The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was held on January 2, 2018 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 Rosemary Russo, Chairwoman of the Board of Education at 6:00 p.m. The meeting opened with a pledge to the flag.

**BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**
- Rosemary Russo, Chairwoman
- Robert Guthrie, Vice Chair
- Susan Walker, Secretary/Treasurer
- Lauren A. Aceto
- Patrick Leigh
- Patricia Libero
- James W. Morrissey
- Karen Pacelli
- Rosa Richardson

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

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

**CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:**
- Mayor Nancy R. Rossi

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:**
- David O’Brien
- Sumedha Chowdhury

Superintendent Cavallaro said we have two rather lengthy presentations tonight and if the board members agree we would like to have New Business Item #18-02 moved to the first item heard on the agenda. The board was in agreement. Jim Perno spoke on the student’s behalf stating that last year the students went to Washington D.C. and had a great trip. They were able to see Officer Fumiatti’s name on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Wall. The discussion of retiring Officer Fumiatti’s #8 was then brought to the attention of Superintendent Cavallaro. Joe Morell thanked the board for putting this on the agenda and stated that Officer Fumiatti to us is more than a man he is legendary and the attributes he held are important for students to have.
A motion to move item #18-02 up on the agenda was made by Jim Morrissey seconded by Rosa Richardson. All board members were in agreement. Item #18-02 will be heard first.

D.4. New Business

#18-02 Request to retire West Haven Hockey Number 8 which was worn by Officer Robert Fumiatti who was a 1989 graduate of West Haven High School, Boys Varsity Hockey Captain and 1988 Hockey State Champion.

Move to Approve
Jim Morrissey made the motion
Rosa Richardson seconded the motion
Discussion: Jim Morrissey said he knew Rob personally and he was a great father and he has known his family for many, many years and this couldn’t happen soon enough to retire his number. It is my honor to make this motion on behalf of Robert Fumiatti.
All board members were in agreement.
Item #18-02 is approved

Jim Perno said this is wonderful on January 10, 2018 at 6:30 PM there will be a ceremony at the West Haven Hockey Rink. West Haven will be playing Amity and the Color Guard will be there. After his injury Officer Fumiatti helped West Haven and Amity and this will be a great honor for the Fumiatti family as we retire Officer Fumiatti’s #8.

B. Public Portion of Meeting

Chairwoman Russo asked three times if anyone would like to address the board this evening. There were no speakers.

Chairwoman Russo thanked everyone for coming to tonight’s meeting. It is wonderful to see council members, representatives of several boards, teachers and administrators here.

REPORTS
C.1.a. Administration/Status of Schools
Superintendent Cavallaro said we have two presentations tonight. The project team will speak on the abatement issue and the swing space issue. We have representatives from CREC, Gilbane and Hygenics. There were discussions about:
1. Cost of the Swing space
2. Abatement
3. Updated Enrollment
The enrollment numbers used in January of 2017 were from a study completed in 2015. Over the summer in 2017 it was noted that there were up to 200 students over the 2015 enrollment study. Superintendent Cavallaro stated he was never ready to accept those numbers as he thought they were low. There is a spike and Superintendent Cavallaro was correct. Patrick Leigh asked if the 200 seats would have been in the 14 classrooms.
asked are we left with not enough space to educate our children. Superintendent Cavallaro said the data was good for one or two years after the school was built but his concern always was that we were cutting it too close. Rosa said again 200 seats equals 10 classrooms are we going to be able to educate our children.

Ideas mentioned to rectify this problem:

It was mentioned that they could enlarge the cafeteria. Pat Libero stated if you don’t have enough space in the cafeteria the kids won’t have enough time to eat as we have numerous time slots now. Superintendent Cavallaro said we have to get a waiver from the State to start serving lunch at 10.

Jim Morrissey sat on the board for the past few years and was told the numbers for student enrollment were going down. Now we find out differently. Superintendent Cavallaro said when we received the latest enrollment the board was given a copy of the latest projection about three weeks ago.

Rosa Richardson asked if we can go back to the state with our concerns an option at this point. Yes, Elizabeth Craun from CREC said the answer is absolutely yes. The project team is looking at approaching the state with some solutions potentially. The project has approximately 4.7M in owner contingency available that is set aside for unforeseen issues that crop up during construction. Our argument would be that an increase of up to 250 students per year would represent such an unforeseen condition so there is money in the budget for this sort of thing. We will be seeking advisement from the state.

Chairwoman Russo asked if you are saying we would have to go back to the original plan and add 14 more classrooms. No, not necessarily there are some options we are looking at. Chairwoman Russo would like to hear them. There were discussions regarding potentially enlarging the cafeteria and using it partially as a flux space. Darien has utilized their cafeteria in part for programming; there are options. Our cafeteria has so many lunch waves as it is. Rosa Richardson said this does not sound like a feasible option. There are a variety of solutions that we are exploring. It is a difficult situation.

Susan Walker said she was teaching at Bailey when they added the addition and originally there were supposed to have been more classrooms and those were cut and I think Tony Cordone (the prior principal of Bailey) will agree that it remained a problem with the number of students that has gone up and down at Bailey. Now that it is the only 7th and 8th school there are close to 1,000 students and it is still a problem years and years later. The additional space that they came up with was not necessarily the best for the students. I think the space situation needs to be looked into before the building is completed.

Rosa asked if the board will be kept apprised of tentative solutions and will we have some say on if they are appropriate. Where do we stand in making those types of decisions? Superintendent Cavallaro said the board’s role is programming that is what drives the project. We are capped by the State Department of Administrative Services at 130M. We are looking at some special legislation that may allow us beyond that. The question is how much does the city want to spend on the building. What we need is approval from the state in order to be reimbursed on how we build the building. It is a question of how much is the city willing to spend and how much will the state be willing to reimburse us.

Ken Carney said one of the issues to keep in mind is until the bids come back we really don’t know how much money we have to spend. You look at how the bids come back,
see what is available; it may not be a process of increasing the price, it may be a process of rearranging a few areas of the school. Right now in the existing school we have 6,916 square feet of cafeteria space which is way too small. The new school is 6,898 square feet; a little smaller. To get three lunch waves, 600 students per wave you need 9,100 square feet and you can achieve that without doing a major re-design by taking the culinary class and putting it near the cafeteria which frees classrooms in the F Wing. We are looking at things like this but until bids come back we don’t know how much money we have to play with.

Bob Guthrie addressed his question to either Mayor Rossi or Mr. Carney. It is great the City Council and Board of Ed talk about this but we have been asking for a while if the public will ever get a chance to hear and see a presentation. With more questions popping up if we had a meeting with the City Council and Board of Ed that is open to the public there will be a lot more questions. Bob thinks the public would like to hear and see both legislative bodies at the same time. This could be a joint meeting at a large site. The public hasn’t had the opportunity to hear about this and see it yet.

Mayor Rossi thinks this is a great idea. There is no problem. One body calls the meeting and invites the other one. It is not a violation of FOI and there is absolutely no reason not to have everybody in the same room. Say the project does increase her understanding is that you will have to go back to the City Council for additional approval if there is additional cost. Mayor Rossi was told that we have the approval up to a higher amount. Mayor Rossi said but still for transparency the best way is to have everybody in the same room that makes for an easier understanding by the public. That is the way I believe it should be done and there is no reason why it can’t be done. Mr. Carney said when the bids come back we can talk real numbers. Right now everything is an estimate; we don’t have the bids back yet and in some of the earlier things that were done we came under budget so there is the possibility there will be some more funds available.

Superintendent Cavallaro said he understands the financial conditions of the city but let’s say the price goes up 10M but the state says we will reimburse you for the extra 10M. It is a lot easier to take a look at if you are only paying 2.3M as opposed to the entire 10M. These are decisions that can’t be made until we talk with the state and see where we stand as a city as far as getting more money approved.

Rosa said any changes that involve curriculum or programmatically would come before the board so changes based on the building itself maybe not the 9,000 sq. ft. cafeteria but any other space would still have to come before the board to be reviewed once again correct? Mr. Carney said any program changes from the initial programming approval. Attorney Dugas said your role is to determine the educational specifications and he thinks that would have to come back to the board to be revised if there was a change and to reapprove it whatever the revised version would be. Rosa said anything that would affect classrooms, classroom sizes and anything of that magnitude would come back before us; am I correct? Attorney Dugas said correct. Rosa thanked Attorney Dugas.
Lauren Aceto asked what are we expecting first; the bids to come back or are we going to the state and asking for more money. Mr. Carney said while the bids are out we go to the state and identify the issues that we have identified and bring that to the attention of the state and they will want to see the bids come back before they make any decisions. OK and what is the timeline for the bids. The bids are January 12 and January 19th and by the end of the month we should have a good target.

Karen Pacelli asked if those bids are for the whole construction or just the next phase? Elizabeth Craun said the next phase is the balance of construction. There is one remaining phase which is furniture and equipment package. The reimbursement rate for eligible expenses it is 75.36% the maximum possible is 80% so it is a good rate.

Pat Libero said we should have a board rep on the building committee because Mark Palmieri who was our rep is no longer on the board. This way we could have someone come back and report to the board. Pat will volunteer because she is in contact with Pam a lot and can fill her in but if you have someone else who would be appointed that is fine. We need one to go to the building committee meetings. Chairman Russo agrees with this and asked if anyone else is interested in doing this. Superintendent Cavallaro said it is up to the mayor to appoint a person.

Chairman Russo asked if it is possible if the project team (CREC, Gilbane, Antinozzi) could come the first meeting of every month because these are big changes to hear all at once and maybe if we could hear from you once a month what is going on because a lot is happening quickly. She would appreciate that instead of coming in here and all of a sudden hearing that there are 200 extra kids and we are short classrooms. She would like to be more apprised of the situation. Mr. Carney interjected from the audience there is a cost associated with that; a huge cost actually. Chairman Russo said this isn’t covered in what we already paid? No; but Mr. Carney said they should come more often but every month would be a burden. Chairman Russo asked what would be reasonable. Once a quarter maybe; but they are obligated to come to the building committee meetings so if you have a rep there you will get the information first hand instead of the redundancy and we don’t have to pay them to come back.

Rosa Richardson asked where we stand on what we have expended so far. Elizabeth Craun said projected to the end of February 2018, and the design is mostly complete, she believes is 9.4M. Rosa asked what this includes. That includes some early phases, the phase 2 work which is still ongoing, the initial asbestos remediation which was done in 2013 is included in that, the swing space part of phase 2, site work also part of phase 2 which was completed this summer and the bulk of the design work which makes up a majority of that and a bunch of other consultant fees basically.

Chairwoman Russo asked if the swing space was complete. Elizabeth Craun said yes. Chairwoman Russo asked if the shops had moved in Elizabeth said yes. Chairwoman Russo said when the shops move back and the G Wing is rebuilt do other classrooms move into that swing space. Not to Superintendent Cavallaro’s knowledge no. Elizabeth Craun said initially the possibility was that it could be made into swing space for other
classrooms by putting up partition walls and having six classrooms but studies over the
summer indicated that was not necessary but now based on recent conversations that is
something we should revisit but there are no official plans at this time.

Rosemary asked if the bubble (increased enrollment) coming into the high school will
also be coming into the middle and elementary schools. Superintendent Cavallaro said
no not as much as the high school.

Patrick Leigh asked do we know who makes up the majority of the students coming in? Is
this possibly a high transient population that may not come through the system all the
way? Superintendent Cavallaro has no data to support this but that was one of his first
thoughts. Just because a child is in kindergarten it does not mean they will be here for 9th
grade but the numbers have been pretty accurate from NESDEC.

Chairwoman Russo had a request for Mr. Carney. She said if CREC can’t come once a
month can you come once a month. Elizabeth Craun from CREC interjected that they
could come once a month but it is driven by the request of the people who are managing
the project. Chairman Russo said to Mr. Carney but can you come. Mr. Carney said
whenever you need me I will be here absolutely. Elizabeth said they would be happy to
show up whenever directed to.

Jim Morrissey said basically we will know a lot more when these bids come in between
the 12th and 19th so sometime in February after the bids come in we can sit down here as a
board or with city council also so we will know a lot more where we stand financially
and go from there.

Bob Guthrie asked to be brought up to date on concerns they have been hearing about
asbestos. Is there anything more the Board of Education needs to do? The project appears
to be in full compliance. Is there something else that the board is not doing? Bob was told
by Mr. Twitchell in response to his question we are in full compliance currently. Bob
asked if we are doing above and beyond the regular testing? Mr. Twitchell explained that
they mobilized to the site on the 27th Hygenics and AIS which is the abatement
contractor. They spent the next few weeks preparing the building for remediation while
they ran background air samples within the building and around the perimeter to get a
baseline as to what is going on in the school while kids are present. During that time
period we had one elevated count during the first week in the building. It was a hot, high
wind day in November and the windows were open. We had this reanalyzed in the city by
a TEM and it came back with no asbestos structure seen in them. Since that day we have
had no other elevated counts and we were running prior to starting remediation six air
samples every day. The state came on the 15th to do a pre-abatement walk through with
us. At that time all of our soft demolition was done and we removed plaster ceilings,
universal waste like light tubes, mercury switches and things that need to be recycled,
containment was complete, sealed and ready to go. We did a visual inspection with the
state which was over and above. They do not usually do a pre-abatement inspection. We
were given permission by them and we gave permission to AIS to start. Signs were
posted at about every 10 feet in the building. We were asked to add two additional
samples at the exhaust where we were running our negative air machines which were filtering the air from inside the containment blowing them outside into the parking lot. On the 18th we started remediation the actual asbestos abatement and we were running eight air samples every day and reported to the state, Superintendent Cavallaro and the project team and we have had no elevated counts. They are progressing well and it is a slow process when you are demolishing walls with people inside. It is definitely a controlled approach and all waste as it falls is placed directly in a container with nothing left on the ground each day and it is sealed. It is going very well but we have more to do and we are on target of finishing asbestos abatement by the 27th of January.

Rosa Richardson asked if Hepavac is required at the end of each day. When they are done with their remediation work they will hepavac and wet clean the entire area. Then a visual inspection is done and an aggressive air sample is done. If this passes they are allowed to remove the containment. If it fails they would have to re-clean the space and run the test again until they pass that final test.

Jim Morrissey said what you are saying is that the people who are doing the abatement work are all properly licensed and have the proper equipment to do this work. Yes, Mr. Twitchell said each person in the site holds their own current either supervisor or handler license that are checked by a project monitor who is on site. Each of those individuals also holds a current medical saying they are physically fit to put the respirator on that they are wearing. They all wear protective clothing and change and shower on the way out. Jim said this is what they should do when they deal with asbestos correct. Yes. Superintendent Cavallaro said we had to have a plan which was approved by the state before even starting to do the work. This was not just a random plan. The document is probably five to ten pages of questions and answers and we walked the site with the state and we respond to any questions or issues they have until they receive satisfaction that we have designed it properly so we will be in compliance and protecting the general public.

Karen Pacelli said this is typical practice to do with any school even while they are in school right? Mr. Twitchell said abatement while school is in session is not unique it is definitely a specialized approach. Not all schools wish to take it on because it does increase the cost of your project. A typical abatement during the summer when kids aren’t in school requires no monitoring by him or any other firm so you take away a large percentage of cost. You don’t have to do any perimeter monitor of the air sampling it is just a final air test and visual at the end. It is done quite often and there are tons of examples of where it takes place.

Superintendent Cavallaro said it does increase the cost but if we didn’t do it we would extend the life of the project thereby increasing the cost a lot more. Attorney Dugas said he understands Neil’s concern and the safety of the children is paramount and you want to exercise oversight and that is totally within your realm. In terms of your actual role though once you have set the education specifications this is a building being built by the city and overseen by the building committee and legally you really don’t have any supervision or role over that process so I think that answers your question. What Attorney
Dugas is hearing is that you have people who are not only licensed but who are experts in doing this. You have the State of Connecticut overseeing it to make sure that the t’s are crossed and the I’s are dotted and that nobody is at risk and they are the watchdog; they are the appropriate party. This isn’t there first rodeo. We have other schools that have gone through this process. He personally would have a comfort level with those pieces in place.

Chairwoman Russo asked if these frigid temperatures add more burden to your work? Mr. Twitchell said it slows everything down. You need to give guys breaks more often due to the cold and the water freezes as you do this so you have to rotate your crews. Production rate slows dramatically. It has not impeded the work it just slows it down.

Mayor Rossi asked if he has children would you feel comfortable having your children be in school while this is going on? Would you send them and would you feel that it is safe for your children. Mr. Twitchell said he has three children and yes he would. The state also came down for an additional walk around on the 22nd which is above and beyond what they do. They walked the site and did another visual which is very uncommon for the state to come and just stay involved. They typically come because there is a problem not to just stay involved. The monitor he has put on site has been in the business for 21 years and is a heavily educated individual.

Superintendent Cavallaro has been very impressed by the amount of information he has been given by Jim Twitchell and AIS and we are passing along this information to the parents and to the community on a weekly basis. Superintendent Cavallaro doesn’t have children then go to the school but has a nephew that goes to the school and the hockey players that were here socialize with his son and he would feel very comfortable sending them to school based on the work that has been done and the way they have educated him on the process and what is to be done.

Mayor Rossi asked how much did the swing space cost the city. The bottom line cost on this was about 1.131 M. We were working with an estimate of 1 to 1.2 M so it came in pretty much where we expected it to. Mayor Rossi said the original plan was to destroy this space afterwards or demolish it but now we may change this? The original plan on the project was not to build a temporary space for the shops and then early this spring a direction was given to us to provide a temporary shop space and then Antinozzi started developing the designs and then we went out to bid and we just finished that space now and that was a kind of change of direction from the original plan where it would be housed elsewhere in the building. Mayor Rossi said when you say there wasn’t any temporary space it doesn’t mean there weren’t any shops in the original plan it just meant that you were going to use this temporary space so the shops continue throughout. They would be housed elsewhere other than in the existing building footprint without having to fit out that temporary shop. The abatement was supposed to be completed over the summer and then we move right into the new addition until their new shop spaces were completed sometime in 2018 the original plan. Mayor Rossi asked how long a time would it have been when the shop wouldn’t have been available for use. How long would this have been? Amar from Gilbane said approximately nine or 10 months. If you were
to demolish this would the state still reimburse because you built something and knocked it down? Elizabeth said yes the state pays for swing space. The state has had a rep working with us since February Bob Selmer and he has been in on all of these conversations and is fully aware of what the costs were etc. Amar from Gilbane said the swing space has been rolled in as part of the whole project cost as far as the reimbursement calculation. It is all being reimbursed at 75.36%. Mayor Rossi asked if there was an option to utilize this swing space in some way rather than knock it down. Amar said this would have to be studied because of its location and it is still within the 100 or 500 year flood area so this has to looked at more carefully by the design team to see if it can be reutilized. Elizabeth said Anne Druzolowski and Dana have already brought this up so it has been around for a while. This would be difficult. Mayor Rossi asked when do you think you will know. The design team and state would have to look at it first. We come into the construction and budgeting aspects of it. With the flood zone for future use you would have to raise the floor a couple of feet and there is a cost to that. A further discussion continued. Mayor Rossi asked if this could have been placed somewhere else. Because of the auto shop they needed a high base ceiling and clearance and there are really not many placed this could be put and that is why it was selected to go there because you do have the perimeter walls. This is not your typical classroom.

Mayor Rossi asked CREC if they came here every month or whatever there is no additional cost for you to come and present. Elizabeth said no but that is speaking only for us (CREC). They never want to put additional strain on the design professionals who are actually building the building.

Rosa Richardson asked what is the plan for the gymnasium area because when the project is underway the gyms won’t be there anymore correct? One of the changes we are making with this project is really enhancing the appearance of the school so when people approach they are not approaching the back of the school. So where the gyms presently exist, upon removal this will be part of the entrance area so when people arrive at the school they will be able to see the front door and the library. This will be a much enhance appearance from what it has today. The gyms will be where the U shape is. Chairman Russo asked if there were any other questions. There were no further questions and Chairman Russo thanked everyone for coming.

Bob Guthrie said board member Susan Walker is absolutely correct. Bailey was reduced to make a dollar amount fit not the student enrollment fit. To make people understand where we are with enrollment can you produce what Carrigan and Bailey looked like when they were two middle schools; the total number of students in each building. Superintendent Cavallaro said the high point at Carrigan was 1,100 and Bailey approached 1,000 but he doesn’t think they ever hit that number. Now they are both around 900 and he thinks one is around 930 right now. Bob asked for the benefit of the board members that they show what two middle schools look like for enrollment and also what the enrollment was in the elementary schools. Some buildings are not here now and this will show how the numbers have changed and where those students are now. Superintendent Cavallaro will find some information for Bob but the historic enrollment information goes back to 2007/2008.
The complete budget review is on the website.
Matt Cavallaro, Finance Director, gave a preliminary budget review which touches on only the increases to the budget. We haven’t gotten to where we might be able to cut or save money based on historical trends and trends for the current fiscal year. Matt showed how they built the budget by budget categories, the amount increased, and the percentage over what was budgeted over the current fiscal year and the reasons why.

Questions from board members:
Patrick Leigh asked if we lost money in this budget for Special Ed Tuition from what we had last year from the state? Matt thinks they kept it status quo when they finally came up with a budget. He will get the percentage to the board upon receipt.
Mayor Rossi asked a question on Tuition. Mayor Rossi said you (Matt) said the City Council didn’t seek a bid waiver. Normally it would have been over and at least put on the agenda; was it ever on an agenda to your knowledge because she doesn’t remember seeing a bid waiver or anything to do with the bus company on any of the city council agendas. Superintendent Cavallaro said it was never added to an agenda. In April the board passed the offer made by Winkle Bus to ask the City Council to extend the contract and in effect you are waiving the bid process but it was never acted upon. Superintendent Cavallaro sent a letter the next day and during the summer to follow up he sent another letter but it was never acted on. Mayor Rossi said it wasn’t like it went before the City Council and they voted against it; it just never appeared on the agenda. For those that don’t know it is the Chairman’s right to not put something on the agenda. It was decided to have Superintendent Cavallaro write another letter to the City Council and ask it they would consider it. Mr. Winkle is still willing to give us the discount for this year. A further discussion took place. A letter will be written to the City Council.
Karen Pacelli asked about Salaries and if the percentages were for people at the top only. Matt said no it is for all steps. Superintendent Cavallaro said there are 30 administrators and most of them are at top step and CWA has eight or nine people and most of them are at top step. Karen said so they are just getting the 1%. Yes.

Operation of Plant had no questions.
Benefits and Fixed Charges - Patrick Leigh asked Matt from what he has gotten from the beginning of the school year until now have you seen a drop or is it stagnant. It is stagnant because some unions are still in the old plan so trying to see the effects of the change with three or four months of data is difficult at this point but the numbers do look good to come within our budget.
Matt Cavallaro said right now the increase is $2,380,921 which would represent a 2.66% increase just dealing with what we need to do to increase the budget and remain status quo. The board thanked Matt.

C.1.b. Student Representatives’ Report
The report will be found at the end of the minutes.

C.1.c. Board
Rosa Richardson said the AFSCME 681 membership did a hat, scarf, gloves drive and were able to present them to Forest, Savin Rock and Washington and it was greatly appreciated. We would like to continue this and maybe next year the board can do that type of drive as well.
Bob Guthrie said on December 8th he had the opportunity to go to Bailey Middle School for a Rally for the West Haven Sea Hawks who played that day for a National Championship. It was nice of Bailey to step up and recognize the youth of our community. On December 19th Bob went to the Carrigan 5th Grade Winter Concert and Rosa and Pat Libero were also there. The number of students participating was incredible. The 5th and 6th grade bands will not fit on the same stage and we at the BOE need to thank all those involved in growing the music program from Dr. Druzolowski to the staff and if you attend the concerts you will see staff from other concerts supporting the kids and their colleagues which is a nice thing.

Bob said to follow up on what was talked about with the high school building being able to get a joint meeting together or public meeting together is important because community confidence is low on this nine year in the making project so to get it out there for the public it would be a good thing to have everyone here.

Pat Libero went to the Carrigan Concert and the fact that it is so huge in there and they do have to have two concerts concerns her about the high school so we have to discuss this at another time. Pat attended the choral concert at the high school and as always Phyllis Silver does a great job and she did see them at the Trees of Hope on Friday and they made West Haven proud. Next year on the folders she will tell them that they should put West Haven Choral on because she didn’t think anyone knew who we were. They do a nice job and it is always a pleasure to see the kids perform.

Sue Walker said the Belcanto Choir under Phyllis Silver’s direction performed once again as this is the 3rd of 4th year for the Historical Society at their meeting and they were much appreciated. They were beautiful and are wonderful representatives of West Haven High School wherever they go.

Jim Morrissey wished everybody a Happy New Year and he looks forward to this year with the new board. He is very happy tonight that this board decided to retire Rob Fumiaiatti’s Number here tonight. It is a long time overdue and it was a great thing that this board did this evening. On January 10th they will have the ceremony at the Rink retiring his number so if you can make it that will be great as there will be a big crowd down there.

Jim Morrissey said years ago we had a rink commission and he wants to know if there is a possibility that this board could suggest that we get a rink commission started again. Superintendent Cavallaro said we tried to bring it back one time and we approached some people but he thinks it is still policy. Jim has received some calls from Youth Hockey and from people in the community who would like to get involved in that. Superintendent Cavallaro said we have done some really nice things there and he thinks it would be a good thing. A while back Superintendent Cavallaro did some research on the make-up and who is to be involved so he will get this to Jim as he thinks it would be a good thing. Jim said that would be great.
Rosemary Russo wanted to thank all the board members who attend all the school functions and it is really a unique thing for West Haven to tell you the truth and she knows that the staff appreciates it when we come and she thinks the kids appreciate it also. Rosemary thinks this is a really good thing to keep up and it helps more with our relations with the schools also if they see us at their schools and at their functions. On a personal note Rosemary wanted to say thank you for bearing with her tonight as she learns the ropes of this new position. Rosemary said she is not up to speed but she will get there. Thank you.

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, November 20, 2017 at 6:00 PM.

Chairwoman Russo asked for a motion to approve the Regular Meeting minutes D.1.a. Patrick Leigh made the motion to approve the minutes Rosa Richardson seconded the motion
Discussion: All board members present were in favor
Minutes are approved

D.1.b. West Haven Board of Education Organizational Meeting held in the Board of Education Meeting Room, City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, CT on Monday, December 18, 2017 at 5:30 PM.

Chairwoman Russo asked for a motion to approve the Organizational Meeting minutes D.1.b.
Rosa Richardson made the motion to approve the minutes
Karen Pacelli seconded the motion
Discussion: Pat Libero abstained as she was not able to attend this meeting.
All other board members present were in favor
Minutes are approved

D.2. Resignations: (Certified)

D.3. New Hire: (Certified)

18-01 Chris Javier, 925 T3 Mix Avenue, Hamden, CT 06514
Boys Basketball Coach – Bailey Middle School
Effective: 2017-2018 Sports Season
Annual Salary: $1,950

Chairwoman Russo asked for a motion to approve item 18-01
Rosa Richardson made the motion to approve the minutes
Jim Morrissey seconded the motion
Discussion:
All board members were in favor
Item 18-01 is approved

F. Informational

F.1. Approval of Christine Cummings Child Rearing Leave with a return to
work date of February 1, 2018

F.2. Crystal Coady, 449 Blohm Street, West Haven, CT 06516
Production Worker – Cashier – St. Lawrence School
Effective: November 27, 2017
Salary: $13.47 Hourly

F.3. Special Meeting – Student Expulsion Hearing, November 22, 2017
at 11:13 a.m. (enclosure)

F.4. Special Meeting – Student Expulsion Hearing, November 22, 2017
at 12:11 a.m. (enclosure)

Bilingual Tutor – Pagels School
Effective: January 2, 2018
Salary: $21,500

Chairwoman Russo asked for a motion to adjourn
Rosa Richardson made the motion
Karen Pacelli seconded the motion
All board members were in favor
The meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Marylou Amendola
Board Secretary

The Student Rep Report follows on the next page.
1. December break has ended and school is back in session

2. Midterms schedule has been released—Midterms will be held on January 18, 19, 22, and 23.

3. The Mock Trial Team won their competition on December 11th, and will continue in the playoffs at Quinnipiac law school on February 2.

4. Choral dept will performing at the MLK tribute ceremony on January 14.

5. Science club will be competing at the Yale invitation Olympiad on January 27.