



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Board of Education Committee Regular Meeting Minutes January 8, 2024

Meeting held via Hybrid
(Zoom/Obama School)

Recorded: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8JiqzVkb2ow>

1. Call to Order: The meeting called to order at 5:33pm by Mayor Justin Elicker.

Attendees: Ms. Yesenia Rivera; Board President; Mr. Matt Wilcox, Vice-President; Mayor Justin Elicker; Dr. Joyner; Dr. Yarborough, Dr. Benitez, Ms. Andrea Downer, Mr. Musser, Mx. Cruz Bustamante.

Staff: Dr. Madeline Negrón, Superintendent, Atty Alexiades, Dr. Finley.

2. Pledge of Allegiance: The assembly was led in the Pledge of Allegiance by Mr. Wilcox.

3. Welcome New Board Member Mayor Elicker welcomes the newest addition to the board Ms. Andrea Downer.

4. Election of Officers:

a. **Election of Board President 001-24** Mayor Elicker asks the Board for nominations for Board President. **Dr. Joyner nominates Ms. Rivera for the role of New Haven Public Schools Board President seconded by Mr. Wilcox. There are no other nominations, the Mayor Elicker calls a roll call vote. (Board President Elect, Ms. Yesenia Rivera)**
Dr. Joyner, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Dr. Benitez, yes; Dr. Yarborough, yes; Mr. Musser, yes; Mx. Cruz Bustamante, yes; Ms. Downer, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes.

b. **Election of Board Vice President 002-24** Mayor Elicker asks the Board for nominations for Board Vice President. **Ms. Rivera nominates Mr. Wilcox for the role of New Haven Public Schools Board Vice President seconded by Dr. Yarborough. There are no other nominations, the Mayor Elicker calls a roll call vote. (Board Vice President Elect, Mr. Matthew Wilcox)**
Dr. Joyner, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Dr. Benitez, yes; Dr. Yarborough, yes; Mr. Musser, yes; Mx. Cruz Bustamante, yes; Ms. Downer, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes.

c. **Election of Board Secretary 003-24** Mayor Elicker asks the Board for nominations for Board Secretary. **Mr. Wilcox nominates Dr. Joyner for the role of New Haven Public Schools Board Secretary seconded by Dr. Benitez. There are no other nominations, the Mayor Elicker calls a roll call vote. (Board Secretary Elect, Dr. Edward Joyner)**
Dr. Joyner, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Dr. Benitez, yes; Dr. Yarborough, yes; Mr. Musser, yes; Mx. Cruz Bustamante, yes; Ms. Downer, yes; Ms. Rivera, yes.

5. Public Participation: Channel Name: New Haven BOE TV YouTube Link: <https://www.youtube.com/live/8JiqzVkb2ow?si=HHTShKYN7T3wjVhQ&t=1095> [18:15-52:43]



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6: Action Items:

- a. **Approval of Board Minutes Regular Meeting 12/11/2023 004-24**
Motion to approve Board meeting minutes of the December 11, 2023 of by Dr. Joyner seconded by Mr. Wilcox. (Motion Passed)
Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Dr. Joyner, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Dr. Yarborough, yes; Dr. Benitez, yes; Mx. Cruz Bustamante, yes; Mr. Musser, yes; Ms. Downer, abstain.

- Approval of Board Minutes Special Meeting 12/21/2023 005-24**
Motion to approve Special Board meeting minutes of the December 21, 2023 of by Dr. Joyner seconded by Mr. Wilcox. (Motion Passed)
Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Dr. Joyner, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Dr. Yarborough, yes; Dr. Benitez, yes; Mx. Cruz Bustamante, yes; Mr. Musser, yes; Ms. Downer, abstain.

- b. **Date Change of BOE Meeting *Tuesday Feb 13th 2024 006-24**
Motion to approve the date change for the regular board meeting on Monday February 12th 2024 to take place on Tuesday February 13th, 2024 due to recognition of Presidents Day holiday by Dr. Joyner seconded by Mr. Wilcox. (Motion Passed)
Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Dr. Joyner, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Dr. Benitez, yes; Dr. Yarborough, yes; Mx. Cruz Bustamante, yes; Mr. Musser, yes; Ms. Downer, yes.

- c. **Personnel Report 007-24**
Dr. Madeline Negrón presents the Personnel Report.
She highlights the accolades of the five individuals who are retiring at the end of this academic year. Acknowledges the transfer of Sequella Coleman from her role as principal of metropolitan business academy to supervisor of student transfer and transportation. Additionally, there are two other appointments that she recognizes. For the Director of Early learning programs and the next Principal of Hillhouse High School.

Motion to approve the superintendents Personnel Report of by Dr. Joyner seconded by Dr. Benitez. (Motion Passed)
Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Dr. Joyner, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Dr. Benitez, yes; Dr. Yarborough, yes; Mx. Cruz Bustamante, yes; Mr. Musser, yes; Ms. Downer, yes.

- d. **Finance & Operations Action Items 008-24**
Mr. Wilcox presents the list of Action Items that is seeking board approval.
Motion to approve 5 Abstracts, 21 Agreements, 4 Contracts, 5 Purchase orders and 1 Change order from the as recommended by the Finance & Operations committee by Mr. Wilcox seconded by Dr. Yarborough. (Motion Passed)
Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Dr. Joyner, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Dr. Benitez, yes; Dr. Yarborough, yes; Mx. Cruz Bustamante, yes; Mr. Musser, yes; Ms. Downer, yes.

7. **Students Report:** No Report at this time.



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8. Teaching & Learning Report:

Dr. Joyner presents the Teaching and Learning update this meeting, he commends those who came in today and spoke during public comment and value that people who take the time to express themselves and ensure the board hears their concerns. He feels confident that Dr. Negron has gotten into a strong start when it comes to the training and level of evaluation of the programs.

9. Facilities Naming Committee Report:

Dr. Joyner updates the group that there is currently a vote on Mrs. Papis and Dr. Garris who was a former principal of Hillhouse. Dr. Benitez inquired on how to go about on voting. Dr. Joyner stated there should be an area on the district website that should allow the voting feature. Dr. Negron will circle back to ensure that its available as needed.

10. Superintendent Report:

Dr. Negrón states that the safety of our students is of the utmost importance. This morning she was made aware of complaints that were brought up by a parent group from a pre-k classroom at Conte West Hills about alleged verbal abuse the parents made available a 20-minute recording, regarding the concerns. Dr. Negrón dispatched her team to the school and the Department of children and families was contacted regarding the incident in the classroom. The investigation is currently pending and the allegations are taken very seriously. Parent Cafes at title I schools are being implemented as well to foster engagement and create a stronger bond between parents and the district. Which will also empower parents and provide them with the district insights to their child's education.

11. President's Report:

Ms. Rivera states that she will be taking the time during the president's report to announce the committee assignments for board members. More appointments will be made at the next meeting.

Finance & Operations Chair, Matthew Wilcox; Teaching & Learning Chair, Dr. Joyner; Governance Chair; Dr. Benitez

There are parental seats that are available on the Citywide School Building Stewardship Committee and the Food Service Task Force Committee.

12. Head Start Report:

Mr. Wilcox provides an update that the enrollment level is about 75% as we have a lot of openings available. The next scheduled meeting is January 18th 2024.

13. Citywide School Bldg Stewardship Report:

Mr. Wilcox states there is not much since the last meeting, the next scheduled meeting is set for this coming Thursday January 11th and an update should be available by the next board meeting.

14. Finance & Operations Report:

Mr. Wilcox adds that there were two presentations that took place at the last available Finance & Operations meeting. One that was regarding after school programs with the Youth and Family engagement department. The larger one includes the long-term Facilities study results, that outlines the aging of the buildings owned by the district. The recording for this meeting is available on the website as well as YouTube for community viewership.



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**15. Governance
Report:**

Dr. Benitez states that last Governance meeting was cancelled due to her not being able to chair. However, the next available meeting will be later this month in January 28th 2024.

**16. Food Service Task
Force Report:**

Dr. Yarborough commends the food service staff and Mr. Lambs team that worked over the school break to mitigate the food gap that takes place during the holiday time. They distributed food to school and community families during the winter break. They prepared over 500 bags in total amongst the various sites that were spread out over the district. There is a meeting that will take place later in the week and more updates will be made available by the next board meeting.

V. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Wilcox seconded by Dr. Joyner meeting adjourned at 7:13pm.
Ms. Rivera, yes; Mr. Wilcox, yes; Dr. Joyner, yes; Mayor Elicker, yes; Dr. Benitez, yes;
Dr. Yarborough, yes; Mx. Cruz Bustamante, yes; Mr. Musser, yes; Ms. Downer, yes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Salina Manning

Salina Manning
Executive Administrative Assistant

"A video of this meeting is available on the YouTube Channel – New Haven BOE TV and NHPS.net, About Us - Public Meetings"