



Finance Committee - Hamden Board of Education Minutes

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

Board of Education 60 Putnam Ave. Hamden, CT

1. Call to order and roll call

Chair Peter Downhour called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM

Roll Call - Committee Members Present: Peter Downhour, Mario Ciccarini, and Christopher Piscitelli (arrived online at 6:15pm).

Melissa Kaplan arrived during the meeting.

Additional Board Members: None

Staff Members and Guests: Superintendent of Schools Gary Highsmith, Chief Operating Officer Tom Ariola, and Director of Pupil Personnel Services Mike McDermott. Assistant Finance Director Dawn Albizu

2. Additions to the agenda- none

3. Public comments – none

4. Information Items:

a. Update on 2025-2026 Budget - Chief Operating Officer Tom Ariola presented and answered questions on the 2024-2025 budget.

i. Update from the Special Education department: Director of Pupil Personnel Services Mike McDermott answered questions about special education spending.

ii. Update on district grants by Chief Operating Officer Tom Ariola

5. Action Items:

a. None

6. Adjourned without objection at 6:50 PM