



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Haven, Connecticut

NEW HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION FINANCE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, September 5, 2023

MINUTES

Present: Mr. Matthew Wilcox, Dr. Orlando Yarborough, Ms. Yesenia Rivera
Staff: Dr. Madeline Negron, Dr. Paul Whyte, Ms. Linda Hannans, Ms. Keisha Redd-Hannans, Ms. Viviana Conner, Ms. Gemma Joseph-Lumpkin, Ms. Typhanie Jackson, Mr. Thomas Lamb, Ms. Patricia DeMaio, Mr. Pedro Mendia, Dr. Jennifer Sinal-Swangler, Ms. Jennifer Tousignant, Mr. Jamar Alleyne, Attorney Elias Alexiades
Guests: Ms. Leslie Blatteau, President, New Haven Federation of Teachers, and Mr. Tyler Hester, Representative, Educators Thriving, LLC.

Call to Order: Mr. Wilcox called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m.

Summary of Motions:

1. **Motion to Recommend Approval of Action Items:** A motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Dr. Yarborough to Recommend Approval to the full Board of Education, 2 Abstracts, 12 Agreements, 2 Purchase Orders and 2 Contracts, passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Dr. Yarborough, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.
2. **Motion to Move Policy 1330 to Governance Committee:** A motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Dr. Yarborough to move Policy 1330 - Facilities Use Policy, to the Governance Committee for review, passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Dr. Yarborough, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.
3. **Motion to Adjourn:** A motion by Dr. Yarborough, seconded by Ms. Rivera, to adjourn the meeting at 5:47 p.m., passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Dr. Yarborough, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.

I. INFORMATION ONLY & ACTION ITEMS:

A. INFORMATION ONLY:

1. Agreement with The Eli Whitney Museum, to provide hands-on science and engineering workshops for 375 K-8 students at Worthington Hooker School and two professional development sessions for staff, from September 12, 2023 to June 15, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$10,276.00.
Funding Source: ARP ESSER III Carryover Program Acct. #2553-6399-56697-0038
2. Agreement with Common Ground School, to provide professional learning workshops for teachers at Bishop Woods School and technical support for academic learning in the outdoor learning center at the school, from August 29, 2023 to June 13, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00.
Funding Source: ARP ESSER III Carryover Program Acct. #2553-6399-56694-0043

3. Agreement with Common Ground School, to create an outdoor learning space and to provide a naturalist for two days per week to provide professional development and maintenance of the outdoor space at FAME School, from September 20, 2023 to June 7, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$17,000.00.
Funding Source: ARP ESSER III Carryover Program Acct. #2553-6399-56694-0041
4. Agreement with Connecticut State Community College, Gateway Campus, to provide a Principles of Sociology course for students at High School in the Community, from August 22, 2023 to December 14, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$16,272.00.
Funding Source: ARP ESSER III Carryover Program Acct. #2553-6399-56694-0066
5. Agreement with National SAM Innovation Project, (NISIP), to provide cloud-based software tools, coaching and professional development for staff at Edgewood School, from October 23, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$9,490.00 was presented by Dr. Whyte on behalf of Dr. Perrone. **Discussion:** In response to Mr. Wilcox's question about other schools utilizing the program, Dr. Whyte reported that the SAM project was originally established by principals of Bishop Woods and Edgewood schools. Edgewood continues to utilize the program based on its successful implementation.
Funding Source: ARP ESSER III Carryover Program Acct. #2553-6399-56694-0012
6. Agreement with Great Minds PBC to provide professional development for K-3 teachers on Tuesday September 12th focused on new decodable readers which were purchased for classroom use, from September 12, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$7,800.00.
Funding Source: ARP ESSER III Carryover Program Acct. #2553-6399-56694-0105

B. ABSTRACTS:

1. Commissioners Network Grant for Augusta L. Troup School, in the amount of \$50,000.00 for September 5, 2023 to June 30, 2024 was presented by Ms. Conner on behalf of Mr. Forman. She explained that Troup School has been designated as a "Turn-around School," and the State has awarded the grant for planning purposes.
Funding Source: Connecticut State Department of Education
2. ESSA SIG 2024 Grant for Roberto Clemente School, in the amount of \$236,000.00 for July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 was presented by Ms. Conner and Ms. Redd-Hannans on behalf of Ms. Duff. Ms. Connor reported that Clemente is a "Turn-around School," and the grant focuses on providing professional development for staff on the I-Ready platform, attendance and training.
Funding Source: Connecticut State Department of Education

C. AGREEMENTS:

1. Agreement with TaJu Educational Solutions, LLC., to provide dual language program support, consultancy and technical support for Truman School, from September 13, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00 was presented by Mr. Mendia. In response to questions, Mr. Mendia reported that the contractor is uniquely positioned to provide the type of service provided, service not provided by ACES or other contractors.
Funding Source: ARP ESSER III Carryover Program Acct. #2553-6399-56694-0410

2. Agreement with State Education Resource Center, (SERC), to provide professional learning, technical assistance and coaching on supporting equitable learning and engagement of Multilingual Learners, from September 12, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$30,800.00 was provided by Mr. Mendia. Mr. Wilcox confirmed that SERC is a State of CT designated contractor, similar to ACES and CREC.
Funding Source: Title III Carryover Program Acct. #2518-5713-56694-0412
3. Agreement with Connecticut RISE Network, Inc., to provide Grade 9 Leadership Summits, virtual learning opportunities, coaching, resources and schools visits to promote Grade 9 on-track achievement at Wilbur Cross and James Hillhouse high schools, from September 12, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$33,000.00 was presented by Dr. Whyte. In response to questions, he reported that the District is seeking Sole Source designation from the City of New Haven, as there are no other similar programs through other contractors.
Funding Source: ARP ESSER III Carryover Program Acct. #2553-6399-50136-0103
4. Amendment #1 to Agreement #96364019 with Arte, Inc., to expand the Scope of Service to provide Hispanic heritage celebration programming for 150 students and their families in collaboration with Farnam Camp on September 16, 2023; and to increase funding of \$53,000.00 by \$20,000.00 to \$73,300.00 was presented by Ms. Joseph-Lumpkin. In response to questions, she explained that the total participants include both students and families and that the action item amends the current contract, adding the one-day event.
Funding Sources:
ESSER II Carry Over Program Acct. #2552-6364-56697-SS34 (\$53,300.00)
21st Century Carry Over Program Acct. #2579-6454-56694-0444 (\$20,000.00)
5. Agreement with Elizabeth Celotto Child Care Center at Wilbur Cross High School, to provide comprehensive services to 32 secondary school parents and their children, from August 31, 2023 to June 21, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$55,000.00 was presented by Ms. Jackson. In response to questions, she explained that the District has not sought out quotes for this service because the program is just getting back to normal operations after the COVID disruption. The District will evaluate other possible providers for the future. In addition, Ms. Jackson will follow-up with information on the number of students utilizing the program. Discussion: Mr. Wilcox noted that the Agreement memo was no complete 2, and not answered for questions 7 and 8. He asked that for a corrected memo and reposting of the action item prior to the Board of Education meeting. In addition, Ms. Jackson will provide number of students in the program.
Funding Source: Priority Schools Program (*Pending Receipt of Funds*)
Acct. #2579-5319-56694-0061
6. Agreement with Clifford Beers Guidance Clinic, to provide 4 Care Coordinators and 1 Manager, Care Coordinator to provide a broad spectrum of mental health support services and models of care to students, families and staff throughout the District, from August 28, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$324,293.00 was presented by Ms. Jackson.
Funding Source: Alliance Program (*Pending Receipt of Funds*) Acct. #2547-6107-56694-0490
7. Agreement with Yale New Haven Health Center for EMS, to provide an EMT training program up to 40 high school students, from September 12, 2023 to January 31, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$73,840.00 was presented by Ms. Redd-Hannans.
Funding Source: ARP ESSER III Carryover Program Acct. #2553-6399-55100-0410

8. Agreement with District Arts and Education, (DAE), to provide a computer science afterschool program for 25 high school students, from September 12, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$78,750.00 was provided by Ms. Redd-Hannans. She indicated that the program evaluation document did not make the posting. She will forward the report to Ms. DeMaio, who will disseminate it to committee members and post online.
Funding Source: ARP ESSER III Carryover Program Acct. #2553-6399-56694-0410
9. Agreement with Educators Thriving, LLC, to provide professional development opportunities for educators to learn strategies that increase well-being and reduce burnout, from September 12, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$58,500.00 was presented by Ms. Redd-Hannans, who reported that the wellness program is provided in partnership with the New Haven Federation of Teachers Union. She introduced Ms. Blatteau, president of the union, who discussed the need to address retention issues for teachers. Mr. Hester, a representative of the contractor, answered questions on participants in the program. A discussion ensued about male versus female participation in the program.
Funding Source: ARP ESSER III Carryover Program Acct. #2553-6399-56694-0105
10. Agreement with Southern Connecticut State University, to provide two college level courses for juniors at Hillhouse High School who are enrolled in the Health Career Academy Pathway program, September 12, 2023 to December 31, 2023, in an amount not to exceed \$19,928.00 was presented by Ms. Redd-Hannans. Mr. Wilcox asked that staff schedule a time to review a report on the success of the program. Ms. Redd-Hannans indicated that she will provide a presentation to the Board of Education.
Funding Source: ARP ESSER III Carryover Program Acct. #2553-6399-56694-0062
11. Agreement with 3Prime, LLC to provide maintenance, improvements, and extension of the database system SRBI.nhboe.net, from September 12, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$22,800.00 was presented by Ms. Tousignant who answered questions about the platform. In response to questions about soliciting quotes from other companies, Ms. Tousignant explained that the platform was custom built for the district 10 years ago. She met with the company to discuss needed changes and the company was responsive. Staff will assess the program during the year to determine effectiveness and will seek other contractors based on progress this year.
Funding Source: Alliance Grant Program (*Pending Receipt of Funds*)
Acct #: 2547-6107-56694-0413
12. Agreement with JROTC SFC Lisa Rodriguez as an Instructor of the JROTC Program at Hillhouse High School from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$92,699.81 (BOE Portion: \$50,477.57) was presented by Ms. Redd-Hannans on behalf of Mr. Bonet. Mr. Wilcox noted that we usually have two instructor contracts. Ms. Redd-Hannans explained that that one of the two instructors retired and that they are in the process of finding a replacement. In response to questions about the start date, July 1, 2023, Ms. Redd-Hannans explained that she will confirm that the program did not start on July 1, 2023, but that the date through June 30, 2024, was used as a standard timeframe. She will confirm the date and the document will be changed accordingly.
Funding Source: 2023-2024 Operating Budget Acct. #190-43362-50135
Presenter: Mr. Daniel Bonet Document Link: JROTC_LRod

D. PURCHASE ORDERS:

1. Purchase Order with Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Co. to provide district with student subscriptions for the Read 180 reading intervention program literary licenses from Sept 12, 2023 to June 30, 2024 in an

amount not to exceed \$36,166.50 by Dr. Sinal-Swinger who explained that the renewal licenses support the text books purchased for the literacy curriculum.

Funding Source: ARP ESSER III Carryover Acct. # 2553-6399-56694-0105

2. Purchase Order with Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Co. to provide district with student subscriptions for the Read 180 reading intervention program digital subscriptions from Sept 12, 2023 to June 30, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$179,157.55, by Dr. Sinal-Swinger, who explained that the purchase is also a renewal subscription. In response to questions, she reported that a report on the impact of the program will be provided.

Funding Source: Title I Carryover Program Acct. # 2531-5265-56694-0413

E. CONTRACTS:

1. Award of Contract 21884 to Consolidated Electric for On Call Theater Maintenance Repair from September 5, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00 was presented by Mr. Alleyne.
Funding Source: 2023-2024 Capital Projects Acct. #3C24-2461-58101
2. Renewal Option 2 of 4 for Contract 21762-3-5 to Filter Sales and Service for On Call Filter sales from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$125,000.00 was presented by Mr. Alleyne.
Funding Source: ARP ESSER III Carryover Acct. # 2553-6399-56697-0470

II. DISCUSSION:

- **Reschedule September 18, 2023 meeting, Proposed Special Meeting for September 19, 2023:** Mr. Wilcox discussed need to reschedule the September 18, 2023 meeting. He asked committee members if there were issues if the meeting was moved to Tuesday, September 19, 2023. Dr. Yarborough indicated that he could meet until 5:20 p.m., and Mr. Wilcox indicated that a need for a hard stop at 6:00 p.m. Based on submission of action items, he asked Ms. DeMaio to limit discussion items. Mr. Wilcox indicated that the rescheduled meeting will be a Special Meeting, so there will be no changes to the agenda once posted. **No motion was made and not vote taken.**
- **Tentative Discussion Item Calendar:** Mr. Wilcox asked that staff add to the calendar an update on the security situation at John C. Daniels School. In addition, he asked that the discussion item calendar be posted on the website under the Finance & Operations Committee. **No motion was made and no vote taken.**
- **Gap Analysis Update:** Ms. Redd-Hannans reported that the analysis required adding 10 new positions: 5 Multilingual Teachers and 5 Special Education positions. She will provide a report on the number hired to date. Mr. Wilcox asked that staff prepare an updated report by January, in time for budget consideration. Dr. Yarborough suggested that the District consider ways to acknowledge the successes of reaching goals. He noted that the District requested additional funding and is making progress on meeting the goals, an accomplishment that should be noted and celebrated. **No motion was made and no vote taken.**
Note: After the meeting Ms. Redd-Hannans sent an email to committee members indicating that the

district has hired 5 out of the 5 Multilingual Teachers and 2 of the 5 Special Education Teachers.

- **Policy 1330 - use of Facilities Policy:** Mr. Wilcox asked for questions or comments on the policy. **Motion and Vote:** A motion by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Dr. Yarborough to move Policy 1330 - Facilities Use Policy, to the Governance Committee for review, passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Dr. Yarborough, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.
- **Series 3000 Policies:** Information and Security Policies: **3520.13 Student Data Protection and Privacy Cloud based issues; 3520.1 Information Security Breach and Notification; 3435 Fraud Prevention and Investigation; 3520.1 Electronic Information Security:** Mr. Lamb introduced Ms. Herrera to discuss the policies as presented. Ms. Herrera indicated that there are some updates to the policies that she will forward for consideration. In addition, she noted that the recent breach was not related to the student data privacy policies but to a separate policy related to equipment usage. She asked that the committee also consider revision of that policy. She reported that the district policy would follow the City, but that policy has not been updated in 22 years. She will confer with Mr. Wilcox on next steps. Mr. Wilcox deferred the discussion to future meetings. **No motion was made and no vote was taken.**

Adjournment: A motion by Dr. Yarborough, seconded by Ms. Rivera, to adjourn the meeting at 5:47 p.m., passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Dr. Yarborough, Yes; Ms. Rivera, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. DeMaio