The Regular meeting of the Board of Education was held at the Blake Building, 25 Ogden Street, West Haven on June 4, 2007. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Toni Paine at 7:05p.m. The meeting began with a pledge of allegiance to the flag.

BOARD MEMBERS
IN ATTENDANCE:  
M. Toni Paine  
Krista Pickering  
George Monahan  
Eric Murillo  
Robert Guthrie  
Gerald A. Calabritto  
Mark Palmieri  
Howie Horvath

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:  
Raymond Collins

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:  
Dr. Joanne Andrees, Superintendent of Schools  
Neil Cavallaro, Assistant Superintendent

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:  
Mayor John C. Picard

Dr. Andrees Stated to Mrs. Paine and members of the Board of Education that she is delighted to bring to you tonight the second grade students from Seth Haley and Thompson School who would like to make a presentation to you as Board of Education Members.

The students entered and introduced themselves to Board Members and each child presented a board member and the Mayor with a cookbook which they had put together for their nutrition unit on Science. The students also passed out a variety of smoothies which were frozen drinks they had made for everyone. The student’s names were:

Megan Waterfield, Mya Beretta, Aubrie DiRienzo, Victoria Palumbo, Kailin Kyle, Brian Barrett, and Alec Baez.

Mary Howland, the Science Facilitator for Seth Haley and Thompson School attended the meeting and introduced Chris Hill who teaches second grade at Thompson, Barbara Conte who teaches second grade at Seth Haley, Chris Latham who teaches second grade at Haley, and Kim Parlee second grade Thompson who are all good helpers.
Dr. Andrees thanked the boys and girls and asked the parents of the children to stand so they could be acknowledged.

Applause from all.

The Board thanked the students and said what a nice job they had done.

Dr. Andrees requested Robert Granoth, a student from Bailey, to come before the board. Robert has been accepted into a three week gifted program at the University of Amherst in Amherst, Massachusetts this summer. We want to acknowledge his great work working with the gifted and talented teacher Mrs. Perzanoski. We are delighted to have you come before us this evening. Robert was asked to stand between Mayor Picard and Board Chairman Toni Paine for a picture. Robert was presented with a pin. His parents were asked to stand so they could be acknowledged.

Applause from all.

The board congratulated Robert.

Dr. Andrees stated we now have four award winning students from the (WHCH) West Haven Community House Teen CHAT Program from both Bailey and Carrigan. The students were winners in the Statewide Creative Expression Contest. The student’s names are Grace Sampson from Carrigan, Kim Hamilton from Bailey, Lauren MacDonald from Bailey and Jailyne Bromell from Bailey. Dr. Andrees was pleased to announce that Lauren MacDonald has been selected as the overall Statewide winner.

Pictures were taken of the students and they received pins from the board chairman, Toni Paine.

The parents of the students were asked to stand so they could be acknowledged

Applause from all.

Patty Stevens, Executive Director of the West Haven Community House, thanked the board for all they have done for the Community House. She brought some information to the board to acknowledge all they have done in partnership with the Community House. Without the board’s help they would not have been able to do as many of the programs that they do. She wanted to give special thanks to people in this room, Dr. Andrees, Neil Cavallaro, Building and Grounds Supervisor Joe Yacano, the principals, social workers, guidance counselors, teachers, and the school secretaries. She thanked the Family Resource Center the Adult Education Program and the School Readiness Council. Thanks to all of these people they are able to run programs in all of the elementary schools, two middle schools and the high school. They are able to serve 163 Head Start children. 100 of these children will be coming into the school system this fall. They have 40 children in the pregnancy prevention program and another 40 in their Teen Job Club.
This summer they will be able to add a site at Savin Rock School. They will have 100 children in that program this summer.

The board gave thanks.

There was a two minute break for those who had young children and needed to leave.

Dr. Andrees is delighted to bring before the Board of Education this evening Dr. Steven Kaplan the President of the University of New Haven and Mr. Ed Linehan the Director of Magnet Schools in the New Haven Public School District. They are here this evening to present us information and insight about the new Math Science and Engineering Magnet School that is proposed at this time.

Dr. Andrees is truly excited about this because it provides opportunities for children; a number of children in our own community. Hopefully they will be able to address any concerns that you might have and answer any questions. They come before you this evening to do just that.

Dr. Kaplan spoke first and stated it is his hope to speak to the board and the community and asked if questions would be asked. Only the Board will ask questions. Dr. Kaplan talked about the school from the University’s perspective and from the perspective of the University being in West Haven and would try to address any issues that are important to people. He will let Ed Linehan from the New Haven Schools talk about the technical aspects of the magnet school. If there is anything not covered please ask questions to eliminate some of the myths out there. He is the person who originally went to the New Haven Schools with the idea of this magnet school. There was talk about a magnet school for public safety and he was supportive of that. He asked Dean Thomas Johnson a few years ago to come and talk with the board and work with people at the City Council level and school board level on that magnet school. This never really materialized. New Haven had an interest in a technology magnet school something oriented towards math, science and eventually engineering. He came forward and said if you are going to do anything that is going to be geared toward students eventually going to a university in the areas of science we should be involved as the only real engineering school in the region. The crediting agency in the State of Connecticut that gives validity to engineering schools is called ABEX that is the acronym and UNH has six accredit programs. This is about the same number as we have but we might have one more. Engineering has been at a decline over the last ten years. The new dean came in two years ago and last year our enrollments for the freshmen class went up 50% which is good news for us and Connecticut because there is a severe engineering shortage in Connecticut. Sikorsky had a front page article in the Register that they would be outsourcing a lot of engineering jobs because there was an inadequate supply of engineers here in the New Haven area. They were talking about a shortage of from 200 – 400 System Engineers a year probably on-going into the next decade. UNH has been talking with them and seeing how they can help fill this void. He feels this is not only attractive to UNH but should also be attractive to West Haven.
Dr. Kaplan Stated before coming to UNH he was the Chancellor of the only branch campus of the University of Virginia in a small rural town in the western part of the State of Virginia. He took the board along with faculty to visit a school called Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology which is located in Indiana. He stated that the City that has the second most high tech jobs in Indiana is a small town of about 30,000 people called Terre Haute where Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology is located. This school has approximately 1,500 primarily math, science and engineering students. This school has been ranked consecutively as the best engineering school in the country for the past eight years. Due to this school being there Tara Hoyt has the second most high tech jobs in Indiana. This school has brought business to the area. It has created enormous high tech opportunities for their students to go into this town. This is impressive for a school of 1,500. He stated West Haven can benefit from this type of school and will attract business to the area. This is a great opportunity for West Haven and UNH is the only engineering school in town. UNH will cooperate with this entity no matter where it is.

This school starts with grade six, it will be unique in the State, it will have national prominence, it will call attention to the fact that West Haven should be seen as a place that is producing young people to go into jobs in high demand. This will attract outside business development to the community. He thinks it should be in West Haven because of the University. Any university town in the country is generally a thriving town. If you look at economic development wherever a university is there are employees. UNH has 800 employees a lot of whom live in West Haven along with staff. They are generating an enormous amount of economic development with the students who live in West Haven. The City benefits in terms of image and economics. The stronger the University becomes the stronger West Haven becomes.

They have not chosen the site for the school yet but the goal is to have it as close to the campus as possible. It was decided they would not go into the North neighborhood and disturb the residential area. They also don’t intend on putting it across a four lane road as it would be very disadvantageous for them in terms of their students. This is not their plan but he is not going to say it is not going to happen because we don’t know where it is going to go but that is not the plan.

20% of the students attending the school will come from West Haven. 65% of the students attending the school will come from New Haven. The remaining students who will attend will come from 33 school districts and those 33 communities will have a total of 15%. West Haven will have more seats in the school then some 33 communities combined. If the school is not in West Haven we will go from approximately 170 students to a handful of students.

A further discussion ensued regarding tax loss to West Haven and ways to offset the loss of tax revenue.

Ed Linehan spoke about the nuts and bolts of the operation of the school rather than the contents. He stated he has been doing magnet school work for 35 years most of this time in the New Haven Public Schools. Three of those years he was the Magnet Executive
Director in Hartford Public Schools. There are 51 Magnet Schools in Connecticut and New Haven has 14. He has either opened or managed 25 of them and sat on the advisory board of a number of the other ones managed by ACES he went into further detail about his past positions. He handed out some additional materials which stated the two primary goals as defined by the State legislature of an intra-district magnet school.

- Increase the racial, ethnic and economic diversity by bringing kids together from across school district lines
- To improve student achievement for all students and with particular sensitivity to close the achievement gap between minority and non-minority students and between affluent and less affluent students.

Mr. Linehan said that a magnet school is a publicly funded school that has a specialized academic focus or pedagogical instructional model. For example the Co-op where he was the principal in New Haven has an Arts focus and every student coming there hopefully has a particular interest in the performing or creative arts. Some of the other schools don’t have a particular academic theme they have a pedagogical model or way of working with kids. The Micro Society Magnet Pre K – 8 School has a special way of delivering the curriculum to its students.

The State guidelines are very clear and state that these schools are intended for all students from the participating communities. In the event there is more interest than room students may be selected by lottery.

We have been attracting suburban students into New Haven. This coming school year our district will have approximately 21,000 students and 2,000 will be coming from suburban communities. These schools are expensive. The State gives partial support once you actually have students in place. For any school district that sends up to 30% of the total enrollment of the school the State gives a maximum enrollment amount of $5,301.90. This is the most they will pay. Any district that sends more than 30% on a sliding scale the State Grant goes down. The larger the participation the smaller the grant. New Haven with 60% of the students only receives $2,945.50 per students. Each home school district continues to receive their ECS account for their students. For any child who lives out of the town where the school is located the school receives an additional $1,300.00 per student transportation stipend. The home school districts are responsible for special education costs. The State provides 95% of the cost of a new or renovated facility for a district managing an interdistrict magnet school. They have projected the cost of the building for this school to be 59.5 million dollars. New Haven has to agree to provide 5% which is roughly 3 million dollars. The New Haven Board of Alderman is approving that this evening. They have local support for this which secures the balance of the 59.5 million from the State. A further discussion ensued.

West Haven’s enrollment currently in their 14 schools this year is 604 students. In their recent lottery for this coming year 189 additional West Haven students were accepted and confirmed that they will be coming. This coming year with the graduation and loss of
students they will have approximately 700 West Haven kids. A further discussion regarding Host funding continued.

The last thing Mr. Linehan commented on was the seat distribution. 65% is the minimum number of seats that New Haven has to have in order for it to work financially for it to be free. They would hate to give up any of their 65% but life is complicated and they would negotiate but they would have to start charging real costs. He would like to keep the school in West Haven because of the location of the University.

Jerry Calabritto said on the last page of Mr. Linehan’s packet it is stated that West Haven still collects ECS support from the State for 604 students which is approximately three million dollars that this City is getting for children it doesn’t have to educate. Mr. Linehan said yes, that is the State Law and is correct.

Toni Paine stated that Bob Guthrie has been trying for many years to institute this school. He has done a lot of research on the magnet school and is very interested in it. It has gone through two mayors and two superintendents and four city councils.

Howie Horvath asked with the school being located in West Haven are there any services that West Haven would have to provide?

Mr. Linehan stated that is not the way he envisions it. The school personnel would be New Haven personnel. Currently they transport West Haven K-8 students into the magnet schools. West Haven supplies the high school transportation and they are allowed to apply for the $1,300 per student subsidy. This would not apply to the school because it only applies if the student is transported across district lines. The Special Education statutory requirement is the only support West Haven would be responsible for.

Bob then asked what about the City and the services they are responsible for. Mr. Linehan stated in the case of an emergency West Haven’s emergency resources would have to respond.

Bob then asked if there is a model set up anywhere of the school being in one district and run by another. Mr. Linehan said it is not unusual for a local education agency to be managing a school in somebody else’s town. He gave some examples of this Hamden has an intra-district magnet school that has been in existence since the 1990’s and ACES doesn’t have a town and they run four intra-district magnet schools; 1 in New Haven 1 in Hamden, 1 in North Branford and 1 in Meriden (other examples followed).

George Monahan stated that when a district is acting as a host for a State Magnet School the state requires that host district to offer enrollment to partnering districts. Mr. Linehan stateed there has to be no less than two districts the host and at least one other. George asked if the state usually defines who the districts are? No was the response. He stated this proposal is different from any other that he has been in because he never actually allocated X number of seats to any school district before. We felt that because we were
coming into West Haven that it might be important to dedicate a certain number of seats to West Haven but we have never done this before.

George asked the following questions: In the current system do you limit the number of applications the visiting district can submit? Not at all. Then it is to their advantage to submit as many applications as they potentially can and that would increase the potential percentage of enrollment that they can achieve. Correct. Do you have a rough idea right now of approximately what the West Haven percentages are now in your magnet schools? He told George to look at the page in his presentation for the numbers. Then you can figure the percentages from the numbers. (FYI – The number of students in each school is not available in the passout) For example Hill Regional which is our largest school and West Haven currently has 101 students in a school with 750 students so the percentage would be less than 17%, Co-op has 42 students and the school only has 430 students about 10% School in the Community 37 out of 350 about 11%. The numbers will vary. He guesses that the highest would be Betsy Ross 66 out of 500 kids. That is between 10 and 15 percent. George stated then with the lottery system you fulfill your financially mandatory requirement of 65% which you set as your requirement to be filled first. Yes.

Bob Guthrie stated that when this idea first started it was not for lack of cooperation from UNH. Dr. Kaplan and specifically Dean Johnson had many meetings in his office. The City of New Haven had dialogue with this body before the idea was presented. He asked how many school districts operate schools outside their boundaries. Right now it would be limited to New Haven and Hartford. Bob stated currently New Haven operates 14 magnet schools and considering outside New Haven to be 18 but Hyde is the only somewhat permanent structure that you operate? Correct. The number of students enrolled in New Haven are 21,000 and 2,000 are magnet so 19,000 are New Haven students? Yes. How many New Haven pupils presently attend outside schools? It depends on how you define outside. Outside magnet schools have about 120 students at Wintergreen and 20 at Cannes in North Branford the alternative magnet school. He has about 115 at the half time arts program that ACES runs, a further listing ensued. They send hundreds of kids to charter schools etc. Bob stated that New Haven also needs to send kids out of the district not only send kids in so looking at this school it will help to solve part of the problem because they will be sending their own kids out of town. The largest problem for West Haven dropping the ball was the lack or financial unwillingness to commit. At that time it was about 1 1/2 – 2 million dollars of local commitment for funding to get the ball rolling. Now you say the New Haven Board of Alderman are going to approve 3 million tonight. The financial committee approved it last week and the full board is voting tonight. You are talking about 95% of this being reimbursable and that is a similar number we were given. Bob also stated that if a building is accepted as the governor’s excellence school it is eligible for 100% funding. A public safety school is in battle right now in Hartford to be put together by a regional school district and they will probably receive 100% funding dollar for dollar. Mr. Linehan is unfamiliar with the legislature around that aspect. The cost of special services will be borne by us? Yes. Bob asked if we could send our staff in to provide for these students the answer was yes you could. The responsibility of providing services is West Haven’s whether you do it
financially or with existing personnel. They have their own school resource officers (school security personnel) that function within the building. They would probably work with the City in terms of a West Haven Police Officer being assigned and the financial arrangement with that. They would provide for any personnel within the building. Bob stated that with New Haven’s present school security there will be issues with procedures and policies and who can do what because they are outside of the boundaries of the City of New Haven. Mr. Linehan stated we have had experience with this in Hamden not only with our magnet schools. Bob then asked who will be the operating board and set the policy for curriculum. The final voting authority would rest with the New Haven Board of Education. However they would work very closely to establish an active board that would not only include New Haven representation from the board and West Haven but also UNH and the other school districts. Bob then asked the time frame for opening the school would it be 3 to 5 years? Five years is too long as it is our intention to have it open in four years. Getting from the legislature assurance that this project will be given top priority in the next cycle means we can go forward now and do some of the things and not wait another 12 months to do. Bob asked if the State Dept. of Education set aside enough seats for West Haven because there has to be the suburban urban component. We are also an urban school district and those numbers are not going to count as a suburban percentage. Mr. Linehan said there is no urban suburban requirement per say. There are two requirements. One is that there is more than one school district. The other requirement is for racial ethnic diversity and we are a 95% minority school district when you take all the suburban kids out. We are an 89% minority school district with the suburban kids in. Our intradistrict magnet schools are at about 77 – 78% minority so we have reduced minority group isolation and we have satisfied statutory requirements. In terms of Bob’s question when they submit their formal plan of operation for the school it is our intention to submit for a school of 616 students to have 20% of the seats allocated to West Haven or 125 students and the State is already aware this is our intention. They have the same documents we have in draft form. There is no problem of seats being set aside for West Haven.

Jerry Calabritto stated that New Haven builds monuments for its schools. He would have thought they would have had the courtesy to come before the board before this time. He applauds them for their efforts but feels professionally insulted. There could have been three million dollars more coming into this community and we could have done this but you didn’t wait for West Haven. Now New Haven is building this school.

On one hand Mr. Linehan understands Jerry’s frustration but administration from the two school districts were speaking with each other and his board was informed 2 ½ weeks ago. Our board was not involved in the planning of this school. We are encouraged to pursue options in the interest of children.

A further discussion ensued.

Krista Pickering stated she believes West Haven’s City Council was not ready to fund it. We tried going to the council but we were shot down so somebody else did it. So we had the opportunity and we tried and were unable to do it.
A further discussion took place.

Dr. Kaplan stated that anytime West Haven is ready for another magnet school we are ready to do this Public Safety School. If we are ready to go he is ready to fight to keep it here not in Hartford.

Mr. Linehan stated there is no limit on the number of schools a community can run and we have the opportunity to pursue another school at this same time.

Mayor Picard stated he doesn’t want to loose site of the fact that we need a Science, Engineering and Math school it is important. This will be very good for the region. This was #1 on the list. We want our children to benefit from this. Mayor Picard wanted to clear up a misconception and stated we will still receive the three million dollars. He understands Bob Guthrie’s frustration but right now we have the opportunity to put something on a college campus starting with grade six which will be unique to the area and will benefit all of the children in West Haven and we will have the school here in West Haven. We have the opportunity now to move this project forward. Mayor Picard stated he had a conversation with the New Haven Mayor a couple of weeks ago and back in 1995 he did a blanket approval. This will be a positive entity for West Haven and UNH.

Dr. Andrees thanked Mayor Picard, Dr. Kaplan and Mr. Ed Linehan.

Dr. Andrees stated that they had the opportunity to have a wonderful carnival at Washington School over the Memorial Day Weekend and part of that was a Art Presentation for our students. Some art work was displayed outside and she hopes you have seen it. Mr. Cox is here tonight to make a short presentation.

Mr. Cox thanked the community and the Board of Ed for their help and all the volunteers. This was the first annual art display but hopefully this will continue next year perhaps at the conference center. He thanked everyone for their support. He said all the winners art work from the schools will be showcased on the 16th and 17th and they will have games and crafts for the public. This event will be Villages of Villages on the New Haven upper green from 1 – 5:00 p.m. For more information look up on the web artidea.org

B. Public Portion of Meeting

Kebi Waterfield, Seaview Ave., invited the Board to the Seth Haley Play on Wednesday at 1:45 and 7:00 p.m. Mr. Bellucci is organizing another Broadway spectacular. Please come on down and see our rising stars. She also would like the opportunity to review the wellness policy that is being worked on by the board and she would like a copy of that if possible.

She is concerned about the possibility of loosing donators outside vendors to the school. It is hard to turn down free things and when we have to pay for them it takes away from
other things we have to purchase for the children. She would like to be included in some of the discussions regarding the use of outside vendors for field day. (These prior discussions took place in the Food Service Committee Minutes.)

On behalf of the Pagels School and PTA two women came us and they thanked the board for all their help and support. One woman went on to say how much the children enjoy using the computers and hopes that all the computers can be updated regularly. She feels very excited about our future. The All City Band concert was fabulous. She watched the elementary kids tap to the beat of the high school band. It showed them what they can do in the future. Her older daughter got to see Mr. Coulter again and to meet the high school instructors. She questioned the fact that a number of African Drums were donated. Dr. Andrees said they were purchased and every school this year will have full set of 35 drums.

The Board gave thanks

Patricia Fusco had a correction to her typed minutes from this meeting and the following statement is the correction:

Patricia Fusco, 311 Shingle Hill Rd., stated: Although I can not remember verbatim what I said I started by inviting everyone to the retirement dinner. I then voiced my concerns about the magnet school which is being proposed at UNH. My concerns were not accurately reported in the minutes. My first concern is that the City would be losing tax revenue and could lose ECS funding. Although Mr. Linehan said that districts still receive the Educational Cost Sharing funding that they are entitled to despite the number of students they send to magnet schools, I pointed out that that formula is not written in stone and that could change. (as an aside, at the Pipeline to Prison presentation last week, Senator Toni Harp told the gathering that the ECS funding was projected to change based on magnet enrollment and that she opposed the change). I also pointed out that the district stood to lose Title I money and possibly other grant monies such as e-rate. These federal grants are based on the number of students that qualify for free and reduced lunch. If a student goes to a New Haven school, we cannot count them in our numbers which will change the percentage that the district receives for these grants. I know that for e-rate alone, the reimbursement rate has changed as the enrollment has declined from 65 – 63%. This takes money directly away from the students who stay in our schools. I added that I supported the concept of the school, that science and engineering is an up and coming field and hopefully the addition of this school will bring industry to our city but I felt that it should be a West Haven School, not a New Haven School. They are taking members away from my union because as enrollment declines, my membership declines. (End of statement)

That was the part that was stressed and I think we lost the other points and I just needed to clarify that. I am certainly not against the school. My daughter is an engineer. It is an opportunity that if she had had as a child it would have helped her get even further in her career. She is doing quite well as a result of being educated in the West Haven Public Schools.
Thank you.

The board gave thanks.

Ted Brown, 56 Highview Avenue. He is disappointed with our board for letting our children be taught by another school system. In the 60’s we had a shortage of engineers and then we had too many and they were laid off and they became teachers in the 70’s. New Haven tends to play number games. 90% of New Haven school children are of minority decent what is going to happen to our minority children in West Haven. The school will be in West Haven and many of them are not going to get a chance to go to this school. Are we going to have to ship them out because all the students from New Haven coming in are going to be minority students? If you build the school in West Haven our minority children will not be able to attend the school because New Haven’s minority will be attending. We will not have any say as far as the hiring of staff, teachers, janitors etc. They will come into West Haven and tell us what to do. You have given us the right to be the Board of Education for this school. He would appreciate it if the board would look at this again.

The Board gave thanks

Rick Fontana, 66 Putting Green Lane, Orange. Rick is the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for the Health Department in West Haven. He told Bob Guthrie to continue working towards the partnership with UNH. He graduated from UNH and has a Master’s in Public Safety. The City of West Haven has been given a grant from the CDC Center of Disease Control. An added amendment to this is called Pandemic Flue Preparedness. We were passing this grant through to the Board of Education. The 2006 presidential directive was that all of the nation be prepared for the pandemic flue. He has been meeting with the Board of Education, Dr. Andrees and the Safety Committee for the past three months and has set up a proposal.

They have had three outbreaks of this flue in the 19th century and have lost about four million people world wide. If there were a flue outbreak today the numbers would probably double.

The plan we developed (a 75 page document) shows what to look for as far as symptoms and what to do. The Pandemic Influenza Grant is in the amount of $28,500.00 and this grant was coming to the Board of Education. The only portion of that grant that wouldn’t go to the Board of Ed would be $2,000 for a consultant who would write the business continuity plan. We have already planned a pandemic tabletop exercise for all of the school systems public and private. It would be to the tune of $6,000 to have a consultant come in and do it. We have started a calendar competition in all of the schools which is half complete now. We talk to students in classrooms about keeping your hands clean especially during flue season to stop the spread of germs. We did an advertising campaign as well to the tune of $8,500 and $2,000 for training and education and $7,500 for hand cleaners that would go out to the schools.
He has one BIG problem. This was not allowed to come out of committee at the City Council. What we need is a letter of support whether it is from the board or parents. Parents can call. Sharon Spaziani is the Chairperson of that Finance Committee. If we don’t do it in the next 30 days we will have lost this grant. We will continue to work on this and we need your help. The name of the grant is Public Health Emergency Preparedness.

The Board gave thanks

John Wilkes, 273 Peck Avenue. He thanked everyone who showed up for their carnival this weekend. The money will go back to the school for those who possibly can’t afford field trips and for buying grills etc. He thanked everyone Ken, Lou and everyone involved in the event. He takes his hat off to them all. He is coming up to their field day and has been hearing some buzz regarding the union and food service. He hopes that we don’t allow food service or the union to squeeze us as a PTA for something we want to do once or twice a year. This is outside sourcing and we are using Outback this year. The kids and staff are very excited. I know food service has helped us in the past they are always there when we need them. To have outside sources once or twice a year is not a bad thing I think it is a good thing.

He is also in support of receiving grants from Public Health and our children can benefit especially those in the elementary schools who are always touching hands and touching their faces and playing. I think it is kind of a no brainer.

He did hear the magnet school was in our lap at one time and now he doesn’t know what the end result is but if we are talking about not having resources being used in our city and shipping it out we might want to think twice about it.

The Board gave thanks

Carroll Brown reminded everyone about the Prison to Pipeline presentation that will be here Tuesday, June 12th at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room. It is really important that they see full board members there. You need to know what is happening to our children in the community who are being expelled and suspended. Senator Hart will be making a presentation on a law that has been passed to put a stop to this. You need to know how to handle expulsions and suspensions.

The Board gave thanks

Jason Stacoffe, 19 Cowpen – Jason Stacoffe who teaches at the high school brought two students from SADD with him to the board meeting. The Vice President Samantha Helke and their student representative to the West Haven Drug and Alcohol Task Force Ashley Braccidifero. They talked about some of the things they did for the prom.
Every May they do several activities. This year they brought in a video call the Spot and everyone watched the video. They brought in programs and asked students to think about abstaining from drugs and alcohol. Those students who made the pledge not to drink or use drugs were able to sign the poster which was brought into the board room for all to see.

The Board gave thanks.

Nancy Rossi, 12 Robin Road Washington School did a great job at the Carnival. Great group of people, parents and children. She is very disappointed that Garth will be leaving he is a wonderful and intelligent man who answered all FOI requests and has been very helpful.

Regarding the magnet school she understands there are questions. We need to get answers and not say I think this is a bad idea. She looks at this as a fact finding mission. She assures you that as a member of City Council she wants the facts before voting. She heard rumors that we were loosing our EDF money and now she understands we are not.

She has heard the City Council has denied it and she has researched this. She has found out it was in the 5 Year Capital Plan in 05 – 06 year and that would have been approved somewhere in June of 05. Her understanding is that it was moved. The five year capital plan was taken care of by the mayor at that time by moving it out to the 06-07 five year capital plan. New administration came in and financial questions came up and in 06 -07 there was a very small amount given. If anyone has any information please contact her with the information. Unless you have nine votes from City Council it doesn’t go through so here is my thing. I have tried my best to make the best financial decisions for the City. If in the future something happens that we can get money for a magnet school I am sure everyone here will be in favor. Before we start saying it can’t be done we need to get our questions answered. We need to find out where it is going. The UNH police will be responsible. Our police will help with the investigation on felonies. She hasn’t talked to the fire chief yet. What she is trying not to loose sight of are the 120 – 125 children this will benefit. Let’s put the education of the children first. It sounds like they will build this school with or without us. If they build it in New Haven you have denied 100 of our children the opportunity to go to that school. You can contact her if you have any questions you want asked and she will ask them for you.

The Board gave thanks

Margaret Prezenski, 1 Robard Street, West Haven. She was thrilled when she read about the magnet school. It is understandable that New Haven will have most of the contro. Don’t hurt the kids in West Haven. Think it through don’t let the kids in West Haven miss out.

Mark Palmieri, 91 Sumac Street He doesn’t usually do this but he notices quite a few people here tonight and he wanted to state that in the paper he saw something that as a
taxpayer and lifelong resident of this town he finds very aggravating. The person who made the comment is Councilman James Pascarella in Hamden. He voiced concerns that school reimbursement funding had to change or the town’s education system would suffer. He said the town had to beware of becoming like West Haven which he characterized as a “despicable education system by any standard.”

Mark feels that we are due an apology as residents of this town. He would like to see this Councilman apologize to this board.

C. Reports
C.1.a Status of Schools

Neil stated that Dr. Andrees asked him to report on staffing for next year. He is happy to say we have three high quality science teachers on tonight’s agenda. We also have math candidates which we are reviewing and hoping to recommend to Dr. Andrees. We have two Tech Ed positions open at Carrigan and 1 Home Economics position and we have good candidates. There are four openings in the elementary school and we will be able to call back four people that were laid off last year.

Neil stated that by passing the budget in May this certainly helped us.

C.1.b Board

Bob Guthie knows we have been trying to follow up with the Building Overseite Committee and asked if we received the Manpower reimbursement? Dr. Andrees said she will follow up on this.

George Monahan would request that Dr. Andrees as well as the Chair write the letter to City Council in support of the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Grant. He would like it taken out of Committee and voted on by the Council. Toni Paine was planning on doing this. Jerry wanted it formally added to the agenda. Toni would write the letter. Jerry wanted it to become part of the record.

Jerry Calabritto made a motion to add an item to the agenda which would be 07-81 to the agenda requesting the Superintendent and Board Chairman to write a letter to the Council Chairman of the Finance Committee and the City Council in support of the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Grant and to write a letter addressing Mr. Palmieri’s concern requesting an apology from Councilman James Pascarella. Howard Horvath seconded the motion

All members were in favor
Motion carries

George Monahan stated the Washington Carnival was well attended and well organized. It is a very active school community and the work of the PTA and parents is well noted.
Mayor Picard wanted to thank Mr. Rossi who is not here for his donation to the Washington Carnival.

The Mayor also thanked Sandra Oliver from Bayer. They will be giving a plaque to her at the next board meeting. Bayer has done so much to help us.

Mayor Picard attended the prom along with several board members and it was a lot of fun. The students were fantastic and well behaved. He appreciates all the work the teachers, principals and assistant principals put into making this evening a huge success. This was a very positive evening.

As far as the article that Mr. Palmieri has spoken about he has received calls from the Mayor of Hamden but hasn’t spoken to him yet as they keep missing each other. He is sure he is calling to offer an apology.

Jerry Calabritto also attended the prom and had a lovely time. The ladies looked wonderful and everyone had a great time. He commends Mr. Stancil and his staff.

Mark Palmieri had the honor of attending the prom and had a great time.

D.1. Approval of Minutes:

D.1.a. West Haven Board of Education Meeting, May 21, 2007
7:00 p.m. at the Blake Building (enclosure)

Jerry Calabritto made a motion to approve the above minutes
Bob Guthrie seconded the motion
All in favor
Motion carries

D.2. Resignations: (Certified)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Effective Date</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>07-67</td>
<td>Jill Wasowski</td>
<td>Kindergarten Teacher</td>
<td>Forest</td>
<td>July 1, 2007</td>
<td>Relocation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07-68</td>
<td>Michael Krepcio</td>
<td>Social Studies Teacher</td>
<td>WHHS</td>
<td>July 1, 2007</td>
<td>Personal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07-69</td>
<td>Bridget Krepcio</td>
<td>Elementary Teacher</td>
<td>Molloy</td>
<td>July 1, 2007</td>
<td>Relocation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bob Guthrie made a motion to approve the above resignations 06-67 – 07-70 inclusive
Mark Palmieri seconded the motion
All in favor
Motion carries

D.3. Leave of Absence: (Certified)

07-71   Darcy DeMaio, Grade 5 Elementary Teacher, Pagels
Effective: 2007 -2008 school year
Reason: Child Rearing Leave

Krista Pickering made a motion to approve the above Leave of Absence 07-71
George Monahan seconded the motion
All in favor
Motion carries

D.4. New Hires: (Certified)

07-72   Shannon Torpey, 14 Horseshoe Lane, Madison, CT
Science Teacher, WHHS
Effective: August 28, 2007
Salary: $37,411.34 (Step 2 B.S. + 30)

07-73   Lauren Kozlowski, 14 Daisy Drive, Shelton, CT 06484
Science Teacher, WHHS
Effective: August 28, 2007
Salary: $36,070.04 (Step 2 B.S.)

07-74   Meghan Hewitt, 35 Union Street, Apt. 209, New London
Science Teacher, WHHS
Effective: August 28, 2007
Salary: $36,070.04 (Step 2 B.S.)

Krista Pickering made a motion to approve the above New Hires 07-72 – 07-74 inclusive
Mark Palmieri seconded the motion
All in favor
Motion carries

E. New Business:
07-75  Letter from Karyn Doherty to Neil Cavallaro and the West Haven Board of Education requesting that Alma E. Pagels PTA in joint effort with the West Haven Jr. Women’s Club host a Touch a Truck Event in the Fall of 2007 (preferably the Sunday after Columbus Day).

Jerry Calabritto made a motion to approve 07-75 with the appropriate safe guards.
Mark Palmieri seconded the motion
All in favor
Motion carries

07-76  Letter from Dr. JoAnn Andrees, Superintendent of Schools to the Board of Education requesting they authorize the Firm of BlumShapiro to do an audit which will not exceed a specified dollar amount.

Krista Pickering made a motion to approve 07-76
George seconded the motion for discussion

Mark asked why are we looking into an audit. Dr. Andrees stated that Garth is leaving and when a new person comes in he/she should have access to a new set of books. The other reason is that Paul and Garth were the keepers of the knowledge relating to the office. I would like recommendations on how we can operate more efficiently with the staff we have now.

Mark stated he is concerned that we posted that position already and I’ll tell you the reason why. Dr. Andrees said yes it is posted. Mark said his concern is because it is a union management position. If we want to change any of the responsibilities to that position in order to find the correct person after this audit we would have to go to the union and ask to rewrite that position. If we were to expand that position and rewrite some of the job descriptions the answer would be it is not in my job description. I would possibly like to table this and have the audit and then we can gear that position towards our needs so we can change the responsibilities.

Dr. Andrees said we might not get someone internally to apply for this position and if it needs to go outside I don’t want to loose any time for having this position filled.

Mark said he thinks if you are doing an audit they will tell you what you need and what is wrong and what is good. By posting that position I think you are putting the cart before the horse. I didn’t know what the reason was for the audit. I know Garth is leaving.
Krista asked if the position has already been posted. Yes and we can’t change the responsibilities of the position. Krista said we are only asking to have an approval to go ahead and authorize the audit.

Jerry stated that just because the posting is up this board does not have to hire any applicants from that posting. It is important that the five day obligation be done. The key is not so much as the posting went out it is that this board does not have to hire.

A further discussion ensued.

Discussion portion ended.

Mark abstained
Other Board Members were in agreement
Motion passes

E. New Business: (Continued)

07-77 Letter from Jolene Barnes, Personnel Director to Dr. JoAnn Andrees, Superintendent of Schools requesting Revision of current Math Coordinator Administrative Posting.

Jerry Calabritto made a motion to approve 07-77
Krista Pickering seconded the motion
All in favor
Motion carries

07-78 Addendum for Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs ED-099 Healthy Food Certificate Statement

Move To Approve

Jerry Calabritto made a motion to approve 07-78
Krista Pickering seconded the motion
All in favor
Motion carries

Item 07-79 Approval of Curriculum

English I Honors
English I Academic/Basic
Jerry Calabritto made the motion to approve the above curriculums tonight.
Mark Palmieri seconded the motion
All members were in favor
Motion Carries

Item 07-80    Approval of the FOSS Science Curriculum

Mark Palmieri made a motion accept the FOSS Science Curriculum
Jerry Calabritto seconded the motion
All members were in favor
Motion passes

Item 07-81    Request for letters to City Council and Hamden Councilman

Jerry Calabritto made a motion to accept item 07-81
Requesting the Superintendent and Board Chairman to write a letter to the Council Chairman of the Finance Committee and the City Council in support of the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Grant and to write a letter addressing Mr. Palmieri’s concern requesting an apology from Councilman James Pascarella.
Howard Horvath seconded the motion
All members were in favor
Motion carries

Informational

A discussion ensued

Jerry Calabritto made a motion adjourn
Krista Pickering seconded the motion
All in favor
Meeting ended at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marylou Amendola
Board Secretary