

WEST HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
October 3, 2011
Regular Board Meeting
Council Chambers

The Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Board of Education was held in the Council Chambers of the City Hall, 255 Main Street, West Haven, CT on October 3, 2011. The meeting was called to order by Howard Horvath, 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
Sean Maher, Vice Chairman
Eric Murillo, Secretary/Treasurer
Dorinda Borer
M. Toni Paine
Cebi Waterfield
Patrick Egolum
Mark Palmieri
Robert Saley

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

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

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES
PRESENT:** Marum Majid

Chairman Horvath welcomed everyone to the meeting and said we will begin with the Public Session.

B. Public Portion

Tracy Morrissey, 305 Country Hill Drive, West Haven, CT is the PTA Council President citywide. She said letters went out for a debate run by the PTA Council on Thursday, October 27th at 7:00 PM in the Harriet North Room on the second floor of City Hall. All candidates were asked to give a resume. We hope everybody can make it. If you have any questions please email Tracy.

Neil said at the PTA President's Tea we traditionally come and one of the items we wanted to bring to you is school governance councils.

Cebi Waterfield said no one asked her for a resume so she didn't know where to submit it for the debate. She was told to submit it to Tracy. Tracy said letters went out yesterday so she should be getting one. All resumes should be mailed to 305 Country Hill Drive, West Haven, CT.

The President's Tea is at 7:00 PM on Thursday, October 20th in the Harriet North Room. Superintendent Cavallaro will speak to the PTA Presidents and PTA Representatives. This is a nice night where you can have any questions answered. We invite everybody to come. The PTA Council Meetings are once a month.

Tracy said as a parent she just wanted to bring up that she saw on the agenda that security was going to be discussed tonight and would hope that the security would allow some more bathrooms to be opened up at the high school.

The board gave thanks. Public Session closed at 7:05 PM

C. REPORTS

C.1.a. Administration/Status of Schools

Neil said he was contacted last week from OCR for the final interview session with him and Dave Cappetta on October 12th. Neil said we have been cooperating as best we can so it is not something we would push them on but last week they confirmed a date and time to meet. Neil is sure it is a similar interview for what they did with the board members.

Neil talked about the tragedy on Leete Street with the 20 month old child who was killed by the Pit Bull. He said that there are students who are relatives and students that have lived in the buildings and our Special Ed Department and Principals have worked cooperatively over the weekend and had crisis teams available at the school. They have also been working with the Police Department to gather as many details and to make sure that the proper agencies are notified and are working with these families in their time of

need. Our staff really does a good job when it comes to these types of incidents. We will do the best we can to offer as much support as we can to the families who are involved.

Originally Ron Stancil was going to go out next week but he went out a week early because his knees were really bothering him and he was on some medication and felt he couldn't work any more and we agreed. We put Mrs. Libero in for the four days last week and now we have a more permanent replacement in place until Ron is able to come back. We have Mr. Kurt Ogren in place and we have Trish Robles who is the Science Department Chair taking Mr. Ogren's job and Mrs. Gardner has arranged coverage within the Science Department. Hopefully this will only be for the next eight to ten weeks but if we see it will be longer than that we will reexamine the situation and keep you aware of it. We wish Ron well on his double knee replacement surgery. Knowing Ron we think he has already been in the building; he can't stay away. I'm sure he will get back as soon as possible.

Enrollment updates are sent out regularly and the first grade at Washington we were a little concerned about. We thought that rather than moving people around and trying to create extra classroom space we met with Mr. Lopes who took this to his teachers and what we are considering is hiring an extra literacy teacher that would work with the first grade and give some assistance to the classroom teachers. To move children and take them out of their teacher's classroom now we didn't think would be right but we can give the classroom teachers more assistance. At this point it would be a more meaningful solution. No one wants to have their child pulled from a teacher that they are starting to bond with. We should know if this comes about by the next meeting. We have saved some money from the salaries in general because most of the teachers we have hired were at first step. We are looking at taking an experienced teacher who is good with reading and pulling them from the classroom and hiring a new teacher for the classroom. The teacher who would be doing the reading assignment would still be in that building to make it an easier transition.

Dorinda asked if there were any families in the first grade at Washington who applied to change schools. Neil said we looked but there weren't enough but we are still considering and we did look at moving but even if we were to move five or six kids that would still get the classrooms down to only about 24 so we thought that was still a little bit high. We looked at this very carefully.

Neil said Alan Belchak has been working with the representatives from the PTA on the lunches and so far they have been pleased with our menus. Some early issues were raised one was the early time of the first lunch wave at Bailey. Last week Mr. Belchak introduced serving a breakfast. They served pancakes and sausage the first day out and did 36 breakfasts which Neil thought was very good. We hired one lunch wave to clean the tables at Carrigan to make an easier transition and the kids wouldn't have to worry about moving so quickly in and out of there. Things are better there although we are still working on them.

We did two projects over the summer that are now almost complete and if you get an opportunity you should see them. The Bailey Gym has been painted and new padding has been put up on the side and a mural has been drawn on the wall which looks very nice. We wanted to get this in shape so the kids, teachers and staff could be proud of it.

The other project that we are in the process of completing is the Carrigan Auditorium. We brought in the same company that did the Take a Seat and they repaired a lot of the seats and they replaced the carpet in the isles and we are currently working with the UI Company and utilizing Sean's expertise on some lighting. We can do one of those lighting projects if we include both the gym lights at Carrigan and Bailey as well as the Carrigan Auditorium. If we package it into one project there is a pretty good incentive from the UI Company to go forward with the project. We would have to get it ready for their calendar year which starts in January. If we request the project and get it in we will be high up on the list and that would complete the project. These are two good projects because everybody who has to be in the school has to see the gyms and auditoriums. In the end we can actually save some money by doing a high efficiency project. We will keep you posted.

Anne said we continually call the Principal's Academy and every month they have minimally three hours with Neil and me to review content area. We just finished training today and talked a great deal with Patricia Avallone about School Governance Portals and what that all means in terms of moving that forward. We have a School Governance Council organizational type meeting in three days on Thursday so we are consistent across the district in terms of the procedures. Most importantly she spoke about the advisory nature of the School Governance Councils and commended us for taking it on from the whole district perspective because it doesn't have to be from the whole district. We moved on in that meeting to some data displays and how we can better use data to form instruction and better ways of collecting that data and that was done by our teachers. We followed the sharing of what we saw happening as a result of our school improvement plan. One of the principals delivered all of the presentations they have practiced with us; the results of the CAPT, CMT, SAT and any type they had. That type of presentation will continue throughout the year. Prior to this Anne had a Fine Arts Committee Meeting which is pretty new. This is our third meeting where we are addressing the needs of the district in music, art and drama. This is made up of our teachers representing all the grade span levels. They will be presenting to you next week and they will give you an idea of what we have been doing during this meeting. There will be a calendar that will be finalized and you will see that for the whole year. Materials and supplies are being ordered. Neil set aside dollars for a budget to start supporting some of the challenging areas in music as well as in art and developing sharing libraries for each one of those subject areas in Molloy so that has worked out very well. Tomorrow we have a continuation of the new teacher orientation sessions. We have "Espresso Yourself" tomorrow. You come for coffee after work from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM because people get out at different times. There will be no formal presentation but we are asking them to write down their questions and put them in a fish bowl so nobody knows who is asking the questions. We will answer even what people might think of as the silliest questions and reassuring them that they are going in the right direction. This

is not required it is just an open house. They will be getting within the next two weeks work on standards. They are going to be getting some orientation on the first part of how we design our curriculum as well as instructional strategies. Our principals will also be receiving that same type of administrative focus and professional development next week.

Fine Arts will be receiving extensive professional development this year and that is unusual for them because usually they are part of everybody else's and this is really specifically geared to their content area.

Questions - Howie asked how many new teachers we have; it has to be pretty significant. Neil said between 45 and 50. Howie said that is the largest number he thinks we ever had in his tenure. Yes.

Dorinda said it sounds like we are making great progress on the school governance board. Yes. How are you going to get the parental involvement? How are you going to recruit parents? Anne said we have to do it consistently. When Patricia Avallone came Anne saw how she did it in Stamford. They had done that one presentation so Anne asked her more about it. She did explain that was one way they made one big announcement to the whole community and they did a lot of press on it to also encourage more parents to hear about that. At that point Judy Carson who is in charge of it at the State came down and she did the presentation which speaks about what this is all about. If we follow that protocol and we will probably finalize this Thursday. We will have tables all around by schools and you can sign up if you wanted to run for those positions. Parents don't always have transportation so we will have the busses going around picking up parents. Dorinda said it would be great to see parents from all different demographics and bilingual parents that participate. Anne said we have to be the biggest advocates for the schools and for the parents and that the group of seven parents really need to replicate the demographics of the school. That will be a challenge to get people out to really get involved and making it clear that it is advisory. That it is really taking that data and the first year is a lot of learning the lingo and understanding what we have to do.

Anne said that Patricia Avallone said that our district better than any other because of its size could probably handle this very easily. The principals are all on board so we will be moving very quickly on this. Hopefully the elections will be the first week in November.

Dorinda had a question on the presentation from the last board meeting. It was a really good presentation and is glad we are going to continue them throughout the year. What are you going to use as the data for like a benchmark to see kind of how we are doing because we won't have the CMT scores so what will we use the pre testing or post testing? Anne asked for everything we are doing right now? Just to get a gauge so we don't have to wait until next August to see how we are doing. Absolutely that is a good point. Actually it was the last comment I had with the principals today which was just because you present it in the beginning of the year doesn't mean we loose it until next year. There is a lot of other data in fact that presentation that they just did today involved using benchmark assessment data. They are using data walls in the schools that show the

benchmark data not necessarily the CMT or CAPT data. A lot of the benchmark data also includes CMT and CAPT like types of questions and some do not. The most important thing we have to think down the road is it is not going to be CMT and CAPT in 2014 and 2015 it is going to be common core which is in reading and language arts not that different. In mathematics it is even more algebra like earlier in the year so you will be seeing that as well and they alluded a little bit to that in the presentation. Dorinda said it was a really nice presentation. Anne thanked her.

Neil said we have plenty of assessments and one of the things that we are concentrating on and emphasizing is how the teachers collect all of the data and how to sift through it and make good use of it so when they sit down and meet with their data teams they can get right to where the areas of strengths and weaknesses are and how to make the adjustments and teach those skills.

Anne said the biggest changes she sees in the administrative staff is that they know what questions to ask and they are talking the talk and coming up with all these ideas. Kudos to them they embrace all of this and are really moving ahead.

Rob Saley read in the paper recently that Governor Molloy is talking about kind of relaxing the NCLB rules. He asked how that will affect us. Anne said we don't know. Just Friday I asked some of the State Department people from assessment and they weren't quite sure how it was going to affect us. Their guess is that we will still have CMT data but whether it will then be used to place us in AYP might be the waiver. You would still have the assessments. The down side with all of that obviously is that you are switching your curriculum over to reflect the common core. In mathematics it is a whole different ball game it is really application of information. You don't learn number sense just be learning time. Number sense is a whole different thing. Rob said so it might affect us adversely. Anne said it would affect everybody adversely you will see that I am sure. That is what happens when those things get all turned around but do I think the common core is a good place to be absolutely. Anytime you make progress in thinking about how kids learn and the way that we have been teaching kids may not have necessarily been the right way there was a lot of rout and now we are getting to a lot of critical thinking and I think it is not going to hurt.

Cebi Waterfield asked if the timeline for the waiver for No Child Left Behind is going to overlap with the changes to No Child Left Behind instead of measuring student poor they will measure student growth? Anne thinks they will try and coincide it with the national evaluation model that they are going to come out with for 2014/2015. She thinks they will really try to get those in sink. If they do one before the other it will really be defeating the purpose of the waiver. Cebi said so that may work for our benefit. Anne said it might but who knows with politics. We really can't predict that right now and we aren't the only state requesting a waiver it impacts everybody across the nation.

Howie had a couple of conversations with elementary school teachers who unlike the older grades that have a single focus; they have all the subjects and all the tests and what

he had asked was whether or not the responses by the students to the test are either open ended or fill in a chart. They said it was the later and because it is so manual they have to manually sift through that data. He asked if there is a possibility since we have the labs and he imagines the technology isn't too difficult to do so let them fill in a little bubble chart and have it scan and take it off there....Anne said you can do that with some of them except for the sentence completion you can't do that it is limited in what you can do but that is what we have been looking for. Can they do it; yes one of the biggest and we have to think about this long term is that one of our biggest challenges with the national assessment is going to be the technology base. Howie said we will have to do them all on line. Anne said or if you don't you bubble in and that means more error and it is going to be an interesting time because a lot of districts will have to come up with money for those technology platforms which we don't have in place. Howie said the good news is that the technology is getting cheaper which we will ultimately see. Howie said just a quick commentary thought; he thought that the common standards were really more about common assessments. He thinks that is what the goal was. It does change the focus; the college and career writing but if they really wanted to have that in place they could have one set of assessments that everybody could compare and contrast. Anne said Math is a major change in looking at how you do it. Howie said it sounds like you are in favor of it though or supportive of it. Anne doesn't see any conflict with anything we have been talking about other than we spend less time now on things like time. You really see kid's better understanding through exploration the whole idea of numbers and math. This country has not done well in math as you well know we were ranked 53rd or something like that. We are so far down in the listings. You look at that and say what can we do better.

Howie asked if we are going to think about different technologies district wide to support common formative assessments and the data collection and the reporting. He asked if they were getting closer to something you think is viable. Anne answered yes. We had to reschedule a meeting with Pearson. Howie asked Anne to let him know how he can support that. He thinks that is a critical piece. In theory if everybody is doing it individually, although it is better than not doing it, it is different than being able to do it in a centralized fashion where you have immediate access and everybody can get whatever they need. Howie asked if there were any other questions. There were none.

Neil said John Byrne is here he is the Vice President and General Manager of Century Protective Services. We put out the RFP about a month ago and conducted interviews and both Eric and Sean were part of the interview process and we followed the cities purchasing ordinance and based on the price structure as well as the interview his company was chosen. He impressed us all at the interview and he is so quick to get back to an email and is very thorough so we are really pleased. He has also worked very closely with Pam Gardner to really personalize the plan you will put into place at WHHS. He asked Mr. Byrne to tell us about his company and some of his ideas.

John Byrne said he appreciates the opportunity to come to tonight's meeting and he has been working closely with Pam and her team at WHHS. His role is to supplement the security program that is already in place and they hope to make a significant contribution

in being an extension of the team at the high school from an administrative standpoint and an indoor security and school safety standpoint. They will work closely with the SRO Program and will be sort of the discipline arm of the high school to maintain safety and order throughout the school.

His company is Century Protective Services and is based out of White Plains, NY. It is licensed and insured in the Tri State Area of NY, NJ and CT. They have been in business since 1994 and he has joined the company as a partner and personally oversees all new business and new projects. They use a customized approach to service in the security industry. Every facility and school is different so you have to adjust and adapt and use various controls and that is what we are trying to do here; to sort of personalize the service and not handing it off to anybody.

They are on target for Monday, October 17th. We have been meeting on a weekly basis; sometimes twice a week. We are in the selection and screening process and are identifying candidates who will be on the grounds everyday at the high school. We have four security officers in uniforms and they will be spread out over 120 hours a week (4 individuals at 30 hours a week Monday - Friday). Neil interjected you worked out the schedule to overlap etc. Yes we worked out the schedule to cover from 6:30 in the morning until 3:00 PM. The overlap will cover the busses, heavy lunch periods and meal times and we will also cover the dismissal and the late bus. Pam and I are working on a selection committee to make sure that the people are hand picked for the high school and that screening process is underway. We will finalize everything on Thursday and make sure we have the right fit.

Pam Gardner stated she has learned a lot through the RFP process and she thanked John and Neil for allowing her to participate in it. Touring the facility with security companies and going through the interviews we really did put them through a very difficult group of questions. She is very comfortable with John Byrne and his company. He has met with her numerous times and checked with her on everything they talked about from uniforms to implementation. They met with the police department to talk about the interfacing with the SRO and she sees this as a positive in terms of a campus security team that can only enhance what we have going on at the high school. She thanked John for being so accommodating in dealing with them for every turn they have had to make.

We do have the right of refusal for anybody because she does believe that we need the right people in these positions in order for it to be effective. She needs something that students feel comfortable with and parents feel comfortable with and that the BOE feel comfortable with as well. She is happy with where they are right now and is looking forward to October 17th.

Questions

Rob Saley asked if these are employees of yours already. No they are not they are new hires. Rob said so then they will go through the same process all of our employees go

through like fingerprinting etc. Neil said perhaps John can give you what the requirements are. John said first and foremost they are looking for individuals that have prior law enforcement, military and/or security experience so we are not starting from scratch. We also want someone who can deal with students in that environment in the dynamic that exists. We have a comprehensive background screening process. Everybody has to be registered with the State of Connecticut Department of Public Safety. They will all have state issued cards; this is part of the Public Safety Act. There is also drug screening and employment verification residents check, sex offenders watch list etc.

Rob asked if there will be any bi-lingual people. Yes we are putting a team together so we cover all of the diversity issues and bi-lingual requirements. Rob asked how many people work for him now. They have about 150 people company wide. Rob asked how many schools do you handle in Connecticut. He has not done any Connecticut school. Rob asked if he does any in New York. Yes he also has some of his project work that he has worked on in the past for the selection committee; universities and schools etc. He has been in the business for over 20 years and is a Certified Protection Professional and has a degree in Criminal Justice and has been in the Law Enforcement Security Field for 20 plus years. Rob said this was just a question it has been something I was hoping would get done a long time ago and I'm very glad we are getting it going. I know that Eric Murillo and Sean Maher were on this committee and I trust their judgment and I thank you for your time. Neil said they received the final draft of the contract today and the City has to sign the contract.

C.1.b. Student Representatives

Marium Majid gave the presentation which follows on the next page.

BOE Student Report

10-3-2011

The West Haven/Notre Dame-West Haven football game has been nominated as one of the Channel 30 Games of the Week. Please vote for this game so that WHHS can be a featured school on Friday. Please vote as many times as you can before 9pm on Wednesday.

<http://www.nbcconnecticut.com/news/sports/Week-4-Game-of-the-Week-130940623.html>

The young men of the DTP were recognized at a ceremony at the Aqua Turf last week. Junior Abdul-Razak Mohammed received the honor of reading his essay at the ceremony.

Over 300 prospective students and families attended the 8th grade open house last Tuesday night. We are currently planning the Honors Showcase for sometime this month.

Sophomores have been busy completing the Fitness Test with their PE Teachers.

Our College Career Fair will be held Wednesday evening. The program begins in the cafeteria at 6pm and continues with the College/Career Fair in the gym at 7pm.

Please mark your calendars and come out to support the WHHS Homecoming Festival on Saturday, October 15th from 12-4 in the courtyard.

The board gave thanks.

C.1.c. Board

Howie Horvath entertained a motion to go into Executive Session to talk about the Superintendent's evaluation. He requested a motion.

Dorinda Borer made the motion

Cebi Waterfield seconded the motion

Discussion: Eric Murillo asked if we would do the Board information when we come back in. Howie said yes we will do it after we come back. The way this works it will be in private here with the Superintendent and we will conclude our conversation and then come back into session. Everybody is welcome to come back in and we will finish the list of items on the agenda. Neil said if it is alright he will send Anne home it doesn't look like there is anything else on the agenda. Absolutely.

The board began executive session at 7:45

The board returned at 8:20

Rob Saley asked how we are doing with the RFPs or the RFQs for the energy guys. Neil said that they have not done anything and that Rob should have more information than he does at this point. Rob said he didn't mean the energy he is sorry. He meant the Five Year Capital Plan. Neil said he does know that they were only doing three schools and I believe they did Bailey and Carrigan this year. On the five year capital plan we agreed to go forward and we were going to phase it in over three years and it started with Bailey and Carrigan. Howie asked if there was anything else. Rob said no Mr. Chairman. The other board members had nothing further to discuss.

C.1.d. Committee

Rob Saley said if he is not mistaken he knows they stopped the bidding process for the architects for the high school. He is assuming they put this on hold until Ken Carney came back. Neil said he is back and he received an email today that there is a walk through on next Thursday.

Dorinda had a question for the Facilities Committee which is actually probably a question for Neil but it is the Facilities on the Rink; she asked if they could get a status report of how that is working. She has heard some rumbling about the workers there. Rob said he will address a couple of things but Neil was going to address the school/rink. Dorinda said no we were on committee which is facilities and we are getting ready to move on so I am asking you questions; or Neil can answer or you can answer on how we are doing with the Rink.

Rob said Neil was going to talk about the high school/rink and to go ahead. Howie said no she is asking you. Dorinda asked Rob how are we doing at the rink we talked a lot about the rink and we haven't heard an update. How are we doing, how are the new employees over there doing, and are we up to par?

Rob didn't hear reports of any problems at the Rink he heard it was at the high school with the cleaning guys. Neil said that seems to be resolved right now. This was Al's big emphasis and I'll have him at our next meeting it's been a while. One of the things they did work out was that they did finalize that building manager agreement. They sat down with the union and worked that out and Al will explain this the next time. Part of the issue with that is prior to an agreement being worked out is who is supposed to supervise the non union employees; would it be the guys who are there at night or would it be up to Mike McGrath to come in and make sure they all had their assignments before they leave. There was even talk of bringing in an additional supervisor or paying a guy an hour extra from the non-union to come in and give them their assignments and I believe that has all been worked out. Al will come in and update you and talk about what that agreement looks like.

Rob asked Neil if there is a problem at the Rink? Neil said actually they have heard a lot of positive comments; people really like working with Chris and they like the scheduling that has been put in place. The part time workers are doing a good job we try to make sure they are active when people are in the Rink; we have done a lot of painting and whatnot. We did have a problem with the Zamboni the other day which again we all said there would be a problem with the Zamboni so they had to cancel four hours worth of ice time yesterday. The Rink is very clean and I'm not seeing any issues. If there is something specific let Neil know but he would say that people really like Chris being there and Missy Tuschoff who we hired as a part time secretary to work on scheduling and tracking events etc. This seems to be going OK. The one issue that did come up but these are not new issues these are issues that have been going on and they are compliance issues with the concession stand so we do have to address that.

Dorinda asked what process do the workers at the high school go through for screening. Neil said they have to go through the fingerprinting and whatever; and we do have the right to say we are not happy bring us two new guys. Dorinda said so they go through a good process. It is a very good process.

Dorinda said while we are the same facilities committee the energy RFP where do we stand with that? Did she miss something on that? Rob said the last time we had a meeting with the Building Oversight Committee we were going to be working with the City to incorporate their buildings along with our buildings and we have another Building Oversight Committee meeting next week.

Neil said the issue seems to be with our bill. He is of the mindset that we can enter into the agreement with Al what do we have to loose; if he saves us money fine and if he doesn't then he doesn't make any money. Neil said we didn't believe that the potential was there to save that much money because of the age condition of our buildings. When AFB went into New Haven they were dealing with brand new state of the art buildings that weren't being monitored properly so the technology was already in place and things weren't being done in a timely manner like the changing of filters.

Rob said the person from Celtic said it is a cursory look for \$30,000 (the second) study and we will tell you if we can't get any blood out of a stone. That is the cost of doing a cursory look over two or three schools. If you want to go farther we can go into a more in depth look at the rest of the school system. He will present a preliminary savings and presents it to us. Neil said but a lot of the savings and improvement that you make are based on initial savings and reinvestment. Rob said then you show this to the banks and say you are going to save X amount of dollars and the banks will fund this. He has people lined up. Neil said he does but a good question also came up with the city's current credit rating and would it be easy to go out and seek those kinds of loans which do pay off but they pay off over a 10 to 15 year period of time and then you have to start more reinvesting.

Toni Paine asked how did we get from putting no money out to now a \$30,000 survey to see if we can save money. Rob said it was never no cost with the things I was in. Toni said didn't AFB say no money was involved. Rob said we aren't talking about AFB. Neil said that is a good question. He said Celtic Energy and he forgets the name of the other company that raised those questions to us. They said look what you are asking for we can do but the potential for savings isn't there. They kind of brought the idea to us about a more comprehensive look at how we can make these kinds of improvements but there would be investments and we would have to go out and secure the loans. Rob said he does all that work. Neil said right. We haven't moved on it. Rob said energy is a huge component with our having 800,000 square feet of buildings and when you are wasting energy like a lot of school districts and municipalities do I think it is ridiculous not to look at that. For \$30,000 that is a decision that somebody else has to make but I think that is the right way to go. If they can do a cursory look for \$30,000 and then say we don't think we can save you any money then it will be a hard swallow. Neil said the other thing we can do is go back to AFB and say we will give you a year. Come back to us with a report of how you can actually save us some money. They have to be more specific. I don't believe they were specific enough to say here is how we are going to save you the money. Neil said he doesn't believe the potential is there with the buildings we have right now. Toni said \$30,000 isn't anything to sneeze at that is almost another whole starting teacher's position. Rob said we waste that in a year on energy; you will waste \$300,000. Toni said we don't have the money. Eric Murillo said you can go through the whole process and it will cost you money to implement those ideas and where are you going to get the money for that? Rob said they finance it. Rob said we finance it through the savings if there is savings; if not it is a \$30,000 investment. Rob said when Celtic was involved in this they did say anybody that tells you that they can save you money based on benchmarking is telling you a line of game. Neil said right. Rob said he thinks it is the right way to go and we should at least take a shot at it not every investment is a winner. Dorinda said why do we have to pay the \$30,000 why can't we just pick a company we believe in and have them come in and look at our buildings and tell us what we are going to save. Rob said because people don't work for free anymore they have to make a living. Dorinda said they are supposedly going to get a percent of what they save us. Neil said let me have some more discussions with Al and bring him back here. He needs to be a little bit more specific as to way to save us money. He needs to say here is how I can actually save you money. In looking at our buildings the classic example is

Washington. The boiler blew up so we have a brand new boiler and we put in new windows. We are putting a lot into a building that is 100 years old and I'm not sure that is the wisest thing either. The question is how much more do you invest into some of our buildings without saying it has really outlived its useful life.

Dorinda asked Neil to have Al put the information in writing ahead of time so they could look at it. Rob requested that they include the cost to do this because they won't do it for nothing. Neil said no certainly just the fact that he has to go out and buy all new light bulbs or all new filters that he has to change monthly or whatever they do to become more efficient there has to be an initial up cost and is has to come from somewhere which would be our maintenance budget. A further discussion took place. Howie said to Neil so you will check on this with Al. Neil said he has his weekly meeting on Thursday.

Eric Murillo asked if the concession stand at the Rink was still leased out. Yes. Eric asked when the lease ends. Neil said this is the second year of a two year contract. Eric asked the same question about the skate rental. Neil said this is the second year of a two year contract. Eric asked what the future plans are and Neil said we will have to put them out to bid. Eric asked what issues do we have with the concession stand right now. Neil said compliance issues with the building department. For example the grill is larger than the hood above it and the hood is out of compliance anyway; those kind of things. These aren't new issues but they are issues now where we have been told that we had better figure out how we will address them. Last Thursday they were going over to the stadium and checking that out too but I don't know the results of that report.

Howie had a handout for the board and stated he is kind of following New Haven and in our ERIN Committee Meeting he spoke about it briefly. This is a New York Times article that talks about progress. He likes the last paragraph particularly which talks about improvements that they think their system has made. (Attachment A)

D.1. Approval of Minutes

D.1.a. West Haven Board of Education Regular Board Meeting held in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, CT on September 19, 2011 at 7:00 PM

D.1.b. West Haven Board of Education Education Reform, Innovation & New Grant Monies (ERIN) Committee Meeting held at City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, CT on September 19, 2011 at 6:00 PM

Howie Horvath asked for a motion to approve D.1.a. and D.1.b. inclusive

Mark Palmieri made the motion to approve D.1. a. and D.1.b. inclusive

Eric Murillo seconded the motion

Discussion: None

All members present were in favor except Sean Maher who wasn't at the meeting so he abstained from voting.

Motion passes

- D.2. Resignation: (Certified)**
- D.3. Resignation: (Non-Certified)**
- D.4. Leave of Absence: (Certified)**
- D.5. New Hire: (Certified)**

11-163 Christopher Pelatowski, 43 Winter Street, Ansonia, CT06401
Alternate Department Head - WHHS
Effective: September 26, 2011
Salary: \$4,800.00

Howie Horvath asked for a motion to approve D.5. 11-163
Toni Paine made a motion to approve D.5. 11-163
Patrick Egolum seconded the motion
Discussion: None
All board members were in favor
Motion passes

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

11-164 Sabrina Brooks, 60 Woodlawn Street, Hamden, CT 06517
Part Time Title 1 Math Aide - SRCS
Effective: October 4, 2011
Salary: \$16.09 Hourly

Howie Horvath asked for a motion to approve D.6. 11-164
Mark Palmieri made a motion to approve D.6. 11-164
Sean Maher seconded the motion
Discussion: None
All board members were in favor
Motion passes

- D.7. New Business**
- F. Informational:**

There was nothing added under informational.

Howard Horvath asked for a motion to adjourn
Sean Maher made a motion to adjourn
Mark Palmieri seconded the motion
All board members present voted to adjourn
The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Marylou Amendola
Board Secretary