The Meeting of the Board of Education was held at the Blake Building, 25 Ogden Street, West Haven. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carrano at 7:00 p.m. The meeting opened with a pledge to the flag.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Anne Heffernan
Krista Pickering
Paul Messina
John M. Carrano
Toni Paine
George Monahan
Robert Guthrie

BOARD MEMBER ABSENT: Raymond Collins

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Superintendent Paul Tortora
Assistant Superintendent Neil Cavallaro

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES: Sharfi Farhana
Jerome Calhoun
Robert Proto

B. Public Portion of Meeting.

Chairman Carrano asked if anyone wished to address the Board.

Councilman- at- Large, Rick Martino, 61 Bluff Avenue West Haven. I’m also the owner of Chase Driving School. It seems there are few people on the Board that don’t feel I should be bidding on a contract for West Haven High School. I’m here to address those people and find out why? Mr. Guthrie who had a few comments in the New Haven Register. I guess I shouldn’t be bidding on the contract. You want to tell me why?

Chairman Carrano, Sir there is no conversation during public session

Mr. Martino, you can’t talk, Ok Mr. Messina a few years ago when I gave your son, I taught your son. You said you want to keep business in West Haven. Now you’re saying the gentlemen from Devon who has been doing this for West Haven High. Which the City has nothing to do with this or tax payer. It’s strictly the students, this is Adult Education Program. The gentlemen who is doing it now. Is not from West Haven, his cars are registered in Devon. I 13 Cars, I have State Contracts, I am the biggest school also my school in Fairfield. Not that I have 90% of the High School anyway. But my point is he contributes no money to our City, he use our lots to teach our kids. I don’t go down to Platt to bother his business. You guys are saying as a Councilman it’s not right. How many people go into your gas station from the city? Rob Saley a Councilman, does he do any work in the city?

Chairman Carrano, Mr. Martino individual persons should not be the subject of debate.

Mr. Martino, what good for one is good for the other. I have a phone number; you guys know where my office is, come talk to me about it. I would appreciate that. Those are my comments.

Chairman Carrano thanked Mr. Martino

Chairman Carrano asked if anyone wished to address the Board.
My name is Curtis Jordan, 249 Malcolm Road, I have attended meeting before, but not to regularly. I had intended to ever since I saw the Mastery Scores. Now we weren’t the worse, but we certainly couldn’t qualify as being close to the best. We were under the state averages. I have been to many council meeting and made statements. Maybe I should have come here to the Board. Back when Mr. Palermo was chosen to become Superintendent. At that time the search brought several qualified people, one of which was Ms. Addie Washington from Baltimore. She was more qualified then Mr. Palermo. Why they didn’t pick her. The Board answered we wanted one of our own. I have often wondered why she was not picked. Was it because she was a women or she just didn’t belong to the fraternity. Well Mr. Palermo is no longer with us, did we have a search? No. Once again you wanted one of your own. Back several months ago a person, who is not here so I will not call his name? Said one of the reasons for our poor performance was because of non- English speaking and minorities. When I heard this that upset me. It appears to me, that there aren’t any programs. To tell with the situation. Ms. Fentress had a program that she was running and she really had no support. There were no funds for her. And I can’t understand why Carrigan School was not used for an afternoon program. Because it was suppose to be. When you have an afternoon program, you don’t just get Ms. Fentress involved. You get the Community and the parents. This was not done. The other day I read in the paper. That those that go on to College, 49% require remedial courses. By the end of this decade analyst predict that our nation could face a shortage of 10 to12 million qualified workers in the fastest growing employment sector. There is a program. I would like to know of West Haven is part of the program. You aren’t going to say yes or no? The pilot program has been launched through the Connecticut State Scholars program in New Haven and Danbury. Beginning in September in Middletown will be the pilot site for vocational, technical system. The National program was sponsored by a manufacturer that was disturbed the lack of preparation of potential employees straight out of High School. Back a few weeks there was a proposal to build a new Carrigan Middle School. We did not need a new Carrigan Middle School. Why this proposal was even put on the table. In the New Haven area we have about eight High Schools and we only have 1 Vocational Technical School, Which is Eli-Whitney. We didn’t need a Carrigan Middle School, what we need here is a Vocational High School. I hear we have it at West Haven High, but what I hear is it is not worth it and I think it should have been separated from the High School. When I see what is happening and why our kids are graduating from High School, and not reading at the level. And when they go into colleges and have to take remedial classes, that bother me. You say where are the programs? A lot of people say I am being overly critical. But ever time I go to a counsel meeting and I’m going to come here again. I’m going to bring documentation. I don’t believe in coming and making wild accusations and insinuations. And ever time I go to a meeting I always bring my documentation. It appears to me. We should have had a fresh approach someone to come in here with some innovation and turn the school system around. Thank you

Chairman Carrano asked if anyone wished to address the Board.

Nancy Rossi, 12 Robin Road, First of all I want to say, with regard to the incident at Bailey, I certainly called the Chairman. The best way to conduct an investigation is to hear both sides. Nancy Rossi stated that since she has been complaining there have been some changes. Before there was only one hearing officer, now there a two. The attorney claimed that the hearing officers don’t come from there office. The attorney said the hearing officers are selected. Then could some explain to me, how this process works. If one and only one does the does the
hearing. What selection is this? Most of the hearings are done by the same officer. It’s also p
setting that the law firm has the rite to contact prior to the expulsion hearing. The board was not
charged because a secretary was called, the attorney that was going to handle the case called
the hearing officer. Why? I do monitor the legal bills. I did go to Hartford on my F.O.I. and have
now received the documents I asked for. But I have noticed that now on the legal bills that we no
longer have any contact. So how are we doing it now? We haven’t scheduled any more hearing?
Another thing the expulsion process Neil calls over there and they write the letter and they sign
Neil’s name or somebody signs Neil name. The point of the matter Neil doesn’t sign the letter.
Theses letter are going to the parent or the attorney. They went to the hearing officer, but they
are not cc. So the parent is not aware that the hearing officer was notified before the hearing.
The parent has the right to know this. But your attorney refuses to cc the names at the bottom.
Why? If you look at the letter you think as the parent that this letter is only going to Neil and them.
I find it hard to believe that I am the only parent to call and complain about the Bailey incident. But
if that is true. That a shame. Now the Superintendent Office is suppose to be notified. There is no
record that they were notified of the Bailey incident by the police department. But there was a
record for the Carrigan student. If it not there someone should be asking for it. The process needs
to be look at from the time the student is arrested on or off the premises. The Board should meet
maybe twice a month and review. There are not that many. They talk about a gray area, how is
the gray area decided. If it is a janitor child or the superintendents child. I would like to think it
would be the same treatment. Things do need to change. Nancy Rossi thanked the Board for
taking the time to come and hear about the expulsion hearing process. The hearing officer gets
paid the same about, if they are here for ten minutes or three hours. Look at the minutes of these
hearings, how can this all be done in three minutes the process is just upsetting. Now in the
agenda book, there are a lot of things about voluntary transfers, voluntary is voluntary. Someone
is not asked to go. 04-150 happens to be the music department. Says, when I was asked by your
office to request a voluntary transfer for out of Mackrille. Now are voluntary transfers voluntary.
All of a sudden someone not there and it a voluntary transfer. And another thing about a bias.
My husband, son and myself were have dinner at Duffy’s one night a few months back. A young
lady was bragging that her father was very good friends with someone on the Board and had
promised that she would get a job no matter what by September 2004. Well she got a job. I find
this troubling. She was talking to four West Haven High School teachers, two I knew, two I did not
know. Why would you do this, to tell everyone that the only way you could get a job was because
of your father? This just seems to be at all levels. Thank you

Chairman Carrano thanked Mrs. Rossi

Chairman Carrano asked if anyone else would like to address the Board

For a second time would anyone like to address the Board

Third and final time would anyone like to address the Board

Public Session Closed at 7:30 p.m.
Chairman Carrano, before we go into Status of Schools, I would like to go over a few things. Things that we have discussed that will be addressed at future Board meeting. We all received a letter from a concerned parent on the Bullying Policy this evening. If you could please work with the administration on a plan with a letter in addition to how we can get the word out to students. That this will not be accepted. Since it was brought up in Public Session, we do have a meeting scheduled for addressing adequate yearly progress coupled with the Standardized Testing results that Mr. Cavallaro is preparing for. The Department heads need to come in front of the Board and formally present their plans and goals, both short-term and long-term. We also discussed Mr. Palermo coming to address the Board as a whole on his formal to exceed the savings number approved as part of the Special Education Budget.

An update on the Diversity Training Progress
Mrs. Paine and the Priority/Readiness Committee to coordinate a Grants meeting to make sure we are going after everything that is available from the State and Federal money.
Mr. Messina and the Facilities Committee to address the packet of information we received concerning the noise at the High School facilities and its impact on the surrounding homeowners.
Mr. Horvath and the Athletic Committee to address the issue of advertising at the athletic facilities, also naming of buildings. I though it was a great idea tonight at the meeting. The Committee came up with the idea of having a wall of fame.
Mr. Monahan and the Policy Committee to address the Administrative Hiring Policy recommendation.
Mr. Monahan reminded the Chairman the policy committee still has about 40 items to take action on.

Chairman Carrano, with the school year starting up, there are a lot of things on the table; I just want to bring a few things up.

C. Reports:

Superintendent Tortora, Hiring we are moving a long. But a few other towns are offering incentives, it seems like every other Agenda we add then take them off the next. We still have a few open positions. Assistant Cavallaro is working on these.
Superintendent Tortora, I toured the building with Mr. Messina and I had a meeting today with Art Kelly to discuss the various locations. Mackrille is moving along, we will be able to open, but we will not have the computer room, new entrance or the food processing area. Alan Belchak met with me today to deal with serving the children.

Mr. Horvath asked if we are looking at months.
Superintendent Tortora said around two weeks.
Forest School needs an extensive amount of cleaning, but it should be ready on time. Haley looks great on the inside, but has some grounds work to be done.
High School, still dealing with the price of the front facet, we have gone out to Bid twice. It came back again over budget. I may have to go back to the City and revisit the Budget.
Mr. Messina said he was more comfortable at Forest the Mackrille, Haley is beautiful. Mackrille He does not understand when the men are working Saturday and Sundays, and looking at the entrance they are building, why they can not finish on time. Haley, there is a slop there no why a lawn mover can go down it. Also the walk way in the back they don't seem wide enough and feels there will be a problem with blowing.
Mr. Kelly will check it out, but some modifications are being made.
Mr. Messina is concerned that at Mackrille no one seems to know what is going on. It's
concerning to see something go up three times.

Mr. Guthrie asked about the modular

Mr. Kelly, I checked with Hamden and two other companies. There was no interest. Then we found to move them with in West Haven would cost about forty thousand dollars.

Mr. Monahan asked if the general contractors are responsible for clean up. Superintendent, general contract is responsible for some of the cleaning, the rest is our staff.

Mr. Horvath questioned the safety of building?
Mr. Kelly said they are tested.

Superintendent Tortora invited everyone for the walk through of Building on August 30, 2004 at 9:30 a.m. from West Haven High School.

C.1.a. Administration.
Assistant Superintendent Cavallaro thanked Rose McDonnell for her help with the additions to the agenda.
Assistant Cavallaro said he has four vacancies right now.
Chairman Carrano asked about the four Science Itinerants. Mr. Cavallaro said they are in place.
Assistant Cavallaro stated if anyone has any questions about the expulsion process please call him he will try to help in any way he can. He realizes there are a lot of questions.
Chairman Carrano asked if the resignations they have seen had anything to do with anyone we gave lay off letters.
Mr. Cavallaro said he did not believe so. With the exception of one of the teachers all the teachers are non-tenure.

C.1.b. Board.
Anne Heffernan stated she attended the Rape Crisis/Domestic Violence Ball and had a wonderful time while supporting two worthy program
Sept 9, Golf Tournament for Ward-Heitmann House at Grassy Hill Country
October 7, she would like to plan a chili contest.
There will be a new cookbook released in December.
Sept. 18, 2004 there will be an Italian Fest on Campbell Ave

Krista Pickering wanted to mention programs at the Community House.

Chairman asked that anyone with events get the dates to Rose McDonnell for calendar

C.1.c. Committee.
Chairman Horvath the Athletic Committee met August 16, 2004 and would like to ask for a motion to add to the agenda the naming of the press box after Joe McHugh.
Chairman Carrano a MOTION was made by Mr. Horvath to add 04-177 to Agenda, MOTION was SECONDED by Toni Paine, and MOTION passed unanimously.

Mr. Guthrie asked for update on Music program
Chairman Carrano said it would be added.
Chairman Carrano asked for a MOTION to approve D.1.a through D1.b.

**Approval of Minutes:**

D.1.a. Revised Minutes for Athletic Committee Meeting of June 28, 2004
D.1.b. Regular Board Meeting of July 19, 2004 at 7:00 P.M. at Blake Building

MOTION was made by Anne Heffernan and SECONDED by Paul Messina
MOTION to AMDEND change Kelly to Contractor MOTION made by
MOTION passed unanimously –with change

Chairman Carrano asked for a MOTION to approve D.2 04-144 through D.2 04-153
Certified Resignations

**D.2 Resignations (Certified)**

04-144 Susan Bonvicini, 230 Alden Drive, Guilford, CT 06437. Elementary Teacher at Savin Rock School, Grade 5. Effective: August 1, 2004, Reason: Another Job Opportunity (Enclosure)

04-145 Barbara Coyle, 872 Robert Treat Ext, Orange, CT 06477, Elementary Reading Teacher at Mackrille School, Effective: August 2004. Reason: Personal (Enclosure)


04-147 Donna Ireland, 220 Brentwood Drive, Wallingford, CT 06492, Kindergarten Teacher at Thompson School, Effective: July 28, 2004, Reason: Personal (Enclosure)

04-148 Robert M. Parkin, 91 Richmond Ave, West Haven, CT 06516, Social Studies Teacher at West Haven High School, Effective: July 19, 2004, Reason: Personal (Enclosure)

04-149 Belle M. Garafola, 50 Redwood Drive, Bethel, CT 06801, Family & Consumer Science Teacher at West Haven High, Effective July 14, 2004, Reason: Personal (Enclosure)

04-150 James Roumeles, Jr. 26 High St, Apt #22, New Haven, CT 06510, Music Teacher at Mackrille School, Effective: July 28, 2004, Reason: Personal (Enclosure)

04-151 Gayle Tracey, D.C, 877 East Street, Middletown, CT 06457, Science Teacher at West Haven High School Effective: July 29, 2004, Reason: Another Job Opportunity (Enclosure)

04-152 Lorraine Green, 51 Evelyn Street, Stratford, CT 06615, Guidance Counselor at West Haven High School, Effective: July 29, 2004, Reason: Personal (Enclosure)

04-153 Andrea Cruz Regan, 43 Hemlock Hollow Road, Woodbridge, CT 06525, Special Education Teacher at West Haven High School, Effective: August 9, 2004, Reason: Other Job Opportunity (Enclosure)

MOTION made by and SECONDED by Krista Pickering and SECONDED by Paul Messina
Chairman Carrano asked for a MOTION to approve D.3. 04-154 Resignation Non-Certified

D.3 Resignations (Non-Certified)


MOTION was made by Toni Paine and SECONDED by Howard Horvath
MOTION passed unanimously

Chairman Carrano asked for a MOTION to open D.4. 04-155 for discussion
Mr. Cavallaro realizes the concern, because coaching is for one year.
Toni Paine feels this should be resignation like we did for McCarty
Chairman Carrano said we can not accept the leave of Absence
Mr. Monahan said the board can not rule on resignation, when his letter states leave of absence
Mr. Guthrie said we need to stay consistent.
Mr. Cavallaro said he would talk to John Capone
Toni Paine asked that this be tabled
Mr. Monahan asked that the board just strike this item
Toni Paine if we table, this is can just be brought up at the next meeting as unfinished business.
Chairman Carrano asked for a MOTION to table - D.4 - 04-155, MOTION made by Toni Paine SECONDED by Howard Horvath, MOTION passed unanimously

D.4 Leave of Absence: (Certified)

04-155 Richard Boshea, 440 Morgan Lane, West Haven, CT 06516. Assistant Football Coach requesting 1 school year (2004-2005) leave of absence due to personal reasons.

Chairman Carrano asked for a MOTION to approve D.4 04-155 Leave of Absence

D.5 Child Rearing Leave of Absence: (Certified)

04-156 Annette Wilson, 5 Contact Drive, West Haven, Ct 06516, Grade 5 teacher at Forest School, requesting 1 school year (2004-2005). - (No Enclosure)

MOTION was made by Anne Heffernan and SECONDED by Toni Paine
MOTION passed unanimously

Chairman Carrano asked for a MOTION to approve D.5 04-157 Leave of Absence

D.6 Medical Leave of Absence; (Certified)

04-157 Brita McGee, 162 Meadow Street, East Haven, CT 06512, Special Education Teacher at West Haven High School. (Medical previously submitted)- (No Enclosure)

MOTION was made by Paul Messina and SECONDED by George Monahan
MOTION passed unanimously
Chairman Carrano asked for a MOTION to approve D.5 04-157 Leave of Absence

D.7  **Medical Leave of Absence (Non-Certified)**

04-158 Lois Chapman, 19 Harding Ave, West Haven, CT 06516, 10 Month Clerk at Seth Haley School, for the school year 2004-2005. (Enclosure)

MOTION made by Anne Heffernan and SECONDED by George Monahan
MOTION passed unanimously

Toni Paine MOTION to add 04-169 A and 04-169B and to strike 04-164
MOTION passed unanimously

**New Hires: (Certified)**

04-159 Carrie Bailey, 22 Lawncrest Road, West Haven, CT 06516, full time Elementary Teacher at Savin Rock School, Effective: August 31, 2004, Salary: $32,042.56 / Step 1 BS+30

04-160 Marilyn Champney, 174 Knollwood Drive, Wallingford, CT 06492, Earth Science Teacher at West Haven High School, Effective: August 31, 2004, Salary: $37,531.42 / Step 5 BS

04-161 Brian Bisson, 26 Cornwall Avenue, Prospect, CT 06712, Special Education Teacher at Stiles, Effective: August 31, 2004, Salary: $32,042.56 / Step 1 BS+30

04-162 John Connors Jr., 283 Maplewood Avenue, Milford, CT 06460, Science Teacher Carrigan Middle School, Effective: August 31, 2004, Salary: $35,419.66 / Step 2 BS+30

04-163 Christine Smith, 47 Savin Park, West Haven, CT 06156, Choral Teacher for Molloy and Washington Schools, Effective: August 31, 2004, Salary: $30,052.10 / Step 1 BS

04-165 Kathryn Snow, 97 Horizon Drive, Shelton, CT 06484, Fourth Grade Teacher at Pagels, Effective: August 31, 2004, Salary: $32,042.56 / Step 1 BS+30

**Department Heads:**

04-166 Health and physical Education: Jonathan Capone
326 Benham Hill Road, West Haven, CT 06516 Stipend: $4,800.00

04-167 Science: Raffaela Fronc, 308 Tuttle Road Durham, CT 06422 Stipend: $9,600.00

04-168 Social Studies: Mark Consorte, 14 Bailey Road West Haven, CT 06516
Stipend: $9,600.00

04-169 Megan Perry, 7 North Forest Circle, West Haven, CT 06516, Literacy Teacher at Mackrille School, Effective: August 31, 2004, Salary: $32,042.56 / Step 1 BS+30

04-169A Christen Carey, 16 Trading Cove Drive, Norwich, CT 06360, Family/Consumer Science Teacher at West Haven High School, Effective: August 31, 2004, Salary: $30,052.10/ Step BS

04-169B Julienne Kosa, 15 White Gate Road, Oxford, CT 06478, Math Teacher at Carrigan Middle
Dropped

04-164 Linda B. Silamone, 15 Filmore Avenue, Danbury, CT 06811, full-time system-wide Speech/Language Pathologist, Effective: August 31, 2004, Salary: $33,391.70 + Stipend $1,876.94 / Step 1 BS+60

Chairman Carrano asked for a MOTION to approve D.5 04-159 through 04-169B
MOTION made by Toni Paine and SECONDED by George Monahan

Mr. Guthrie asked about stipend amounts
Mr. Cavallaro said it come down to how many teachers a department is over seeing.
Chairman Carrano any more discussion
MOTION passed unanimously

D.9 New Hires: (Non-Certified)

04-170 Donald Simmons, 56 Swampscott Street, West Haven, CT 06516. Assistant Custodian (3-8) at Seth G. Haley, Effective: August 17, 2004, Salary: $14,510.08 Step 1

04-171 Gary Peters, 22 Chestnut Street, West Haven, CT 06516, Assistant Custodian (3-8) at Thompson School. Effective: August 17, 2004, Salary: $14,510.08 / Step 1

MOTION was made by Robert Guthrie and SECONDED by Paul Messina
Mr. Guthrie thanked the Chairman for continuing to hire off sub list.
MOTION passed unanimously

E. New Business

Chairman Carrano asked for a MOTION to approve E. 04-172

04-172 Approval of Posting for three part-time Bilingual Paraprofessional positions to be come Full-time positions at West Haven High School, ½ paid out of Grant, ½ paid Board of Education.

MOTION was made by Toni Paine and SECONDED by Paul Messina
MOTION passed unanimously
Sharfi Farhana asked if paraprofessional were certified
Chairman Carrano, no they are non-certified personal
Chairman Carrano asked for a MOTION to approve E. 04-173

04-173 Approval of Posting for two Technology Paraprofessionals for Elementary Schools, housed at Blake Building.

MOTION was made by Robert Guthrie and SECONDED by George Monahan
Mr. Guthrie asked what the Superintendent hoped to accomplish with these two new positions. Superintendent Tortora, these positions are to replace Mary Howland who has gone back to a classroom. Due to the Budget restraints this is the best route to go. Rather then replace with a teacher.
MOTION passed unanimously
Chairman Carrano asked for a MOTION to approve E. 04-174
04-174 Request for two new positions for school year 2004-2005 for Medical Paraprofessionals at Molloy School.

MOTION was made by Anne Heffernan and SECONDED by Krista Pickering
MOTION passed unanimously

Chairman Carrano asked for a MOTION to approve E. 04-175

04-175 Request for part-time Medical Paraprofessional at Mackrille School to become full-time beginning of 2004-2005 school year.

MOTION was made by Toni Paine and SECONDED by Anne Heffernan
MOTION passed unanimously

Chairman Carrano asked for a MOTION to approve E. 04-176

04-176 Request approval from Beth Sabo to install lights at Carrigan Softball Field. Funding for this project through State Bonds

MOTION made by Robert Guthrie with the stipulation that Beth Sabo comes before the Board and answers any questions before the project starts.
Toni Paine asked if the money already in hand by the City.
Mr. Messina, the city has money; this is what they will do with some of us.
Mr. Messina agrees with Mr. Guthrie we need more information, what and who is going to do the work at the school. Who is responsible?
Mr. Guthrie asked that the Chairman send Beth Sabo a letter to come before the Board to answer any questions.

Chairman Carrano asked for a SECONDED to pass with stipulation
SECONDED by George Monahan
MOTION passed unanimously

Chairman Carrano asked for a MOTION to approve E. 04-177

04-177 Naming of Football Press Box at Stadium after Joe McHugh

MOTION made by Anne Heffernan and SECONDED by Toni Paine
MOTION passed unanimously

F. Informational:

Anne Heffernan – Hopefully the dedication will be on Oct 1, Notre Dame/West Haven Home Game
Krista Pickering - No
Howard Horvath - No
Paul Messina -No
Sharfi Farhana -No
Robert Proto - No
John Carrano -No
Toni Paine - No
George Monahan - No
Robert Guthrie- Feels the new Facilitator for Best will do an outstanding job.
Jerome Calhoun- No
G. Executive Session

Executive Session Minutes

9:00 p.m.

Chairman Carrano asked for a Motion to close Executive Session
MOTION made by Paul Messina and SECONDED by Howard Horvath

Executive Session ended 9:38 p.m.

Chairman Carrano asked for a MOTION to ADJOURN
MOTION was made by Paul Messina and SECONDED by Toni Paine
MOTION passed unanimously

Meeting ADJOURNED at 9:39 p.m.