

**WEST HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**June 28, 2004**

The meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Chairman John Carrano at 7:00 p.m. The meeting opened with a pledge to the flag.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** John Carrano  
Toni Paine  
Krista Pickering  
Raymond Collins III  
Robert Guthrie  
George Monahan

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Anne Heffernan  
Paul Messina  
Howard Horvath, Jr.

**ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:** Superintendent Paul Tortora  
Assistant Superintendent Neil Cavallaro

**PUBLIC PORTION**

Chairman Carrano asked if anyone wished to address the Board.

Raeanna Brooks, Editor in Chief of the West Haven High School Yearbook presented a copy of the book to the Board.

Chairman Carrano asked three times if anyone else wished to address the board. No one spoke so the Public Portion of the meeting was closed.

**REPORTS**

**C.1.**

Superintendent Tortora stated that closing of schools went well. He thanked the Board for all the support they give the children.

Superintendent Tortora reported on the following projects: Mackrille School move is coming along. Haley move has transpired. Forest is moving very nicely. It should be ahead of schedule. Window replacement is going well. The front façade came in overbid. Superintendent Tortora met with the architects. They are doing a minor design change. It will be going back out to bid shortly. He is hoping it will come at a more aggressive price.

**C.1.a.**

Assistant Superintendent Cavallaro reiterated what Mr. Tortora said regarding the closing of schools. He said all the ceremonies were first class and the teachers and students were outstanding.

Assistant Superintendent Cavallaro stated that the CMT results were released on Friday. Mr. Cavallaro presented a CMT Overview – the purpose, what is scored, how it is scored. He will meet with the principals and John Clifford shortly. Board members can go to [cmtreport.com](http://cmtreport.com) to compare towns and categories. It has not been updated yet but will be in the next few days. You can do different comparisons. More details to follow at the next meeting.

John Carrano noticed significant drops.

Mr. Cavallaro stated that the number of students in special education and bi-lingual students now taking the test has increased. The percentage of students went up so scores will drop.

Superintendent Tortora stated that the Fireworks Committee requested use of West Haven High School parking lot. He thanked Mr. Mark Bergamo, Chairman for being present.

Mark Bergamo, Chairman of the Fireworks Committee requested the use of the West Haven High School parking lot. He stated 25% would go to Up All Night, 25% to Breast Cancer Awareness, and the remainder to the Fireworks. They will hire a policeman and will have a member of their committee, someone from Breast Awareness, and someone from Up All Night to monitor parking. There will be signs, "Park at your own risk". He would propose a fee of \$5.00 to park.

Mr. Tortora asked if that applied to city residents also.

Mr. Carrano noted that people pay taxes and now they will be charged to park.

Mr. Guthrie inquired if school students would be monitoring. Mr. Bergamo said only adults would monitor.

Mr. Guthrie asked who would clean up the mess in the lot.

Mr. Bergamo stated they would assign a sub committee to clean up the next day and the city will be cleaning up the beach area.

Mr. Carrano asked if there would be problems with the union for clean up.

Superintendent Tortora said no.

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Mr. Monahan reiterated that taxpayers should not be charged to park on their own land. Are they going to check ID?

Mr. Bergamo said who would check for stickers. The primary focus is to raise money for fireworks. He will walk to the fireworks so as not to take up a space. \$5.00 will pay for fireworks. If all residents park for free – where's the money?

Mr. Carrano personally has a problem with residents paying for parking in a public facility. Where else can they park. Are they paying at any other beach location?

Mr. Bergamo stated he did not know.

Mr. Cavallaro said what about soliciting for a donation rather than a fee.

Mrs. Paine thought that was an excellent idea.

Mr. Tortora said they can lock the back gates on the Kelsey Avenue side. The only entry would be by the Stadium. They can have 2 attendants check for beach sticker for residency and ask for a donation. Non residents can be charged.

Mr. Guthrie is comfortable with beach stickers as the only proof of residency.

Mr. Carrano agreed.

Mr. Collins suggested a double fee for non-residents.

Mr. Bergamo stated that if the Board was comfortable with these arrangements then they can go forward with the plan.

Mr. Tortora asked if all were comfortable with beach sticker-free parking; charge for non residents.

All comfortable.

Mr. Bergamo stated residents who have beach stickers will park free, and will be asked for a donation. Kelsey Ave. entrance will be blocked. Stadium side will be used. Thank you.

Mr. Tortora stated he preferred to leave any students out of it.

Mr. Guthrie asked if we heard anything about the Bailey generator.

Mr. Carrano said he did not know.

Mr. Tortora will check on that.

**04122**

Mr. Carrano asked for a motion. A MOTION was made by Mrs. Paine. SECONDED by Raymond Collins. The MOTION was passed.

Superintendent Tortora distributed the salaries for the coaches.

**BOARD REPORTS**

Mr. Carrano asked if there were any Board Reports.

Mr. Collins stated all cuts and bruises were healing from Up All Night.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mr. Carrano asked if there were any Committee Reports.

Mr. Guthrie asked when we will meet to have an operating budget for the rink, WHHS pool, stadium and food service.

Mr. Tortora said he does not have the report. Will have it at the next meeting.

Mr. Carrano said that August 11, 2004 is the meeting for self assessment. Please get the list of questions back.

Mr. Carrano reported that the Athletic Committee Meeting was called to order and adjourned due to a lack of quorum.

**Approval of Minutes**

Mrs. Paine stated that minutes of the meeting of the 7<sup>th</sup> reported Paul Messina absent but he was there.

A MOTION was made by Raymond Collins. SECONDED by Toni Paine. The motion was passed.

**D.2. Resignations**

A MOTION was made by Raymond Collins. SECONDED by Krista Pickering. The motion was passed.

**D.3. Leave of Absence (Certified)**

A MOTION was made by George Monahan. SECONDED by Toni Paine. The motion was passed.

**D.4. New Hires: Non-Certified**

A MOTION was made by Krista Pickering. SECONDED by Toni Paine. The motion was passed.

**D.5.: New Hires Certified**

A MOTION was made by Raymond Collins. SECONDED by George Monahan. John Carrano stated that the salaries are correct on the handout. The motion was passed unanimously.

**D.6 New Hires Certified**

A MOTION was made by Toni Paine. SECONDED by George Monahan. The motion was passed.

**E.New Business**

04-120 Collaboration with ACES relative to moving Intellectually Disabled Program back to West Haven High School. A MOTION was made by Robert Guthrie. SECONDED by Raymond Collins. Mr. Carrano congratulated everyone who worked. The motion was passed.

04-121 Request from Director of Pupil Services for 4 New Positions: Medical Paraprofessional at Forest School, Medical Paraprofessional at Washington School, Medical Paraprofessional at Stiles Alternate School, Medical Paraprofessional at Mackrille. All of the above positions will be filled with displaced Paraprofessional currently employed by the West Haven Board of Education. A MOTION was made by Toni Paine. SECONDED by Krista Pickering. Mr. Guthrie asked how many remaining displaced paraprofessionals are there. Mr. Tortora stated one. The MOTION was passed.

04-122-A MOTION was made by Raymond Collins. SECONDED by Toni Paine. The motion was passed.

John Carrano stated that F.q. needs to be stricken. There is no need for an involuntary transfer. Someone volunteered. Please strike F.q. from Informational. John Carrano asked if there were any questions.

George Monahan asked if it were common for voluntary transfers from school to school.

Superintendent Tortora stated yes. Per the contract teachers have a right to request a transfer. Principals restaff their buildings. Neil Cavallaro works from the request sheet. He works with the union. A reduction in positions requires placing displaced people. Anything else is posted only once. After those people are placed any vacancies are advertised. This went very smooth. Neil Cavallaro, Jolene Barnes, Patti Fusco, and Mary Elia worked very hard.

Mr. Tortora stated that he and Robert Guthrie met with the dean of UNH regarding interdistrict magnet school. The meeting went very well. The dean was very supportive and excited. He will pursue this over the summer.

Mr. Tortora said Mary Elia's term will end July 1, 2004. He said she was truly a great person and has done a lot for children. Thank you.

John Carrano said a magnet school was Robert Guthrie's vision. He did a fabulous job and this will be great for the City.

#### **G.Executive Session**

A MOTION was made by Raymond Collins. SECONDED by Krista Pickering. The motion was passed.

The Public meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m. The Public Portion was closed.

A MOTION was made by Krista Pickering to come out of Executive Session. SECONDED by George Monahan. There was no discussion. The MOTION was passed unanimously. The Session ended at 8:37 p.m.

A MOTION to adjourn the meeting was made by Toni Paine. SECONDED by Robert Guthrie. The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.