

WEST HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
July 16, 2012
Regular Board Meeting
Council Chambers

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was held in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, CT on July 16, 2012. The meeting was called to order by Mark Palmieri Chairman of the Board of Education at 7:00 p.m. The meeting opened with a pledge to the flag.

BOARD MEMBERS

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mark Palmieri, Chairman
M. Toni Paine, Vice Chair
Patricia Libero, Secretary/Treasurer
Dorinda Borer
Betsy Davis
Patrick Egolum
Robert Guthrie
Cebi Waterfield

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Eric Murillo

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Anne Druzolowski, Assistant Superintendent
David Cappetta, Director of Finance
Matt Cavallaro

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

PRESENT: Stacie Hurley

Chairman Palmieri welcomed everyone to the July 16, 2012 Board of Education Regular Meeting.

B. Public Portion of Meeting

Mark Palmieri stated the public portion is open and asked three times if anyone would like to address the board.

There were no speakers.

Public session closed at 7:03 PM.

C. REPORTS

C.1.a. Administration/Status of Schools

Assistant Superintendent Anne Druzolowski requested that Dave Cappetta begin with the 2012 Year End Financial Status Report.

Dave Cappetta said we are waiting for the last June insurance bill so we can finalize the entry and the budget. We estimated a couple hundred thousand ahead. We estimated high for the workman's comp bill so it doesn't come in more than we expected and for any excess we plan to utilize the rest with the resolution that the City Council had passed and put the excess funds towards the subsequent year. Dave asked if there were any questions.

Dorinda said the difference in the health benefits for the certified how much do you think the last bill is going to be? Is that what you are talking about? Dave said the last year's bill was 2.3 million. Dorinda said the last bill was that much? Yes the last bill was high.

There were no other questions. The board thanked Dave for the presentation.

Dr. Druzolowski said the Alliance District Application is new legislation set up to deal with the top 30 schools that need support in the state. This represents over 40% of the student population in the state. We are one of the districts. We had an application that we needed to submit by Friday, July 13th for the early review and we submitted it Thursday for the early review on Friday. The official date for submittal is the middle of August. We are hoping to get a lot of information and feedback so it is recursive they will tell us what they don't like and what they do like. Basically it is taking what we are doing and putting it in their format with a real focus on schools in need of improvement. It was a frustrating process because a lot of people up there that are writing applications that really aren't educators so it is difficult to write for people who don't understand education. We will do whatever they tell us to do and as you know it is about 1.389 million just short of 1.4 and that will complete our budget. I am trying to move as quickly as possible so money will be released to us. There were no questions.

Dr. Druzolowski was very pleased with the summary of the CMT and CAPT that came out last Friday. She is trying to look at the same group of kids over time and even without looking at the same group of kids over time she is pleased with where she sees the district moving. The key is really looking at those same kids over two years and we are able to do that and will be able to give you that information in the fall and we anticipate a full report at that time.

Pat Libero asked if they wanted to access it can they access it on line. Right now it is not open to the public. She will have to question that with Neil. It is really tight in terms of security. She will check with Neil. Pat didn't know if it was available or not.

Dr. Druzolowski said open positions as of Friday, July 13th we anticipate being able to receive enough applications to make final decisions and we are still interviewing in some of the key areas. The difficult positions run from Chemistry which is probably our most sought after position and Spanish is an area that not a lot of people are certified in so we are looking for a couple of key people. We have had great applicants for mathematics and English and are looking for a couple of reading consultants and we will be good to go.

Dorinda asked if there are a lot of openings in Special Ed because there is promotion from within. It seemed like there were more openings than normal. Ann said it is for a variety of reasons. People have retired and there aren't that many positions I believe there were four. It doesn't get easier it gets tougher. We didn't have any dismissals and people retired for personal reasons.

We are getting an additional \$200 some odd thousand for the Readiness Grant. We knew we would be receiving extra slots and in this case it was 208650. Tutor time will be receiving 10 more full time slots and East Shore will receive 5 and Kids Club 10. Those slots increase the availability on a sliding scale for our pre-school youngsters to be able to get into that type of set up. We work very closely with our own childhood committee with these groups of child care providers and they do a very fine job so we are really thrilled that we have 25 more slots to take care of our kids in this district.

There are two positions that we haven't interviewed for yet but Ann believes we will be on July 26th for the Early Childhood Coordinator as well as the Assistant Director for Special Education. We have had quite a few entries and are being very careful of the screening and are looking at the qualifications of the people coming in. More and more people either want our staff or want to come to our district so it has been quite nice. The board thanked Dr. Druzolowski.

C.1.b. Student Representatives

There were no reports given during this meeting.

C.1.c. Board

Dorinda has a question on the Rink and what is going on because maybe a year ago we had discussions on outsourcing and privatization and what came up at that time was the rink commission. She thinks everyone had agreed that the rink commission needed to be revitalized and there were appointments being made and she thinks that our thought process then was that the rink commission can help oversee and improve operational issues and can kind of bridge the Park Rec/City/Board of Ed because there are two mayoral appointments, there is a board appointment, and she thinks the superintendent is an ex-officio member and having that kind of independent commission in place will kind of avoid sometimes that tug of war about what is going on with the rink. The rink commission hasn't met and she doesn't think the official appointment was ever made.

Mark said we can definitely look into it but as far as I know, and Mr. Cappetta please tell me if I am wrong, the rink is doing very well and they already have everything booked for the season if I am correct. Dave said the rink is doing very well. Mark said as far as finances it is the first year we have been in the black so I would have to say that is fantastic.

Dorinda thinks that is great and from all the reports the rink is doing well. She is not questioning how well the rink is doing she is not questioning the decisions being made; she is questioning the process because as a body we decided to go a certain path in making the decisions and we didn't put that commission together.

Mark said he would check with Neil. Dorinda said she thinks the Rink commission appointment comes from Mark. Toni Paine said she remembers Neil giving the board the information that night and he knew the process so you may want to check with him before we go ahead. Toni said it may be in the minutes from last year. Dorinda said she thinks it was established for a purpose originally so I think the intent and the edict is there and we should probably follow it and that will avoid any controversy. Mark said he will check on this and get back to Dorinda on this.

Cebi said she attended Bailey's graduation and the high school graduation and they students are so well spoken. A couple of students spoke at the Bailey Graduation and several at the high school and she was really impressed with how well spoken and at ease they are in front of a large crowd. They did a really good job.

Pat Libero said the high school graduation was great. She loves graduation; the kids are great and it is a lot of fun to be at. She missed Bailey's and hopes to be at it next year.

Bob Guthrie would like to see us as a board have the Chairman send a thank you to the City Council for enacting the ordinance to roll over funds. This was discussed a few years ago and it finally happened. He was glad to see this come to fruition.

He was happy to see the positive local meetings of the WHHS in the Globe Program that appeared in the paper.

The CAFE Conference is November 16th and 17th in Groton if anyone is interested. Early registration is through August 31st and we can swap names if we put in for three or four registrations and someone can't attend. He passed the form over to the board secretary.

Mark said the only thing we ask of anyone who would like to go to the meeting is if you are on the fence that you have someone else go because in the past we have paid and no one has gone so if you are going to make that commitment please stick by it.

C.1.d. Committee

Toni Paine said we would like to form two workshops and Bob Guthrie being the CAFE Liaison will be contacting them. Toni said we would like to do this before or after a board meeting in August. Bob said probably the CAFE Meeting will be an hour before the board meeting and there are two things that really should be done.

Attorney Dugas is reviewing the new statutes from the State of Connecticut on truancy and absences and she said there are two or three points she really wants to define because they really need to be defined a little more. As soon as she gets that back Toni will send a copy to every board member to look over and review and then we will adopt it at a future date.

D.1. Approval of Minutes

D.1.a. West Haven Board of Education Regular Board Meeting held in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, CT on June 4, 2012 at 7:00 PM.

Mark Palmieri asked for a motion to approve D.1.a.

Bob Guthrie made the motion

Pat Libero seconded the motion

Discussion: None

All board members present were in favor

The minutes are approved

D.2. Resignations: (Certified)

12-58 Ron Conlan, Social Studies Teacher – West Haven High School

Effective: June 30, 2012

Reason: Retirement

12-59 Mary Janeczek, Department Chair, Math – WHHS

Effective: June 30, 2012

Reason: Retirement

12-60 Karen Kennedy, Grade 1 Elementary Teacher – Savin Rock

Effective: June 30, 2012

Reason: Retirement

12-61 Alys B. Fentress, Grade 6 Elementary Teacher – Carrigan

Effective: June 30, 2012

Reason: Retirement

12-62 Jean DaRin, Social Worker – Forest

Effective: June 30, 2012

Reason: Personal

12-63 Randa Johnson, Social Studies Teacher – WHHS

Effective: June 30, 2012

Reason: Personal

12-64 Catherine A. Ghee, Special Education Teacher – Carrigan

Effective: June 30, 2012

Reason: Personal

12-65 Alicia Ogren, Special Education Teacher – WHHS

Effective: July 15, 2012

Reason: Personal

D.2. Resignations: (Certified) Continued

12-66 Kimberly Barnes, Math Teacher - WHHS

Effective: August 20, 2012

Reason: Relocation

D.3. Resignations: (Non-Certified)

12-67 Judith A. Heffernan, Paraprofessional - WHHS

Effective: June 30, 2012

Reason: Retirement

12-68 Nancy Elliott, Building Paraprofessional – WHHS

Effective: June 30, 2012

Reason: Retirement

Mark Palmieri asked for a motion to approve D.2. – D.3. inclusive

Cebi Waterfield made the motion

Pat Libero seconded the motion

Discussion: Pat Libero said she knows a lot of people who are retiring or leaving and some of them she is sad to see go. She has worked with them at the high school and I worked with them someplace else and they are good people to work with and she wishes them well on their retirement and their new endeavors.

All board members present were in favor

All Items D.2. – D.3. inclusive are approved

D.4. Leave of Absence: (Certified)

D.5. New Hire: (Certified)

12-69 Matthew Roberts, 23 Rock Hill Road, Apt. B, New Haven, CT 06513

Language Arts Teacher – Bailey Middle School

Effective: August 28, 2012

Salary: \$43,256.02 (Step 5 BS+30)

12-70 Jennifer Lynch, 8 Maple Street, Milford, CT 06460

Language Arts Teacher – Bailey Middle School

Effective: August 28, 2012

Salary: \$46,715.01 (Step 6 BS+30)

12-71 Erin Bode, 163 Grand Street, West Haven, CT 06516

Science Teacher – WHHS

Effective: August 28, 2012

Salary: \$40,214.75 (Step 5 BS)

D.5. New Hire: (Certified) Continued

- 12-72 Michael Golinski**, 31 Orford Road, West Haven, CT 06516
Mathematics Teacher – WHHS
Effective: August 28, 2012
Salary: \$40,214.75 (Step 5 BS)
- 12-73 Michael Barocco**, 70 Westminster Street, New Haven, CT 06513
Science Teacher – WHHS
Effective: August 28, 2012
Salary: \$40,214.75 (Step 5 BS)
- 12-74 Erin Blake**, 275 Kelsey Avenue, West Haven, CT 06516
Grade 6 Teacher – Carrigan
Effective: August 28, 2012
Salary: \$41,522.69 Step 4 (BS + 30)
- 12-75 Candice King-Kelley**, 15 Wellington Road, New Haven, CT 06515
Library Media Specialist - Carrigan
Effective: August 28, 2012
Salary: \$60,984.35 Step 10 (BS + 30)
- 12-76 Michelle Penna**, 4 Franklin Road, West Haven, CT 06516
Grade 1 Teacher – Savin Rock
Effective: August 28, 2012
Salary: \$41,522.69 Step 4 (BS + 30)
- 12-77 Nicole Sebes**, 15 Avalon Drive, Unit 1213, Milford, CT 06460
Grade 2 Teacher – Savin Rock
Effective: August 28, 2012
Salary: \$38,638.83 Step 4 (BS)
- 12-78 Adriana Carrano**, 6 Harding Street, West Haven, CT 06516
Grade 1 Teacher – Washington
Effective: August 28, 2012
Salary: \$38,638.83 Step 4 (BS)
- 12-79 Dana Romano**, 11 Priscilla Road, West Haven, CT 06516
Grade 2 Teacher – Washington
Effective: August 28, 2012
Salary: \$38,638.83 Step 4 (BS)
- 12-80 Amy Tufano**, 9 John Street, Ansonia, CT
Grade 3 Teacher – Washington
Effective: August 28, 2012
Salary: \$41,522.69 Step 4 (BS + 30)

D.5. New Hire: (Certified) Continued

- 12-81 Casey Launder**, 681 Second Avenue, West Haven, CT 06516
Grade 5 Teacher – Carrigan
Effective: August 28, 2012
Salary: \$41,522.69 Step 4 (BS + 30)
- 12-82 Chelsea Maie Ibsen**, 14 Beech Tree Hill Road, Shelton, CT 06484
Math Teacher – Bailey
Effective: August 28, 2012
Salary: \$43,256.02 Step 5 (BS + 30)
- 12-83 Kristen M. Skelly**, 5 Stonebridge Lane, West Hartford, CT 06107
Math Teacher – Bailey
Effective: August 28, 2012
Salary: \$43,256.02 Step 5 (BS + 30)
- 12-84 Edward W. Nicefaro**, 12 Barton Road, Monroe, CT 06468
Technology Education Teacher – Bailey
Effective: August 28, 2012
Salary: \$55,466.73 Step 9 (BS + 30)
- 12-85 Ritamarie Bouchard**, 15 Laura Lane, Oxford, CT 06478
K-6 English Language Arts Coach – K-6 Schools
Effective: August 28, 2012
Salary: Current Salary + \$4,800 Department Head Stipend
- 12-86 Maria DelVecchio**, 3 Pheasant Lane, Hamden, CT 06518
Math Coach – Bailey Middle School
Effective: August 28, 2012
Salary: Current Salary + 4,800 Department Head Stipend
- 12-87 Alicia Limosani**, 103 Tuthill Street, West Haven, CT 06516
Math Coach – Washington and Savin Rock
Effective: August 28, 2012
Salary: Current Salary + 4,800 Department Head Stipend
- 12-88 Jessica Brown**, 20 Burma Road, Woodbridge, CT 06525
Behavior Analyst BCBA -District Wide
Effective: August 28, 2012
Salary: \$70,000 being paid by IDEA Grant

Mark Palmieri asked for a motion to approve D.5. items #12-69 to #12-88 inclusive
Bob Guthrie made the motion
Patrick Egolum seconded the motion
Discussion: None
All board members were in favor
All Items D.5.items #12-69 to #12-88 inclusive are approved

Mark congratulated the young ladies that are here and he is sure they will do fine.

D.6. New Hire: (Non-Certified)

D.7. New Business

12-89 Eleven Team Leader recommendations for the 2012 – 2013 school year for Bailey Middle School

Mark Palmieri asked for a motion to approve D.7 Item 12-89
Dorinda Borer made the motion
Patrick Egolum seconded the motion
Discussion: None
All board members were in favor
Item 12-89 is approved

12-90 Eight teacher recommendations for the 9 – 12 Department Head Assignments for the 2012 – 2013 school year for West Haven High School.

Mark Palmieri asked for a motion to approve D.7 Item 12-90
Bob Guthrie made the motion
Pat Libero seconded the motion
Discussion: None
All board members were in favor
Item 12-90 is approved

12-91 One teacher recommendation for the 7 – 12 Department Head Assignment for the 2012 – 2013 school year for Bailey Middle School and West Haven High School.

Mark Palmieri asked for a motion to approve D.7. Item 12-91
Dorinda Borer made the motion
Patrick Egolum seconded the motion
Discussion: None
All board members were in favor
Item 12-91 is approved

Mark asked if any one had anything to discuss under informational.

Bob Guthrie will ask CABA to be at our next board meeting from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM. for an E Meeting. Mark will confirm this meeting and we will also invite the City Council Chairman DeCrescenzo and Secretary Marino to attend at 6:00 PM.

Dorinda asked on the two non-certified part time elimination letters why we are eliminating those. (These positions are at St. Lawrence and Our Lady of Victory Schools). Cebi Waterfield guessed it was because we hired a reading specialist for those schools and eliminated the two para positions. Anne Druzolowski said that is part of it and Anne said things need to be changed to be in compliance with the law and that is one of them. What every you offer on public side you must offer to the non-public the Title 1 identified cases; it is federally funded. No longer could we have paras there we had to have a certified teacher.

Toni Paine asked if St. Lawrence is under Title 1. Anne said some youngsters are Title 1 eligible the school isn't. Toni said being that it is federally funded and is Title 1 are they mandated to do what the state says to do even though they are a parochial school because they formulate their own curriculum? Anne said no under Title 1 we have to give their children support that is all. The curriculum is their curriculum we don't get involved in any of that.

Mark Palmieri asked for a motion to adjourn
Dorinda Borer made the motion to adjourn
Patrick Egolum seconded the motion
All board members were in favor
The meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Marylou Amendola
Board Secretary