WEST HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION
July 14, 2014
Regular Board Meeting
Board Meeting Room

The Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Board of Education was held in the Board Meeting Room, City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, Connecticut on July 14, 2014. The meeting was called to order by Patricia Libero, Chairwoman of the Board of Education at 7:15 p.m. The meeting opened with a pledge to the flag.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:
Patricia Libero, Chairwoman
James W. Morrissey, Vice Chair
Betsy Davis, Secretary/Treasurer
Patrick Egolum
Robert Guthrie
Rosa Richardson
Rosemary Russo
Cebi Waterfield

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:
Mark Palmieri

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

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:
Mayor Edward M. O’Brien

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:
Chairwoman Libero stated that she would like a motion to add two new hires to tonight’s agenda items 14-75 and 14-76. Rosa Richardson made the motion and Bob Guthrie seconded the motion. The following two items were added to the agenda.

14-75  **Lauren Greider**, 555 Clark Street, South Windsor, CT 06074  
Language Arts Teacher – Grade 8  
Effective:     August 25, 2014  
Salary:          (Step 1 BS) $40,020.00

14-76  **Kevin M. Fuggi**, 19 Westview Road, North Haven, CT 06473  
Technology Education Teacher  
Effective:    August 25, 2014  
Salary:         (Step 2 BS) $42,500.00

B.  **Public Portion of Meeting**  
There were no public speakers

C.  **REPORTS**  
C.1.a.  **Administration/Status of Schools**  
Superintendent Cavallaro said they had a very successful ending to the school year with the graduation and all the ceremonies going very well. He talked about the summer projects that are being done. The entrance at Bailey is being done in house which saves us a lot of money. We had some good news about the boiler at Bailey which we were so concerned about. By changing some parts rather than replacing the entire boiler the job went from a $90,000.00 job to about a $7,000.00 job. We were able to pay for this without having to go to the City Council and ask for a capital expense. We are replacing the rubber floor at Washington School which has been an issue for several years. There is some abatement which had to take place in the boiler room over the summer and we are in the process of completing that. These are the main projects and we are in good shape to open the schools on time.

Matt Cavallaro gave the year end summary and said we finished the year in a very strong position. We have a little over 1.5 million remaining in the budget. The June expense entries for health insurance, workman’s comp and property and liability insurance still have to hit. The city receives these bills, pays them and the journal entry adds our portion of the bill to our budget and will probably take place within the next few weeks. On average monthly the entry is 1.1 million dollars but last month it was $800,000.00 pretty much because of the health Insurance claims being very low. By leaving 1.5 million in the budget it should definitely cover any expenses not foreseen. Additional monies were given to technology to strengthen our infrastructure and we were able to buy new switches to make our internet run faster and smoothly. We purchased a new wireless server which saves us about $8,000.00 a year going forward and the licenses for all our software was purchased etc. The major concern in the budget is the tuition. This is something we have been saying is a very volatile account. The high needs of students that are coming into the district are growing and these bills have to be paid. Neil said a lot of this is out of our control. If a child is placed into our district and is already placed
in a facility we inherit the bill; it is not an option. Pat Libero said DCF can also place students and we don’t have a choice. The choices are not ours to make. We are able to cover it in our budget this year. Matt said there are some things going forward to help offset these costs. We are cutting costs but we are not cutting services. A further discussion continued with questions asked by the board members and answers given.

The money available to start an All Day Kindergarten Program cannot be used for salaries. Neil said we are prepared to go to Savin Rock and this is all set. We have everything ready to go for Forest and we believe we can offset enough costs to start the program at Forest. The bond council with the State is meeting next week and we should hear very shortly. We put in that we would phase in the program over three years and if we receive the entire million dollars next year at this time there is a pretty good possibility we will be able to have district wide all day kindergarten. This money will cover smart boards, furniture, and iPads for all the kindergarten kids whether it is all day kindergarten or half day. Matt said this is a great source of money for all the onetime expenses associated with this program and there will be about $75,000.00 worth of renovations to the classroom. Mayor O’Brien said maybe we can leverage some of the technology at the high school that Ken showed you with what you need for purchasing more units and get a better price. Yes.

Neil said he has never seen a year where we have been so ready to go as far as teachers not leaving us unexpectedly. Neil thinks the retirement helped us out and we are in very good shape as far as hiring. We are doing very well with keeping the salaries down to a minimum with one exception; the Speech Pathologist. You will not get an experienced Speech Pathologist at the minimum. We will give you a close projection of the actual savings next month but we are doing very well at this point. A further discussion continued.

Mr. Ken Carney, BOC said there has been a lot of information the past couple of years on what has happened at the high school project so they thought it appropriate to put together a fact sheet. The entire project fact sheet is on the website. After Mr. Carney discussed the fact sheet Mr. Paul Antinozzi gave a presentation on where they currently are with the plan. They expect a completion date of August, 2018 and at the end of this project there will be no asbestos in the building.

Mr. Antinozzi said we started this project about three years ago by creating what we call a space program which is listing what the space is classroom, science room, gymnasium and then saying how many of those rooms you need and what the square footage is. Anne and I did this when we started the project. We then worked on this to hone it because we have a certain square footage allowance for the project. We talked about issues with the users of this space and had two interviews with all the different user groups; English, Math, Science etc. We wanted to assure all of these professionals that someone is listening to them and we are going to take their concerns. Some of the things they wanted could not be met and we wanted to make sure their expectations were realistic. After we had time to develop the plans we met again with each department for three days to show them how the plans worked out and to view them. That is the process we have
gone through. At one point we have to say we are done making changes and we are rapidly approaching that point. It is one thing when it is just the architects drawing lines on a paper but once the mechanical engineers, the plumbing engineers, the structural engineers all start taking our drawings and developing their drawings those changes start affecting three, four or five different disciplines. The process has been very successful and we are at a great point right now. We are about to enter the design development stage which starts integrating all of the different design disciplines. A slideshow was presented showing the plans for the high school. The capacity of the school will be 1,588. The board members had questions which Mr. Antinozzi answered. The board thanked him for the presentation.

C.1.b. Student Representatives Report
There were no student reps present tonight.

C.1.c. Board
Bob Guthrie went to the High School Honor Awards at Westwoods and it was a nice time and Forest School’s graduation celebration was very nice. He had the opportunity to attend the Savin Rock and Mackrille Flag Day Ceremonies which were very nice.

Jim Morrissey went to the IA Club for the Flag Day Ceremony and the Bailey Band did a great job; it was a very nice ceremony. Dr. Henry Lee was the guest speaker and he did a great job.

Rosa Richards participated in the high school graduation and the selection process for our new Boys Soccer Coach.

Cebi Waterfield said she is getting a ton of feedback from the Food Service Program that is going on over the summer for breakfast and lunch for all residents 18 and under and it is going over really well. She wanted to thank Meg Kingston for working to get this off the ground. Everyone who has participated in it thinks it is a really good program. Neil said we are serving over 1,000 lunches a day. Cebi said nobody wants any kids to be hungry so we did a really good job there.

Bob Guthrie asked if there was going to be a comment about an RFP for a long range facilities study. Neil said he thought they did it. Matt did mention it and right now it is at the purchasing agent’s office and should be going out shortly; hopefully this week.

Pat Libero said she is happy to see Susan Misur is sending out reports over the summer on things that are going on. There is a lot of activity going on and it is good for people to see. Neil said The Westie Wrap Up if very nice she did a great job with that.

C.1.d. Committee
D.1. Approval of Minutes

D.1.a. West Haven Board of Education Regular Board Meeting held in the Harriet North Meeting Room, City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, CT on June 2, 2014 at 7:00 PM.

D.1.b. West Haven Board of Education Policy Committee Meeting held in the Harriet North Meeting Room, City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, CT on June 2, 2014 at 6:30 PM.

Chairwoman Libero asked for a motion to approve the minutes D.1.a and D.1.b
Bob Guthrie made the motion to approve the minutes
Rosa Richardson seconded the motion
Discussion: None
All board members present were in favor
Minutes are approved

D.2. Resignations: (Certified)

14-44 Diane Keefe, School Psychologist - WHHS
   Effective: June 30, 2014
   Reason: Retirement

14-45 Liam Leapley, Boys Varsity Soccer Coach – WHHS
   Effective: Immediately
   Reason: Personal

14-46 Raymond Guarino, Boys Assistant Soccer Coach – WHHS
   Effective: Immediately
   Reason: Personal

14-47 Kim Wesler, Pre-school Special Ed Teacher – Seth Haley
   Effective: End of school year
   Reason: Personal

14-48 Dennis Lynch, Inclusion Teacher – Carrigan
   Effective: June 30, 2014
   Reason: Personal

Chairwoman Libero asked for a motion to approve the resignations 14-44 – 14-48 inclusive.
Cebi Waterfield made the motion to approve the resignations
Patrick Egolum seconded the motion
Discussion: Chairwoman Libero stated that she has worked with some of these people and they will be missed.
All board members present were in favor
All resignations are approved

D.3.  Leave of Absence: (Certified)

D.4.  New Hire: (Certified)

14-49  **Rikki Crouse**, 175 Canton Street, B5, West Haven, CT 06516
       Mathematics Teacher – WHHS
       Effective: August 25, 2014
       Salary: $47,500.00 (Step 4 BS)

14-50  **Bridget Figmic**, 105 Rosedale Terrace, Stratford, CT 06614
       Mathematics Teacher – WHHS
       Effective: August 25, 2014
       Salary: $48,000 (Step 2 BS + 30)

14-51  **Jennifer Baker**, 151 Judith Drive, Milford, CT 06461
       Mathematics Teacher – Bailey Middle School
       Effective: August 25, 2014
       Salary: $45,000 (Step 3 BS)

14-52  **Stephanie Rodrigues**, 42 Heritage Drive, Prospect, CT 06712
       Grade 2 - Savin Rock
       Effective: August 25, 2014
       Salary: $44,000.00 (Step 1 BS + 30)

14-53  **Jennifer Stephens**, 399 Drummond Road, Orange, CT 06477
       Grade 1 - Savin Rock
       Effective: August 25, 2014
       Salary: $40,020.00 (Step 1 BS)

14-54  **Lauren Stefura**, 38 Wood Avenue, Trumbull, CT 06611
       Kindergarten – Savin Rock
       Effective: August 25, 2014
       Salary: $40,020.00 (Step 1 BS)

14-55  **Latoya Lisle**, 147 Elm Street, Apt. 6 West Haven, CT 06516
       Kindergarten – Savin Rock
       Effective: August 25, 2014
       Salary: $44,020.00 (Step 1 BS + 30)

14-56  **Marissa Baglini**, 451 Pine Tree Drive, Orange, CT 06477
       Speech & Language Pathologist – Bailey Middle School
       Effective: August 25, 2014
       Salary: $72,216.04 (Step 7 B.S. + 60 + stipend)
D.4. New Hire: (Certified) Continued

14-57 Elena Ermini, 40 Foxon Hill Road, Unit 2, New Haven, CT 06513
   Inclusion Teacher – Carrigan School
   Effective: August 25, 2014
   Salary: $52,000.00 (Step 3 B.S. + 60)

14-58 Brian McDermott, 11 Cove Brook Road, West haven, CT 06516
   Grade 3 – Washington School
   Effective: August 25, 2014
   Salary: $47,000.00 (Step 1 B.S. + 60)

14-59 Zachary Rosenberg, 21 Orange Terrace, West Haven, CT 06516
   Elementary General Music
   Effective: August 25, 2014
   Salary: $40,020.00 (Step 1 B.S.)

14-60 Dorin Dehls, 58 Valley Rd., Glastonbury, CT 06033
   Elementary General Music
   Effective: August 25, 2014
   Salary: $40,020.00 (Step 1 B.S.)

14-61 Jo-Ann M. Mondo, 56 Morrissey Lane, West Haven, CT 06516
   Grade 3 – Forest School
   Effective: August 25, 2014
   Salary: $40,020.00 (Step 1 B.S.)

14-62 Kate Slavinski, 37 Mayfair Road, Meriden, CT 06450
   Library Media Specialist - WHHS
   Effective: August 25, 2014
   Salary: Step 4 (BS + 30) $52,000

14-63 Kayla Worroll, 79 David Street, West Haven, CT 06516
   Inclusion Teacher – Washington School
   Effective: August 25, 2014
   Salary: Step 1 (BS) $40,020.00

14-64 Nicole Criscuolo, 1732 Dixwell Ave., 4F, Hamden, CT 06514
   Preschool Special Education Teacher – Savin Rock
   Effective: August 25, 2014
   Salary: Step 3 (BS + 30) $50,020.00

14-65 Allison Baker, 420 Orange Center Road, Orange, CT 06477
   English Teacher – Bailey Middle School
   Effective: August 25, 2014
   Salary: Step 1 (BS) $40,020.00
D.4. **New Hire: (Certified) Continued**

14-66 **Peter Hamasian**, 39 Leatherman Trail, Hamden, CT 06518  
Head Boys Soccer Coach – WHHS  
Effective: August 25, 2014  
Salary: $3,000.00 Stipend

D.4. **New Hire: (Certified) Added at Board Meeting**

14-75 **Lauren Greider**, 555 Clark Street, South Windsor, CT 06074  
Language Arts Teacher – Grade 8  
Effective: August 25, 2014  
Salary: (Step 1 BS) $40,020.00

14-76 **Kevin M. Fuggi**, 19 Westview Road, North Haven, CT 06473  
Technology Education Teacher  
Effective: August 25, 2014  
Salary: (Step 2 BS) $42,500.00

Chairwoman Libero asked for a motion to approve the New Hires 14-44 – 14-66 inclusive and 14-75 and 14-76.  
Rosa Richardson made the motion to approve the new hires  
Patrick Egolum seconded the motion  
Discussion: Neil wanted to thank the Principals because they did a really good job of getting the interviews together and getting the candidates up to the Board. Some of the candidates are here tonight and we wish them well.  
All board members present were in favor  
All New Hires are approved  
Superintendent Cavallaro and Board Chairwoman Pat Libero congratulated the new hires and wished them good luck in their positions. Applause for the new candidates followed.

D.5. **New Business**

14-67 **Approval to hire the following WHHS Summer School Teachers from June 30, 2014 to July 24, 2014:** Directors, Mark Consorte/Chrystal Fanelli, Yvonne Moore, Lauren Kozlowski and if enrollment allows Melanie Deninger, Abby Goodwin and Elizabeth Bruneau.

14-68 **Approval to hire the following Middle School Summer School Teachers from June 30 – July 24, 2014:** Director Kevin Hardy, Christina Nasti, Joseph Trapani, Holly Jardine, Leslie Cote, Yvonne Moor, Matthew Roberts, Sheila Krajcir, Rebecca Ardito, Deborah Kachmar and Marianne Richard.

14-69 **Approval to hire the following eleven teachers as Team Leaders for 2014/2015:** Gregory Heudorfer, Cindi Anastasio, Richard Hemming,
Chairwoman Libero asked for a motion to approve New Business Items 14-67 – 14-74. Superintendent Cavallaro said we will not be doing item 14-74 as we must get the contract and addendum to the board. Chairwoman Libero asked for a motion to approve Items 14-67 to 14-73 inclusive. Rosa Richardson made the motion.

Cebi Waterfield seconded the motion. Discussion: None. All board members present were in favor. Items 14-67 – 14-73 New Business items are approved.

Rosa Richardson made a motion to table item 14-74. Bob Guthrie seconded the motion. Discussion: None. All board members present were in favor. Item 14-74 is tabled.

F. Informational

Chairwoman Libero asked for a motion to adjourn. Rosa Richardson made the motion. Patrick Egolum seconded the motion. Discussion: Neil wanted to thank Marylou for getting everybody on the agenda with all the information; it was a challenge between his office and personnel so thanks. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Marylou C. Amendola
Board Secretary