The Health & Wellness Committee Meeting of the Board of Education was held in the Board of Education Meeting Room, City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, Connecticut on November 18, 2013. The meeting was called to order at 6:15 PM by Dorinda Borer, Chairman of the Health & Wellness Committee. The meeting opened with a pledge to the flag.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS
IN ATTENDANCE: Dorinda Borer
Betsy Davis
Eric Murillo
Cebi Waterfield

BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING:

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Neil Cavallaro, Superintendent of Schools

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

Dorinda Borer, Chairman welcomed everyone to the November 18, 2013 Health & Wellness Committee Meeting of the West Haven Board of Education. The first item on the agenda was to review the advisory committee minutes. She asked Neil to give a recap.

Neil stated Christina Bokrey, Toni Paine and Betsy Davis were at the first meeting. We have an advisory committee in place which is part of the RFP that Sodexo put in. Neil said he is on it along with a couple of administrators, Gary Palermo from the elementary schools, John DellaCamera from WHHS, Val Bruneau from Bailey, and we have our parents Christina Bokrey and Michelle Caprio who are part of the PTA Council Food Service Committee. There are also some teachers Leslie Morgan from Carrigan and board members Toni Paine and Betsy Davis and two school nurses Sandy McCauley and Claudette Glassman and Ron Quagliani came to the first two meetings as well. The goal is to monitor the food service program and make it a very good program. As things come
up we want to address the issues and keep making it better. Meg Kingston is the Food Service Director and works for Sodexo is also on the committee. We talked about some of the concerns.

**Concern:** What is being sold in the vending machines?

**Response:** Everything being sold is part of the food list from the state with modifications due to Parental Concerns: Doritos may have been removed because parents requested Goldfish, Pretzels and Granola Bars as more healthy choices. There was a discussion about Snapple being removed but it is on the State Website and the one that is sold to us doesn’t have the large amount of sugar added but parents want the Snapple removed anyway. This is still being worked on. Neil said they are monitoring it for now.

The lines are moving more quickly now that the children are used to the choices. Sodexo will be starting a new program with biometrics where you just do a finger swipe which will charge you for your lunch etc. It doesn’t take your finger prints so they are not collecting any information. Dorinda thought it would be nice to have the child’s fingerprints.

Dorinda didn’t remember vending machines as part of Sodexo’s proposal and asked if it was. Neil doesn’t know if it was specifically mentioned that vending machines would be included but every product they are selling is on the Healthy Food List.

Eric Murillo asked if Sodexo takes care of the product that they put in these machines. Neil responded no they send it out to a third party that comes in and stocks the machine and we just get a check every month. Sodexo didn’t want to get involved with handling the money. Eric asked who owns the vending machines and maintains them. Neil said it is a third party and Sodexo will be here tonight to answer that question.

Neil said we will monitor the menus and make sure the kids like it. Meg Kingston pointed out that she just received an $80,000.00 grant and is serving fresh fruit and vegetables. She is trying out Kiwi and Butternut Squash and a lot of new things that students did not know what they were. Neil said oranges are now being cut up to make it easier for the kids to eat. Sodexo has invested about $130,000.00 into the school system so far; little things were lacking like pizza cutters, knives, gloves etc. so you have an itemized list of what was put into the program. We are not putting out any money but over the life of the contract is how we are going to be paying for the biometric system.

Dorinda said they own the equipment? Neil said no we own the equipment and if we opted out early we would have to pay them for a percentage but it is actually our equipment.

There have been some problems with our equipment; 3 bay sinks. Toni Paine said it has been noted, documented and taken care of. Neil stated he has met twice with the Health Department and Maureen Lillis who is the Health Director. She has seen the progress and is happy with the progress. Right now there are no issues because as long as they see progress they are happy with it. A further discussion took place.
Dorinda asked if there has been an increase in the Free and Reduced Lunch Program because this is how we were going to decrease our fee and increase their revenue. Neil said once we put the new biometric system in the readings will be more accurate and cost effective. A further discussion took place.

Dorinda said let’s switch gears and go through the Wellness Committee Minutes. The focus was on health and nutrition. Jon Capone gave a report of Physical Education Fitness testing. Dorinda feels we should have a little bit more formality on the Health and Wellness Committee; more agendas and published dates of meetings because it is such a requirement by the state and in the past we received lower ratings from the State on our Health and Wellness Program. Neil said during the first meeting of the year in September we should come up with a calendar for the year. Dorinda agreed and said we should have all the points that are required and make sure we will be hitting all the criteria and document it in the minutes. We will be able to show this to the state when they come around.

Dorinda asked what the role of Meredith Williams was. She asked if she was from the Health Center. Neil believes she is the doctor who is the advisor to the Health & Wellness Committee from Hill Health. Their role could be anything from employee physicals to Workman’s Comp. A further discussion ensued. The Health and Wellness minutes are attached. (Schedule A)

Dorinda asked for a motion to adjourn. Bob Guthrie made the motion. Eric Murillo seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marylou C. Amendola
Board Secretary
Children's Theatre will be presenting "The Adventures of Rose Red (Snow White's Less Famous Sister)" at 10am and 12pm. Then, guests are invited to go trick or treating at the entrance of West Haven High. So let's get creative! Decorate the trunk of your car and watch the smiles of many young children in costume as they parade around the circle in front of the school!

*Congratulations to the CHET Advance Scholarship winners of $2,500 each - Catherine DePino, Devin Hickman, Eliseah Jacobs, Andrea Joseph, and Johna Tuinman*

Senior Ying Guo was selected as a Finalist for the United States Senate Youth Program. Two student leaders from each state are selected as delegates to visit Washington, DC and experience the United States government in action. Delegates will hear major policy addresses by Senators, cabinet members, officials from the Departments of State and Defense and directors of other federal agencies, as well as participate in a meeting with a Justice of the US Supreme Court. Mrs. Gardner will be notified in late November of the results.

The First Annual Soderman Bowl was held Friday October 11th with West Haven victorious over Notre Dame. Coach Mc Carthy was presented the Soderman Bowl Trophy by WHHS 2011 Alum Army Ranger Sean Pesce.

Last Wednesday all sophomores and juniors took the College Board PSAT and freshmen took the College Board ReadiStep Assessment with a Math Bootcamp session.

AP Bio students have been busy with the GLOBE research project - taking samples in the Cove River for temperature and dissolved oxygen levels, planting salt grass, and designing a flood gate on engineering software.

The PTSA is announcing the Spirit Club to promote school activities and student involvement, raise school spirit and give students a voice in creating positif school atmosphere. Any Spirit Club member who purchases and wears their SPIRIT Club T-Shirt to sporting events will pay the SPIRIT CLUB PRICE OF $1.00 admission – a savings of $3 per event. This applies to all football, boys & girls soccer, boys hockey, boys and girls lacrosse, and evening games for softball and baseball.

Parent Conferences will be held on Thursday from 9am until noon and from 6pm – 8:30pm. The School Governance Council and the School Counseling Department
will be hosting drop in workshops for students and parents on Naviance and the Parent Portal.

Student Government is busy planning a Mock Election for the West Haven Mayoral race and will be participating in the Million Misfit Sock March on Friday, October 25th. This is our chance to join thousands of people nationwide who will don mismatched socks to wear to work, to school, to wear everywhere to show everyone we stand up for our right to be uniquely who WE are. This is our chance to say loudly, without saying a word, we will not tolerate bullying or bullies anywhere, or in any form or fashion.

The National Honor Society is sponsoring the MDA Sportspectacular this Wednesday at Painter Park. The event starts at noon and has raised over $6500 for MDA.