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 John Carrano at 7:00 p.m. The meeting opened with a pledge to the flag.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**
Anne Heffernan
Krista Pickering
Howard Horvath
Raymond Collins
Paul Messina
M. Toni Paine
George Monahan

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**
Robert J. Guthrie

**ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:**
Superintendent Paul Tortora
Assistant Superintendent Neil Cavallaro
Mayor H. Richard Borer

**B. PUBLIC PORTION**

Chairman Carrano asked if anyone wished to address the Board.
Chairman Carrano asked for a second and third time if anyone wished to address the Board.
No one spoke so the Public Portion of the meeting was closed at 7:02 pm

**C. REPORTS**

**C.1. Status of Schools**

Mr. Tortora wanted to publicly thank Chris Everone for a job well done for the CIAC Championships. He also wanted to thank Joe Yacono, Paul Messina, John Carrano, and the Maintenance Department.

Wednesday the State will be releasing some information on CAPT, packets will be sent to Board Members late Wednesday afternoon.

**C.1. a. Administration**

Mr. Cavallaro also wanted to thank everyone and commend Chris Everone on the great job that was done for all the games played at Ken Strong Stadium for the CIAC Championship games.

**C.1.b. Board**

Anne Heffernan announced the birth of Mr. Guthrie’s son, James Guthrie, born December 14, 2003, 6 lbs 13oz. Also a reminder the toy drive was postponed until December 18, 2003 at the Savin Rock Conference Center. 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Bring unwrapped toys to fire truck.
Paul Messina wanted to congratulate the students and teachers on the wonderful job that was done at both the Bailey Concert and Carrigan Concert. The children were having fun and enjoying what they were doing. It was great to see that we have so many students interested in music.

Last week Mr. Messina met with Joe Yacono on a problem with a ceiling leak at Seth Haley School in the all propose room. The problem was rectified within one day.

Mr. Messina will be meeting with Mr. Yacono on the floors at Bailey, which will be done during vacation. The gym floor needs to be widened to regulation size. This can be done by changing to two outside lines.

Chairman Carrano added that he also went to the Bailey, Carrigan and Pagels School Concerts. What a tremendous job the students and teachers have done.

C.1.c. Committee

No Committee reports were presented.

Approval of Minutes:

Chairman Carrano asked for a motion to appended D.1.f. with the corrected copy everyone was supplied with.

A MOTION was made by M. Toni Paine, SECONDED by Paul Messina to accepted appended minutes for D.1.f. The MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

D.1.a. Minutes from Student Expulsion Hearing on November 19,2003 at 2:00pm
D.1.b. Minutes from Student Expulsion Hearing on November 19,2003 at 3:30 pm
D.1.c. Minutes from Student Expulsion Hearing on November 20,2003 at 9:30 pm
D.1.d. Minutes from Student Expulsion Hearing on December 1,2003 at 9:00 pm
D.1.e. Minutes from Regular Board Meeting on December 1,2003 at 7:00 pm
D.1.f. Minutes from Reorganization Meeting on December 8,2003 at 7:00 pm

A MOTION was made by Anne Heffernan, SECONDED by M. Toni Paine to approve D.1.a through D.1.f. The MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

D.2 Appointments: (Certified)

03-221 Nancy Bianchi, 36 Hartley Street, North Haven. System wide Speech Pathologist, Effective Date: January 12, 2004, Salary $ 35,424, 09 + Stipend $1,876.94 Step 1.5 BS+60 (NP)
A MOTION was made by Anne Heffernan, SECONDED by Paul Messina to approve D.2
As presented and SO VOTED unanimously.

D.3 Leave of Absence -(Non-Certified)

03-222 Pamela Greenbalt, 28 Robby Lane East Haven, 06516
Paraprofessional Special Education at Carrigan Middle
School Effective January 2004 through June 2004. Reason:
Medical

A MOTION was made by Raymond Collins, SECONDED by Anne Heffernan to approve
D.3 As presented and SO VOTED unanimously.

D.4. Resignations : (Non-Certified)

03-223 Lynn Pascarelli, 30 Ownly Street West Haven, CT 06516.
Bookkeeper in the Business Office at Blake Administration
Building. Reason: Retiring effective July 7, 2004

A MOTION was made by Raymond Collins, SECONDED by Anne Heffernan to approve
D.4 As presented and SO VOTED unanimously.

E New Business:

Chairman Carrano asked for a Motion to postpone 03-224, Reorganization of Committees
and Representatives until after Executive Session

03-224 Reorganization of Committees and Representatives

A MOTION was made by Toni Paine, SECONDED by Raymond Collins to postpone 03-224
until after Executive Session. The MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

03-225 Chairman Carrano asked that 03-225 be moved until after G. Executive session

A MOTION was made by Anne Heffernan, SECONDED by Toni Paine to move 03-225
until after Executive Session. The Motion was carried unanimously

F. Informational:

Anne Heffernan just wanted to say how amazing it was for Mr. Shooshan to receive letter
from MIT.
Krista Pickering - no
Howard Horvath - no
Raymond Collins - no
Paul Messina - no
George Monahan - no
Toni Paine - no
A MOTION was made by Anne Heffernan, SECONDED by Raymond Collins to move to Executive Session. The MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Mr. Stacy as informed by Attorney Dugas he had the right to be heard in Open session. Mr. Orio, Union President was asked by Chairman Carrano if Mr. Stacy wanted Open or Executive Session. Mr. Orio stated Mr. Stacy wanted Executive Session.

F. Executive Session
Board came out of Executive Session at 8:27 pm

Chairman Carrano asked for Motion for 03-225 to terminate employee

03-225          Albert Stacy, Jr. 92 Wharton Place, West Haven, CT 06516 Maintenance Helper, System wide. Reason: Terminate Employment, Effective December 2003

A MOTION was made by Raymond Collins, SECONDED by George Monahan 03-225 Anne Heffernan abstained from vote. The MOTION CARRIED

Chairman Carrano 03-224 Reorganization of Committees and Representatives

Chairman Carrano handed out the list of Proposed Committees and Representatives. Asking Board Members to note that everyone is on at least four or five Committees and Chair at least one Committee.

Chairman Carrano shared his conversation with Mary Brodrick and his research with CABE on Bylaws and what other area towns do with their Committees. Elementary, Middle and High School Affairs will be handled per Bylaws; we can create a Special Committee if needed for specific issues in this area.

Chairman Carrano reminded everyone, that this is an open session. He is looking for ideas and suggestions. He would like to know what everyone wants to put into these Committees

Idea from CABE a basic charter around the Curriculum Committee to identify education needs to evaluate existing educational policies and goals.

Facilities Committee: will be in charge of the planning and supervision of the physical plants.

Policies: To formulate policies and bring them before the Board

Chairman Carrano, CAPT/No Child left behind has such a wide spectrum it is almost impossible to have a Committee on its own. It touches many aspects in other Committees.

Mr. Tortora, explained to the Board that some policies under no Child Left behind are mandated by the State.
Liaisons to the City Council, there will be two appointed by the City Council

Technology, Mr. Horvath can work with Mrs. Fusco to see how we can expand.

The Mayor made a suggestion that we work on more parental involvement.
Chairman Carrano said he would like to sit with the Superintendent to discuss the subject.
The Mayor suggested that be a committee report.

Mr. Monahan, asked if CABE had any data on Committee responsibilities.
Chairman Carrano explained that these are standard Committee and he has looked into what
CABE has. But he was sure more information could be found.

Chairman Carrano, asked for a discussion on having High School representatives on the Board.
CABE is going to get Chairman Carrano some policy on student representatives. Chairman
Carrano has discussed the idea with Mr. Tortora and Mr. Stancil.

Mr. Messina said that if we only have one representative, how willing the student would be to
come to the Board Members. Chairman Carrano suggested that we could use two students.

Chairman Carrano mentioned that when he was at the CABE Conference the
President of CABE mentioned that their entire Board was reading the same book “Leading in a
Culture of Change” by Michael Fullan. Chairman Carrano gave each member a copy of the book
and asked that they read it.

Chairman Carrano asked for a motion to approve 03-224

Anne Heffernan left meeting at 8:35

A MOTION was made by Toni Paine, SECONDED Paul Messina by to approve 03-224 As
presented and SO VOTED unanimously.

Mr. Messina asked for a Facilities/Maintenance Meeting to be scheduled

Board Members were informed that even if they are not on a Committee. They are welcome at all
Meetings. They just can’t vote.

Chairman Carrano asked that as Committee meet they set up charter and
share it with the Board.

A MOTION was made by Paul Messina, SECONDED by Toni Paine to adjourn at 8:50 p.m.
and SO VOTED unanimously
A MOTION was made by Paul Messina and SECONDED by George Monahan to exit Executive Session

No Discussion  8:27 p.m.