

WEST HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
January 4, 2010
Regular Board Meeting

The Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Board of Education was held at the Blake Building, 25 Ogden Street, West Haven on January 4, 2010. The meeting was called to order by Howard Horvath, Jr., Chairman of the Board of Education at 7:00 p.m. The meeting opened with a pledge to the flag.

BOARD MEMBERS

IN ATTENDANCE:

Howard Horvath Jr., Chairman
T. Sean Maher, Vice Chairman
Eric Murillo, Secretary/Treasurer
Dorinda Borer
Patrick Egolum
M. Toni Paine
Mark Palmieri
Robert Saley

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Andrew DePalma

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Neil Cavallaro, Superintendent of Schools
Anne Druzolowski
Dave Cappetta, Director of Finance

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

PRESENT:

Eric Pang
Gypsy Garcia
Brandon Patterson

Howard Horvath welcomed everyone to the West Haven Board of Education regular meeting for January 4, 2010. He then stated the following:

We honored the passing of Marisa Matrisciano and Rose Reilly with a moment of silence at our last meeting but if you wouldn't mind I would like to say a few words as well. I didn't know Marisa well but I could tell she was a woman of great character and commitment. I would see her and her family at church every Sunday or see her presiding at special PTA events like the BOE debates. What I'll miss most is *not* seeing her sitting

here at our (BOE) meetings every other week. I hope her family knows how much we appreciate her contribution to our schools and its children.

And Rose - we all know that teachers are the life-blood of this school system – that ultimately we'll only be able to go about as far as they can lead us. I believe that any parent fortunate to have had Rose teach their child, as I did, will never forget her. Rose was a bit of a maverick determined to lead her students to their fullest potential in her own special way. In her eulogy, her oldest son Sean explained, "To say it simply, she had an unconventional teaching style. She believed that nourishing each child's self worth and critical thinking were just as important as the fundamentals of reading and mathematics. For 23 years, music, dance, and student-of-the-week celebrations were key teaching tools. Education is something that takes place in a classroom. But, she always felt that real teaching required touching the heart of each student with kindness, grace, and wisdom. Rosemarie is dead but not gone. She's given her students and all that knew her a piece of her heart to take with us". And we are the better for it. Again, I hope her family knows how thankful we are for her very special contribution.

Howie welcomed Dorinda Borer our newest member to the Board of Education and our new Student Representatives Gypsy Garcia and Brendan Patterson.

Howie then asked if anyone would like to address the board during public session.

B. Public Session

Patti Fusco, 311 Shingle Hill Road, West Haven stated that she knows this was announced at the Organizational Meeting of the Board of Education but she wanted this to be in the record at a public meeting. One of our school nurses Susan Marchitto who is a nurse at Washington School was named Connecticut's Nurse of the Year and she is very much deserving of this. We believe she is going to go all the way. There will be a celebration at the end of January and we will be sending an invitation to all of you for it. She is our third nurse to receive an honor which is really something when you consider that we are such a small town compared to some of the others. Sandy McCauley was

named Connecticut Nurse of the Year and Donna Kosiorowski was Connecticut Nurse Supervisor of the Year so we are honored to have Susan and such fine nurses with us.

The board gave thanks.

Nancy Rossi, 12 Robin Road, West Haven stated that on behalf of the Black Coalition I would like to invite everyone to the Dr. King Tribute which will take place this Sunday, January 10th at 4:00 PM and this will take place at the First Congregational Church on the Green. This will last a couple of hours and a light meal will be served afterwards. It is a very moving and spiritual time.

She welcomed the new board member, Dorinda Borer and congratulated Howie Horvath the Chairman and Sean Maher on Vice-Chair and Eric on Secretary Treasurer. She looks forward to working with everyone and as you know she can't see it being a great budgetary year and is still concerned and has voiced her opinion on this before. She is worried about the stimulus money and the positions being created. Are we going to be able to afford them afterwards and if not do we keep the position and get rid of a teacher and that is a concern to me because as you just said without the teachers we are not going to be able to do anything. It is wonderful for our children to have the Preschool experience but I am concerned. At the end of the year the first place we start cutting are the teachers and that again is a concern. I am concerned as how we will absorb these positions into the budget.

The board gave thanks.

Public Session closed at 7:10 PM

C. REPORTS

C.1. Administration

Before beginning the presentations Neil Cavallaro said there was actually no stimulus money used in that particular job. That money is funded from the Groustein Foundation, money we received from the West Haven Community House, a lot of that money is subsidized from the Readiness Grant which is how we paid Larry Frattini and there is some Title I money and some IDEA money. We funded it from a number of sources and we are pretty confident we will be able to maintain this job without any impact on our budget.

Neil called Pam Gardner to officially introduce our new Student Board Representatives. Pam Gardner, Principal of WHHS, stated she had the honor this year of talking to a number of students in the junior class to fill two positions as student reps and join Eric Pang. The entire junior class was given the opportunity to express interest in these positions and 23 students were interested and received an application and were asked to fill it out and submit a writing sample. Six students submitted a writing sample and all six students could be here tonight; they are the best of the best. We then surveyed the

staff and had them rate the students on a 1 to 6 scale based from the pillars of character and then a committee of 2 administrators, 3 teachers, and a student representative, Eric Pang interviewed all the candidates and we were very pleased with all six. She then introduced the two new class representatives Brandon Patterson and Gypsy Garcia.

Brandon stated he was honored to be chosen and would like to thank Miss Gardner and the interview committee. He stated some of the things he is involved in at the high school. He is Captain of the Tennis Team and is involved in the Mock Trial Group, band, AIC and the student council. Gypsy stated she too was honored to be chosen for this wonderful opportunity and would also like to thank Miss Gardner and the interview committee. She is involved in the Mock Trial Group, student council and band. They hope through their involvement they can bring the opinions of the high school here and make the environment a lot better.

Neil thanked them and applause followed. He stated they have a great role model in Eric because he has brought a lot to the board and is not afraid to ask good questions. When we have people up here he is not afraid to state his opinion and he is also very positive spokesman for West Haven. We hope that any concerns you have we can work with you to get them addressed and look forward to a very productive two years.

Neil than called Marilyn Lynch, Mark Consorte and Mary Janeczek along with some student reps to discuss the Academic Integrity Committee at the high school. Since Brandon and Gypsy are a part of this they are welcome to participate.

Mark Consorte said the AIC Group is a very special group that I am most proud of. We have about 45 teachers and students involved at WHHS and met about every three weeks and our goal is to promote academic integrity. We started about three years ago. Gypsy, Eric and Brandon are all in my AP Government Class so they might start drilling me with questions (laughter) and they really are the best and the brightest so good luck to you.

He introduced Marilyn Lynch who will run the power point, Mary Janeczek, the Math Department Head and Liana Teixeira a senior and is the President; Sarah Green is the Secretary and a senior as well and is in the top 5 of their class. It is a pleasure to work with such dedicated people as David Weingard from the School of Ethical Education (SEE) in Milford, CT. He has been with us the last three years and this is how we started. David and the University of Connecticut and their Psychology Department wanted to get some data on cheating and the scope and magnitude of the problem. They picked six schools and we at the high school – the honors committee - were grappling with creating a cheating policy at the time. We were chosen as one of the six schools and it was a three year commitment and they gave us \$10,000 to work with over a three year period. We have been able to do a lot of things which we will be able to share with you; the trip to Washington D.C. for example.

Professional development was given on the issue of cheating and academic integrity in August of 2008 to the entire faculty at WHHS. There have been studies done the last two years in the spring and this spring there will be another study to collect data. Later

perhaps we can come and talk about the study and its findings. I don't think West Haven has a bigger cheating problem than anywhere else but cheating is one of those things that are always there and adults in our society cheat and kids are tempted to cheat as well. We are trying to change the culture and this is one little way to do it but it is an important one. We are trying to educate kids about cheating and to promote integrity and doing the right thing. It is a real worthy cause and this is just a brief overview. Sarah Green discussed the Washington D.C. trip in late October. The whole point behind the trip was to partake in a conference on character education which was hosted by a character education partnership organization dedicated to promoting various ideals; they deal with bullying, honesty, integrity, responsibility and all across the board. They were able to act as members of a panel in one session. We did a question and answer segment with a variety of people from all over the U.S. This was a great opportunity to collaborate with like minded people and we took away a lot of great information and were able to share effective strategies within our own school. (Applause) Liana Teixeira talked about the trip to the elementary schools, 2nd and 3rd grades, which was done about three weeks ago. They thought by showing students at a young age and get them prepared how life is going to be in the future and it is a good thing to start talking about it now especially with college coming up and we gave them examples of how cheating can impact your future. They read the kids a story called Sponge Bob doesn't cheat. Ms. Lynch and Mary Janeczek also spoke about the visits to the elementary schools. After students read the book they recited the pledge and teachers were given bracelets to give out to children. Ms. Lynch said the AIC Honor Code was adopted and approved by the faculty in 2009. A further discussion ensued.

David Weingard, School for Ethical Education in Milford talked about the survey results and said people are ashamed of the issue and don't want to deal with it and everyone should be because we have given up as an adult culture on the idea that academic integrity should be enforced. Three things received from all the survey results across the state are:

1. Promote the idea that integrity matters. It is a moral ethical dilemma. When kids identify the integrity as a moral or ethical issue they are less likely to cheat. As opposed to if they just look at it as the school administration doesn't want us to cheat or my teacher doesn't want us to cheat. They are less likely to cheat if they say to themselves this is a moral ethical thing.
2. Recognizes the excuses for cheating and refuting them. The example given was adults not paying their taxes with reasons such as I don't want to pay for it or I don't support this. Kids do this by saying its just homework etc.
3. Students want help and we need to have collaboration by working together to make this meaningful.

At the end of the presentation all board members took the Academic Integrity Pledge. Students at the high school took this pledge promising not to cheat.

The overhead presentation will be available on the website; an outline of the presentation follows:

- **AIC MISSION STATEMENT:**
- **The AIC's Mission is to:**
Promote the values of
Responsibility and
Integrity in order to
Develop a shared understanding
of the benefits of honesty and to
Educate the school community.

- ☆ **AIC HONOR CODE:**
We at West Haven High School strive to reflect
integrity through:

- - q **Honesty** –
submitting work that is one's original creation and not
assisting others in misrepresenting work,
 - q **Respect**–
acknowledging and respecting the efforts of others and
treating them equally,
 - q **Responsibility**–
recognizing the effects of one's actions and taking
responsibility for possible consequences, and
 - q **Dedication** –
working hard to achieve one's own potential and
persevering in the face of obstacles.
- **Academic Integrity Committee**
West Haven High School
- ******Approved by the WHHS Faculty, June, 2009.**
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- **AIC PLEDGE**
- **THE AIC PLEDGE:**

“I pledge to be honest, fair, and respectful in all my dealings with fellow Westies.

*I will display my Westie Pride
by not cheating, stealing, lying, or
assisting others in doing so.”*

The board members all took the Academic Integrity Pledge and received a copy of the pledge card at the end of the presentation.

The board gave thanks.

Neil Cavallaro stated that we spend a lot of time talking about our growing Adult Education Program and the need for more alternative types of programs. We thought it would be nice to bring Francine Coppola, Director of Adult Education here to talk a little about the program and how it has growing and the different things that are happening.

Francine introduced herself and stated that the Mission Statement is very, very important and is the philosophy behind everything that they do.

Mission Statement

- ▶ West Haven Adult Education is centered on the belief that the aim of education is to help prepare students to assume a meaningful and productive role in school and society. The program is designed to meet the needs of all ages, cultural backgrounds and abilities. Students are offered the opportunity to acquire knowledge, gain skills, or develop their personal interests. The West Haven Adult Education Program promotes the pursuit of lifelong learning, responsible citizenship and decision making in a culturally diverse world.

Program Components

- General Educational Diploma
- High School Credit Diploma Program
- National External Diploma Program
- Citizenship
- ESL
- Basic Skills
- Adult Living Skills
- Fee Based General Interest and Vocational Classes
- Workforce Training

Pathways to A High School Diploma

- High School Credit Diploma Program
- GED-General Educational Diploma
- NEDP-National External Diploma Program

Program Profile

High School Credit Diploma

- ▶ Credits:
 - Credit based classes
 - Virtual High School-online classes
 - Work Experience

Program Profile CDP

	06-07	07-08	08-09	Fall 09
Students	154	169	185	203
Enrollments	1,276	1,616	1,645	
Diplomas	55	57	64	(50)

ABE and GED Program

- ▶ ABE students receive remediation in math strands that will aid them in the GED test, improve math skills for future job opportunities, or as a stepping ground for our NEDP.
- ▶ The GED Program is designed for students wanting to earn their high school diploma program by participating in classroom instruction and passing the official GED State Test.
- ▶ Adult Living Skills Program is designed to help improve the life skills of adults with special needs.

ABE and GED Profile

	06-07	07-08	08-09	Fall 09

Students	105	91	136	110
Enrollments	135	132	171	
Diplomas	8	8	15	

National External Diploma Program

NEDP

- ▶ This program is designed for students with barriers to participate in traditional diploma programs.
- ▶ Students must be 22 years of age or older.
- ▶ Students must meet the requirements in reading and math as defined by NEDP.
- ▶ CT is one of 10 states to offer this program and WHAE is one of 90 sites in the nation.

NEDP Profile

	08-09	Fall 09
Students	12	23

Enrollments	32	40
Graduates	3	7

English as a Second Language

ESL

- ▶ Our ESL Program instructs non-English speakers to read, write, speak and understand English.
- ▶ ESL targets students who are immigrants, workers who need to improve job skills for job advancement, and parents who want to take an active role in their children's education.

ESL

- ▶ We are serving students from the following countries:
 - Peru, Mexico, El Salvador, Dominican Republic, Sudan, Puerto Rico, Somalia, Portugal, Spain, Argentina, Ecuador, Guatemala, Jamaica, Brazil, Honduras, Jordan, Liberia, Uruguay, Pakistan, Turkey, Canada, India, Indonesia, Morocco, Laos, Haiti, Cape Verde

*Collaborative with Family Resource Center

*West Haven Community House

ESL Profile

	06-07	07-08	08-09	Fall 09
ESL Students	96	91	148	110
ESL Enrollments	127	113	184	

Citizenship

- ▶ Citizenship classes are designed for foreign-born adults who wish to become United States citizens.
- ▶ Persons completing this program are prepared to pursue citizenship through the prescribed Immigration and Naturalization process.

	06-07	07-08	08-09	Fall 09
Students	6	9	13	12
Enrollments	8	16	28	

AE Total Profile

	06-07	07-08	08-09	Fall 09
Mandated Students	361	360	494	403

AE Mandated Enrollments

	06-07	07-08	08-09
Mandated Enrollments	1,546	1,616	2,060

Ages of Students in AE

Age	06-07	07-08	08-09
16-18	113	115	137
19-21	51	53	70
22-24	34	29	36
25-44	119	124	183
45-59	40	34	56

60+	4	5	12
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Parents Who Attend AE Having Children

	06-07	07-08	08-09
5 yrs. or <	31	46	69
6-10 yrs.	25	28	50
11-18 yrs,	19	35	48

Meeting 21st Century Workforce Challenges

- ▶ Education is constantly changing, and even at a faster pace in the workforce.
- ▶ WHAE is preparing employees at every level to meet these challenges of today and tomorrow
- ▶ Fee based course selections:
- ▶ Vocational
- ▶ Technology
- ▶ Personal Interest
- ▶ Approx. Enrollment 1,000 per yr.

Collaboratives

- ▶ Family Resource Center
- ▶ Women and Men in Construction
- ▶ West Haven Community House
- ▶ Workforce Alliance

Summary

- ▶ WHAE has grown and developed significantly. This growth has allowed the program the ability to address a variety of students for a variety of needs. The need to educate the adult population in West Haven is important, not only to enhance the economics of the city, but to help the parents of our children in West Haven.
- ▶ We are embedded in the community. The many collaboratives, help to enhance funding and student achievement.
- ▶ We build a foundation for student success which adds value to people's lives.

Francine stated she is the President of the Connecticut Association for Adult and Continuing Education and is very proud to represent West Haven and the State of Connecticut. Applause

The board gave thanks.

Dorinda Borer asked if there were demographics showing if there were more male or females in various categories. Yes she will be given this information. She also asked about the Workforce Alliance for the grants. The grants are received from the Workforce Alliance located on the Boulevard.

Eric Murillo asked why the Workforce Alliance building on Campbell Avenue stopped being used. They are renovating the building. There are about 27 students that will be using the ACES Room in the High School for this in the spring and this is handicapped accessible.

Dorinda asked if there was a version in Spanish for the Adult Ed catalog. Yes there is.

The board gave thanks.

C.1. a. Status of Schools

Neil welcomed Dorinda Borer, Gypsy Garcia and Brandon Patterson to the Board and looks forward to working with them over the next two years. He congratulated Howie Horvath and looks forward to working with him. They have several meetings planned.

The ACES Meeting will take place on Tuesday the 5th and Howie, Patti Fusco and Neil will attend. He is pleased that the Union will sign off on the memorandum of understanding that the state needs for the application. You receive more points if you get all three signatures and all three signatures are on the memorandum of understanding. He thanked Patti for her efforts for working with her executive board and for getting a lot of answers to questions through her connections with the American Federation of Teachers. The application has to be submitted by January 9th so it doesn't give the State much time so he is not so sure we won't be going through the process again when they have the second round of applications but we will find out as much as we can about the money. West Haven has a chance to get approximately 1.75 Million Dollars over 3 years roughly \$600,000.00 a year if Connecticut receives its share of the funding. Our administrative team in the Blake Building will be holding a series of budget meetings this week. We hope to have something to you prior to our next board meeting so that at that meeting we can set up a series of meeting or meeting to adopt a proposed budget to send over to City Hall. If we get it to you prior to the 19th we can set up at least one meeting and that would give the board two weeks to get a proposed budget to the Mayor's Office. We must have the budget there by February 1st.

He was notified that the high school project has been submitted to legislature with a B rating and they are rated A, B, C and D. In good economic times most A&B status projects do get funding. This year we must be cautious with the financial crunch going on. When official notification is received he will pass it along. At some point we will also be meeting with the State Reps to see if there is more we can do to put the funding in place.

Neil felt it was important to publicly thank Joe Yacono and Mike McGrath and the maintenance staff for all their efforts at Washington School with the boiler project. A boiler had caught on fire a week ago Sunday and we were very concerned that we would not be able to open school and we would have to do some maneuvering of students but that wasn't the case. They worked extremely well as a team with the necessary contractors and Building Oversight Committee and we opened on time. The Fire Inspector said that they did a bang up job. The efforts of our guys in an emergency situation really paid off and they should all be recognized for their hard work and effort.

Anne Druzolowski updated the board of some professional development. Doug Reeves will be coming on January 26th at 6:00 PM at Lorenzo's with administrators and the board who will receive invitations. There will be an informal discussion relevant to school leadership and there will be some detailed discussions about the 90/90/90 study.

The next morning at WHHS we have our district wide professional development day. Dr. Reeves will speak about 8:00 – 8:30 AM and discuss leadership topics and the 90/90/90 study and expectations for all students. Teachers will have lunch, come back and work with facilitators in each of their groups devoting their focus to questions designed to have them probe deeply into the meaning of what Dr. Reeves has told them and how it impacts what they do everyday. They will keep records on this and send those notes to us and we can share this with you. Anne gave a brief description of the 90/90/90 study stating that 90% of the population within the school are low income economically but despite all the variables we look at as obstacles to performance these schools performed higher than any other schools in the country. Those schools are now at 100/100. A copy of this research had been given to board members earlier. Perseverance and consistency make very effective schools and we have been following that pretty much.

Common Form of Assessment Training is taking place February 2nd and 3rd. Two groups will be learning about writing curriculum and writing their assessments. This includes Tech Ed, Art, Music, Early Childhood, Physical Education, Health and Language. Larry Ainsworth will be doing the presenting/training at West River Hall. A further discussion ensued.

Our on-line professional development calendar is always updated and the 12th & 13th is a continuation of what has been offered throughout the year in five sessions with Dr. Cardova and he will be talking about instructional strategies.

The K-5 Math Pilot has self assessment going on now for approximately 55 teachers. A report will be forthcoming. A discussion ensued.

Pagels School computer lab from 8:30 to 2:30 will be receiving training from a curriculum specialist relative to use of on-line student addition and teacher additions, new tools, quiz show and success trackers. The teachers are very excited about it and particularly like being able to access the internet and use their smartboards. We don't have enough smartboards and as we move on we can get more.

We are going into our second CFA (Common Form of Assessment Process) for most of the basic skills subject areas. They created them after reviewing the first ones and there will be continual changes because as the groups of teachers get better and understand how to create and better assess student, the tools will also look different and much better. We have 23 trainers so they can be used at each of the schools to help classroom teachers on how to best assess students.

C.1.b. Student Representatives

Howie welcomed are student representatives and Eric gave the board a reports Eric reported that some of the high school student athletes were honored to visit Thompson School and read as part of National Young Reader's Day. There was exciting news from the School Counseling Department. UNH, SCSU, and UB held on-site interviews and in some cases were able to offer on the spot acceptance. Eight students interviewed with UNH and 7 were accepted on the spot and were also awarded scholarships ranging up to \$18,000 per year. 19 students interviewed with SCSU and 16 were accepted and 3 are accepted pending receipt of additional information. 6 students interviewed with UB and all 6 were accepted.

The PSAT was held in October and results were provided to all sophomores and juniors in assemblies before vacation.

Alumni Day is Thursday, January 7th at WHHS.

Eric stated he has known Brandon and Gypsy for a good four years and they are very active and they deserve this honor. Applause

Brandon Patterson spoke about Activists for Service Learning funded a project in which the student group AMBIS and World Language Students visited district Elementary Schools to teach foreign language last spring. Senior Sarah Green is a finalist for the United States Youth Senate Program and Scholarship and was named the December Rotary Student of the Month. A successful food drive was held for WHEAT and in December, in conjunction with the West Haven Fire Department over 100 families benefitted from the Toys for Joy Drive. WHHS student athletes named to Coaches All-State Team Soccer – Nicole Pacapelli and Football – Frank Civitello and Devante Credle. Applause

Gypsy Garcia said that mid-terms are scheduled for January 21, 22, 25 and 26. A fundraiser for Blue & White Up All Night is scheduled for March – The Little Miss Westie and Junior Mr. Westie Pagent. WHHS has been busy with activities with Yale. The AP Bio class participated in a genetic lab using Yale facilities and was given a tour of the labs. Astronomy students visited the Yale Planetarium, the honors Bio classes are participating in Project Search, a water quality monitoring and aquatic studies program focusing on the Oyster River, 15 students were chosen to be part of the Peabody Museum's Evolutions Program. Marine Technology students attended a presentation by New Haven-West Haven Harbormaster, Michael Pimer and the New Haven Colony

Museum. Students in Facilities Management are working on making dog houses to be donated to Friends of Animals. Applause

The board gave thanks.

C.1. c. Board

Rob Saley spoke with Joe Yacono and would like to get him here to come before the board and discuss capital projects that might be in the pipe-line and looking at what we would do maintenance wise (although Washington School wasn't maintenance wise). Some of the nuances we know about he can explain to us. We can come up with a wish list and see what we can do over the next two to three years.

Neil said we sat down with Roger LeFleur two or three weeks ago to talk about some kind of maintenance mechanical study. We have to put together a five year plan and go back to the city that has to fund some of these projects. We certainly can't expect to fund things of an emergency nature like the boilers going on and what we should be prepared to say is if money becomes available when we submit a capital project these need to be our priorities. We need to be able to alternate on a yearly basis based on need. We need to go as a district and look at all of our facilities and with the help and assistance of the city.

Rob would like to see Joe Yacono come before us every quarter to tell us all the little things that have happened and maintenance problems that he might be able to nip in the bud.

Rob also thanked Mr. Stancil for a very informative wish list. When I look at this I am looking at an increase of about 330 kids for next year. Neil stated this is a little misleading because we don't do kindergarten registration until March and it is probably over inflated. He would be the overall enrollment for the district would probably go down based the study they did. We are continuing to loose students to the Magnet School Program.

Rob asked that the Early Learning Challenge Fund be looked into because there is eight billion dollars to be given out over the next few years.

Sean Maher attended: the Haley show which was hilarious, concerts at Bailey, Savin Rock, WHHS band and chorus. He attended the collaboration concert between the Middle and High School Band and in one day they were able to perform some pieces that you wouldn't normally tackle. They tackled Tsychovsy's Nutcracker Suite. Mr. Lupoli and Ms. Marcella had these students performing at the top of their game and they should be commended for that.

He thanked everyone for making his participation long distance possible at the previous meeting.

Toni Paine would like to set up some tentative dates for finance meetings. She also attended some of the Christmas functions and has to say that she attended one at a surrounding school district and our kids do a Really Great Job! West Haven has a lot to be proud of they really do.

Dorinda Borer is happy that there are two newly formed committees we really need to focus on and I look forward to working on these committees.

Mark Palmieri stated what a great job the students did on their presentation tonight and said he too had the same problem of people copying off of him when he was in school (laughter). Please keep up the great work. Mrs. Coppola does an excellent job and your enthusiasm and excitement you generate is evident. It's a nice feeling watching those people who might have had problems in their earlier days excel. He asked about the nursing program and Francine stated the Certified Nursing Program is still available.

He commended Mr. Stancil, Mr. Hunt and Mr. Winkle for helping a student before Christmas who had no way of getting home and no way of contacting his parents. They went up there with Mr. Cavallaro and were able to spend an hour or two of their own personal time in helping the student get home. He also said there was a nice article in today's Register in the local section about our Pre-K Program and Ms. Drenzek.

Howie Horvath stated that the citizens of West Haven should be excited about what is happening in our school district. He said we do have some tough times ahead but we will work through this. He also wanted to thank Mark for being so gracious and spending so much time working on the board. Mark thanked him.

Howie had talked with everyone in advance and passed out the committee listings stating who was chair of each committee and stated everyone seemed pretty comfortable with it. There were a couple of new ones that I thought would make sense for us namely Early Childhood/PreK & K and Parent Community Relations. He feels it is important to get out in the community and hear what they have to say.

Eric thanked Howie for appointing him Chairman of the Special Ed/Alternate and Adult Ed Committee. He has attended many graduations for Adult Ed and he admires Mrs. Coppola for her dedication in all she does.

A further discussion ensued about facilities, parking lots, the five year plan, possible move to Yale. Howie stated that these things can be focused on during committee meetings and brought back to a future board meeting.

D.1. Approval of Minutes

D.1.a. West Haven Board of Education Regular Meeting held
November 16, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Blake Bldg. (Enclosure)

T. Sean Maher made a motion to approve the Board of Education minutes D.1.a.
Mark Palmieri seconded the motion
Discussion: None
All board members present voted in favor
No one was opposed
Motion Carries - Minutes are approved

D.1.b. West Haven Board of Education Organizational Meeting held
December 28, 2009 at 5:15 p.m. in the Blake Bldg. (Enclosure)

Toni Paine made a motion to approve the Board of Education minutes D.1.b.
Mark Palmieri seconded the motion
Discussion: None
All board members present voted in favor
No one was opposed
Motion Carries - Minutes are approved

- D.2. Resignations: (Certified)**
- D.3. Resignations: (Non-Certified)**
- D.4. Leave of Absence: (Non-Certified)**

10-01 Andrea Santamauro, 10 Month Administrative Secretary – Washington
School
Effective: December 8, 2009
Reason: Personal

Howard Horvath asked for a motion to approve D.4. Leave of Absence (Non-Certified)
10-01
Mark Palmieri made a motion to approve D.4. Leave of Absence: (Non-Certified) 10-01
Rob Saley seconded the motion
Discussion: None
All board members voted in favor
Motion passes

- D.5. New Hire: (Certified)**
- D.6. New Hire: (Non-Certified)**
- D.7. New Business:**

**10-02 Correspondence from David G. Russell, Director of Grant
Administration requesting approval of the completed 2009-2010
Application for Educational Technology Entitlement Grants Title II,
Part D.**

Howard Horvath asked for a motion to approve D.7. New Business 10-02
Mark Palmieri made a motion to approve D.7. New Business: 10-02
Rob Saley seconded the motion

Discussion: Eric Murillo said that there were three schools mentioned and do they receive part of that money. Yes this money goes to Title II schools and Notre Dame is involved also.

All board members present voted in favor

Motion passes

F. Informational:

Toni said there was quite an in depth report on the Capital Plans last year and it might be something we would like a copy of to look at. There was a lot on it that would be beneficial. She may still have it.

Neil said we really need to reach out to the city and develop a comprehensive plan in conjunction with them or where we want to be five – 10 years from now. I believe it is something that we lack not only on our end but also on the City's end and this would make the setting of goals possible.

Nothing further to add

Howard Horvath asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mark Palmieri made a motion to adjourn the meeting

Patrick Egolum seconded the motion

All members were in favor

The meeting ended at 8:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Marylou Amendola

Board Secretary