WEST HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION
August 21, 2017
Regular Board Meeting
Board’s Meeting Room

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was held on August 21, 2017 in the Board’s Meeting Room on the second floor of City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, Connecticut. The meeting was called to order by James Morrissey, Chairman of the Board of Education at 5:00 p.m. The meeting opened with a pledge to the flag.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:  
James W. Morrissey, Chairman  
Robert Guthrie, Vice Chair  
Susan Walker, Secretary/Treasurer  
Patrick Leigh  
Patricia Libero  
Karen Pacelli  
Mark Palmieri  
Rosa Richardson

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:  

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

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:  

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:  
David O’Brien

B. Public Portion of Meeting

Chairman Morrissey asked three times if anyone would like to address the board this evening. There were no speakers. Public session closed at 5:02 PM.

REPORTS

Superintendent Cavallaro thanked all the principals and Jolene Barnes who is here tonight. As of now we are full with one exception our Math Department Chair left us at West Haven High School and we are trying to find someone for that position. Other than this that all positions have been filled. We will spend the next few days trying to find someone and if we don’t find someone we have backup plans we are working on as far as extra coverage or additional classes. We are down one position which is pretty good. The schools and buildings are in good shape. We have talked with Chris Everone and Mike McGrath and all projects have proceeded very well this summer and we are in good
shape. The Carrigan roof is almost done. Some work needs to be done which won’t be in the main part of the building and once school starts we don’t expect any interruptions and we anticipate it being completed in a couple of weeks. Things are looking good at Carrigan and the staff is excited because that building was in need of some attention. There is a ground breaking ceremony tomorrow at West Haven High School to officially kick off the construction project at 1:00 PM in the front of the building. Kids now have access to the building. There will be a public information session for all residents of West Haven that will be run by the people in charge of the project on September 21st. While we are all excited about the new project we need to reassure parents and the kids who are there that the quality of their education isn’t going to suffer just because construction is going on. Pam Gardner and Dana have made all kinds of plans and backup plans so that we are in really good shape.

C.1.a. Administration/Status of Schools

Superintendent Cavallaro said all board members have been invited to the New Teacher Orientation tomorrow and we have over 20 new staff members this year and this brings in a lot of new energy to the school district. Even if you can just make it for a few minutes it is nice to support the new staff. Our full day professional development is Thursday followed by a building orientation for all staff which is a half day on Friday and the first day of school is a week from today. We are ready to go and will do the best to make the kids feel welcome. Our administration and all of our staff worked extremely hard this summer with the construction project and the number of jobs we had to fill; it has been a really busy summer and we are anticipating a great school year.

Chairman Morrissey stated he received a letter from the Fire Chief at the West Shore Fire Department about some minor things at Bailey and Seth Haley. Neil said he received the same copy today and has already spoken with Chris and Mike who are aware of the issues and have forwarded them a copy of the letter today and they will address them so that by the time school opens we will be in good shape. The only Fire Department that sends this is West Shore and Chief Scafariello feels he is obligated to notify the Superintendent and the Board Chair. There is nothing in there that is earth shattering but we are working on this.

C.1.b. Student Representatives’ Report

David O’Brien said today was Freshman Orientation at WHHS. The administrators covered a variety of topics such as dress code, attendance points and school safety the Peer Advocates led a tour of the school so students could find their classrooms, lockers and sign up for activities in the school. Next Monday is the first day of school. The board gave thanks.

C.1.c. Board

Rosa Richardson said she is looking forward to another school year. Patrick Leigh asked Matt how we finished off the year. We finished off the year very well. We are still waiting for some revenue to come in and when we receive it I will get
you the final numbers but we were right on target with what we said all along. No deficits? No. Is the surplus where you thought it was going to be? Correct. Perfect. Chairman Morrissey is looking forward to another good school year. The summer went by very quickly and at the June meeting I was saying how the school year went by so quick and now it is the end of August and we will be starting another school year. I want to congratulate Patrick Leigh on the birth of his son. (Applause ensued). Superintendent Cavallaro said and his new job; a lot of changes.

D.1. Approval of Minutes

D.1.a. West Haven Board of Education Regular Board Meeting held in the Board of Education Meeting Room, City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, CT on Monday, July 17, 2017 at 5:00 PM.

Chairman Morrissey asked for a motion to approve the Regular Meeting minutes D.1.a. Rosa Richardson made the motion to approve the minutes Bob Guthrie seconded the motion
Discussion: Rosemary Russo abstained as she did not attend this board meeting.
All other board members were in favor
Minutes are approved

D.2. Resignations: (Certified)

17-64 Deana Ferraro, 7th Grade Teacher – Bailey
    Effective: July 18, 2017
    Reason: Personal

17-65 Kim Gifford, Literacy Teacher – Savin Rock
    Effective: July 1, 2017
    Reason: Disability Retirement

17-66 Latoya Lisle, Kindergarten Teacher – Savin Rock
    Effective: At the end of the 2016-2017 Contract
    Reason: Personal

17-67 Linda Morbidelli, Math Teacher – Bailey
    Effective: July 25, 2017
    Reason: Personal

17-68 Jennifer Kumnick, Math Teacher & Dept. Head – WHHS
    Effective: July 31, 2017
    Reason: Personal

17-69 Nicole Sebes, Grade 2 Teacher – Savin Rock
    Effective: August 8, 2017
    Reason: Personal
Chairman Morrissey asked for a motion to approve items 17-64 through 17-69 inclusive
Mark Palmieri made the motion
Rosa Richardson seconded the motion
Discussion: Superintendent Cavallaro said with the exception of 17-68 the Math Chair
all of the jobs are filled. Patrick Leigh asked with the Department Head position what is
the contingency until that position is filled. We have appointed a new department head so
that is taken care of. We have five classes that need to be filled. We have a couple of
leads to fill the position. Our backup plan is to not offer as many periods in our
enrichment lab and other coverage. We are trying to keep the labs in place because kids
need the help and the enrichment but we may have to lose a period or two to cover the
classes but we are looking for someone.
All board members were in favor
Items 17-64 through 17-69 are approved

D.3. New Hire: (Certified)

17-70 Tegan Willis, 7 Leonard Road, Hamden, CT 06514
    Math Teacher – Bailey Middle School
    Effective: August 24, 2017
    Salary: Step 6 BS+30 $63,562.00

17-71 Pauline M. Moycik, 125 Mt. Pleasant Street, Derby, CT 06418
    EL Teacher – Washington School
    Effective: August 24, 2017
    Salary: Step 1 BS $41,232

17-72 Chris Cap, 41 Railroad Avenue, Chester, CT 06412
    Head Boys Soccer Coach – West Haven High School
    Effective: August 24, 2017
    Salary: $3,300

17-73 Christina Jaramillo, 211 Nautilus Road, Bridgeport, CT 06606
    Kindergarten Teacher – Savin Rock Community School
    Effective: August 24, 2017
    Salary: Step 1 BS $41,232

17-74 Kristin Mazzeo, 37 Chester Road, Easton, CT 06612
    2nd Grade Teacher – Savin Rock Community School
    Effective: August 24, 2017
    Salary: Step 1 BS + 60 $48,424

17-75 Brook D. Capodicci, 68 Lance Circle, Bridgeport, CT 06606
    Fourth Grade Teacher – Washington School
    Effective: August 24, 2017
    Salary: Step 1 BS + 30 $45,333
**17-76 Jillian Studdard**, 2 Strathmore Road, West Haven, CT 06516
6th Grade Teacher – Carrigan
Effective: August 24, 2017
Salary: Step 1 BS + 30 $45,333

Chairman Morrissey asked for a motion to approve items 17-70 through 17-76 inclusive
Bob Guthrie made the motion to approve
Karen Pacelli seconded the motion
Discussion: Superintendent Cavallaro said Jolene and the principals did a really good job to get all these positions filled. We hired a lot of staff this summer.
All board members were in favor
Items 17-70 through 17-76 are approved

**D.4. New Business**

**17-77** Recommendation of Alicia Limosani, Math Coach at Washington School to Assistant Principal of Carrigan School Step 1 with 6th year $93,300.70.

Chairman Morrissey asked for a motion to approve item 17-77
Karen Pacelli made the motion to approve
Rosa Richardson seconded the motion
Discussion: Mark Palmieri commended the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent on the hiring process for both Alicia and Stacy. There were five good candidates and this shows how well our professional development is going and how successful it has been. This was a very good process and I commend everyone involved with this.
Superintendent Cavallaro said the PTA people were involved with this and they did a really nice job.
All board members were in favor
Item 17-77 is approved
Chairman Morrissey congratulated Alicia who was present at the meeting. (Applause ensued) Alicia said she is very excited and thanked the board.

**17-78** Recommendation of Stacy Sutton, Elementary Teacher Grade 2 at Mackrille to Assistant Principal of Bailey Middle School Step 1 without 6th year $89,032.95.

Chairman Morrissey asked for a motion to approve item 17-78
Karen Pacelli made the motion to approve
Mark Palmieri seconded the motion
Discussion: Pat Libero worked with Stacy at Mackrille and she is someone who takes initiative and who likes kids; I think she will do a good job. I don’t know Alicia as well but I have been with her when she has done her math nights where she has organized lots of people doing lots of things so I think we have two really good candidates here.
Looking forward to a good year. Chairman Morrissey agrees and said he sat in the interview with Mark and Rosemary and there were some excellent candidates. There
were five people interviewed and he believes that these two candidates will do a great job at their respective schools. Chairman Morrissey congratulated both people.
All board members were in favor
Item 17-78 is approved
Chairman Morrissey congratulated Stacy who was present at the meeting. (Applause ensued)

17-79 Approval of the following policies:

- **5118 Students**
  - Resident/Nonresident Attendance
  - Resident Students
- **5118.1 Homeless Students**
  - AR5118.1 Administrative Regulations – Homeless Students

Chairman Morrissey asked for a motion to approve the policies above
Bob Guthrie made the motion to approve
Karen Pacelli seconded the motion
Discussion: Superintendent Cavallaro thanked Bob for the time he put in and thanked Tammy for all the work she put in making the corrections, the typing and summarizing the changes also. Bob Guthrie thanked the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent and Personnel for their time. Chairman Morrissey thanked Bob Guthrie for doing a fine job on this policy committee work.
All board members were in favor
Motion carries item 17-79 is approved

17-80 Approval of the following policy Revisions:

- **4111/4211 Personnel-Certified/Non-Certified Recruitment and Selection**
- **4121(a) Personnel-Certified/Substitute Teachers**
- **4112.51(a) 4212.51 Personnel-Certified/Non-Certified Employment/Reference Checks**
- **4112.5(b)/4212.5 Personnel-Certified/Non-Certified Security Check/Fingerprinting**

Chairman Morrissey asked for a motion to approve item 17-80
Rosa Richardson made the motion to approve
Patrick Leigh seconded the motion
Discussion:
All board members were in favor
Item 17-80 is approved
Superintendent Cavallaro said we will work with CABE on the on-line service and will get the adjustments up there as quickly as possible.

F. Informational
Chairman Morrissey asked for a motion to adjourn
Mark Palmieri made the motion
Karen Pacelli seconded the motion
All board members present were in favor
The meeting adjourned at 5:25 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Marylou Amendola
Board Secretary