
Seconded by: Piscitelli
In Favor: Downhour, Asbery, Brown, Ciccarini, Piscitelli and Tammaro

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

8. Move to approve material discards from HHS woodshop
Downhour
Seconded by: Piscitelli
In Favor: Downhour, Asbery, Brown, Ciccarini, Piscitelli and Tammaro

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

9. Move to accept a donation of \$14,387.30 from the Hamden Alumni Association to be used for fence coverings on the athletic fields
Downhour
Seconded by: Piscitelli
In Favor: Downhour, Asbery, Brown, Ciccarini, Piscitelli and Tammaro

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

CONSENT AGENDA

10. Move to approve the Consent Agenda
Downhour
Seconded by: Piscitelli
In Favor: Downhour, Asbery, Brown, Ciccarini, Piscitelli and Tammaro

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

- i. 4-6 Wit & Wisdom program approval (pending pilot decision) (Curriculum Committee, February 2025)
- ii. PE Courses name changes (Curriculum Committee, February 2025)
- iii. CTE course approvals (Curriculum Committee, February 2025)
- iv. Approval of Spring Glen 6th grade immigration field trip to New York City on May 28, 2025 (Curriculum Committee, February 2025)
- v. Approval of the National World Language Honor Society field trip to visit the United Nations in New York City in May 2025 (Curriculum Committee, February 2025)
- vi. Approval of the DECA International Conference in Orlando, Florida on April 25- April 30, 2025 (Curriculum Committee, February 2025)
- vii. Book discards- Hamden High School, Spring Glen, West Woods, Dunbar Hill, Bear Path (Curriculum Committee, February 2025)

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

The Superintendent reported that he and the Assistant Superintendent had a meeting with the researcher, on their full proposal regarding the IIC classroom project.

The Superintendent reported that the partnership with PEL was approved and a team of teachers, parents, administrators and students will be going on a learning visit to a high school in Arizona.

The Superintendent reported on the new Cell Phone Use Policy.

ADJOURNMENT

11. Move to adjourn at 7:48 P.M.

Downhour

Seconded by: Piscitelli

In Favor: Downhour, Asbery, Brown, Ciccarini, Piscitelli and Tammaro

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher Piscitelli, Acting Board Secretary