

WEST HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION
June 3, 2019
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Board's Meeting Room

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was held on June 3, 2019 in the Board's Meeting Room on the second floor of City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, CT. The meeting was called to order by Rosemary Russo, Chairwoman of the Board of Education at 6:00 p.m. The meeting opened with a pledge to the flag.

BOARD MEMBERS

IN ATTENDANCE:

Rosemary Russo Chairwoman
Robert Guthrie, Vice Chair
Susan Walker, Secretary/Treasurer
Patrick Leigh
Patricia Libero
James W. Morrissey
Karen Pacelli
Rosa Richardson

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Lauren Aceto

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Neil Cavallaro, Superintendent of Schools
Anne Druzolowski, Assistant Superintendent
Matt Cavallaro, Director of Finance

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES
PRESENT:**

B. Public Portion of Meeting

Chairwoman Russo welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for coming. This is the last board of education meeting for the school year because the students will have graduated before our next meeting. Chairwoman Russo asked if anyone would like to address the board this evening during public session. Dana Paredes, 54 Barbara Lane, West Haven, CT. Dana thanked Pat Libero and Rosa Richardson for taking part in our attendance hearings. This is a very important part of our process at the high school and Dana thanked them for all the time they spent doing this. Dana also thanked all the board members who have come to all the events that they had during the last couple of weeks at the high school. We appreciate this as a staff and she knows the

kids appreciate it as well. They feel really important when they see you are there and giving your time to them so she wanted to thank the board members. The board gave thanks. Chairwoman Russo asked three times if anyone else would like to address the board. There were no other speakers. Public Session closed at 6:04 PM.

REPORTS

C.1.a. Administration/Status of Schools

Superintendent Cavallaro asked Chairwoman Russo to come to the front and had Julia Walker and Sumedha Chowdhury also come up. This is their last meeting as Student Reps and they did very well over the last two years. They are both very conscientious board members and they have spent a lot of time first with Mrs. Gardner and now Mrs. Paredes. You both have received many accolades and have represented not only this board of education but the student body very well and have put a lot back into the community. Julia will be attending the University of Connecticut in the fall and we just received word today that Sumedha got into Yale and we are really happy for her. Applause.

Julia will be attending UCONN in the fall and majoring in Biological Sciences with a track in Pre-Med. Sumedha had previously been accepted to the California Institute of Technology and now Yale she will be majoring in Biochem. Applause ensued and pictures were taken. The board congratulated Julia and Sumedha and wished them well.

C.1.b. Student Representatives' Report

The Student Representatives Report will be found at the end of the minutes.

C.1.c. Board

D.1. Approval of Minutes

D.1.a. West Haven Board of Education Regular Board Meeting held in the Board of Education Meeting Room, City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, CT on Monday, May 20, 2019 at 6:00 PM.

Chairwoman Russo asked for a motion to approve the Meeting minutes D.1.a.

Karen Pacelli made the motion to approve the minutes

Rosa Richardson seconded the motion

Discussion: Pat Libero abstained as she was not present at the previous meeting.

All other board members present were in favor

Regular Meeting Minutes are approved

D.2. Resignations: (Certified)

Chairwoman Russo said she would like to do each resignation separately because each person deserves to have their name called out.

19-26 Carol Stefura, Elementary Teacher, Grade 4 - Pagels School

Effective: June 30, 2019
Reason: Retirement

Chairwoman Russo asked for a motion to approve item 19-26

Karen Pacelli made the motion

Rosa Richardson seconded the motion and wishes all the retirees well in their retirement

Discussion: Pat Libero worked with Carol at Pagels and she is a great lady and she is wished the best of everything in her retirement. All board members wished her a happy retirement with gratitude from the BOE and good luck in her retirement

All board members present were in favor

Item 19-26 is approved

19-27 Merle Stevens, Dept. Head English – West Haven High School

Effective: June 30, 2019

Reason: Retirement

Chairwoman Russo asked how many years did Merle work? Neil said at least 51 because in her retirement letter she said she wishes she could work another 50 years.

Chairwoman Russo asked for a motion to approve item 19-27

Rosa Richardson made the motion stating it is an honor and privilege to put her name in for retirement with sadness, but well deserved.

Pat Libero seconded the motion and said some teachers couldn't sign the beam so Wendy Charbonneau's husband Don got the medal for Pam to sign and he also got a medal for the other people to sign and Pat brought it over to Seacrest to have Merle sign it. She may be retiring but she had her there for over an hour telling her everything happening at the school and Merle telling Pat what should be happening if she was there. She may be retiring but she is on the ball and knows what is going on and that is her department no matter who takes it over. She is a pip; she's still got it.

All board members present were in favor and wished her a happy retirement with gratitude from the BOE and good luck in her retirement.

Item 19-27 is approved

19-28 Terri Shaw, Literacy Teacher – Pagels School

Effective: June 30, 2019

Reason: Retirement

Chairwoman Russo asked for a motion to approve item 19-28

Karen Pacelli made the motion

Rosa Richardson seconded the motion

Discussion: Pat Libero said Terri is a great lady, a great kindergarten lady, a great pre-school lady who will be missed. She is moving up to be closer to her kids and that is great and Pat wishes her all the best.

All board members present were in favor and wished her a happy retirement with gratitude from the BOE and good luck in her retirement.

Item 19-28 is approved

D.3. New Hire: (Certified)

19-29 Erica Durazzo, 88 Andover Drive, Milford, CT 06460
Position: Grade 3 Teacher – Savin Rock Community School
Salary: \$41,232.00 Step 1 BS
Effective: August 26, 2019

Chairwoman Russo asked for a motion to approve item 19-29

Rosa Richardson made the motion

Karen Pacelli seconded the motion

Discussion: Superintendent Cavallaro said she was a long term sub in the building which is better than coming to an interview. You actually get to see a person over a long period of time and she is a very well qualified candidate.

All board members present were in favor

Item 19-29 is approved

19-30 Jill Grego RN, 29 Colonial Boulevard, West Haven, CT 06516
Position: Nursing Supervisor
Salary: Step 5 \$51,515.00 + Stipend
Effective: TBD

Chairwoman Russo asked for a motion to approve item 19-30

Bob Guthrie made the motion

Rosa Richardson seconded the motion

Discussion: Rosa Richardson thanked Neil for the clarification on the stipend. Rosemary said she graduated from two really great schools and she will be a nice addition.

All board members present were in favor

Item 19-30 is approved

19-31 Camdyn Morgillo, 30 Yates Street, West Haven, CT 06516
Position: Health/P.E. Teacher – West Haven High School
Salary: Step 1 BS \$41,232
Effective: August 26, 2019

Chairwoman Russo asked for a motion to approve item 19-31

Bob Guthrie made the motion

Rosa Richardson seconded the motion

Discussion: Superintendent Cavallaro said Camden went through the school district and was a former standout softball pitcher. What really impressed Neil about Camden is that last year we didn't have any physical education openings so she accepted a para position here because she wanted to wait for an opening in West Haven and did a terrific job as a para and she will do a great job as a teacher.

Pat Libero said she was principal of Carrigan when she was there and she is a great kid who will be a great addition.

Rosa Richardson coached Camdyn and she is a true Westie and Rosa is proud that she is going to be on board and part of our staff.

All board members present were in favor

Item 19-31 is approved

D.4. New Business

19-32 Approval of the Connecticut State Department of Education Addendum to Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs (ED-099) Healthy Food Certification Statement; Consideration 2 – Exemption for Food Items

Chairwoman Russo asked for a motion to approve item 19-32

Rosa Richardson made the motion

Karen Pacelli seconded the motion

Discussion:

All board members present were in favor

Item 19-32 is approved

19-33 West Haven Board of Education and Sodexo Operations, LLC
AMENDMENT (3rd Renewal)

Chairwoman Russo asked for a motion to approve item 19-33

Bob Guthrie made the motion

Karen Pacelli seconded the motion

Discussion:

All board members present were in favor

Item 19-33 is approved

Chairwoman Russo said the rest is informational and again good luck to all the retirees under informational

F. Informational

Chairwoman Russo asked for a motion to adjourn

Jim Morrissey made the motion

Patrick Leigh seconded the motion

All board members were in favor

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Marylou Amendola

Board Secretary

BOE Student Rep Report

June 3, 2019

1. Today is the first day of finals! Good luck to all students!
2. Thank you to those who contributed and attended our Scholarship Night. On behalf of all the students who received something, we truly appreciate your support.
3. Next stop is graduation on June 11th at 6pm. Rehearsals will be this Friday and next Monday! As the tradition goes, seniors will have Up All Night, which will be at Urban Air this year. Thank you to everyone who helped to make that night possible!