

WATERBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Monday, April 23, 2007 at 5:30 p.m.

(For the April 30, 2007 Board Meeting - MINUTES ATTACHED)

COMMITTEE MEETING

The Board of Education Committee meetings were held on Monday, April 23, 2007 at Walsh School, 55 Dikeman Street, Waterbury, Connecticut, starting at 5:52 p.m.

PRESENT: President Hayes, Commissioners Flaherty-Merritt, Geremia (left at 9:15 p.m.), Harvey, Petteway, Stango, Sweeney, Theriault, Uriano, and White.

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent Snead, Assistant Superintendent Cullinan, Assistant Superintendent Sequeira, Chief Operating Officer Paul Guidone, Director of Personnel Ron Frost, School Business Administrator Paul Mazzaccaro, Attorney Maurice Mosley, and School Inspector Herbert Greengas.

Reports were submitted to the various committees of the Board and discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee meetings adjourned at 10:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie A. Swain, Clerk
Board of Education

WATERBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING

Monday, April 30, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.

Aldermanic Chamber, City Hall, 235 Grand Street, Waterbury, Connecticut

PRESENT: President Hayes, Commissioners Flaherty-Merritt, Geremia, Harvey, Stango, Sweeney, Theriault, Uriano, and White.

ABSENT: Commissioner Petteway.

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent Snead, Assistant Superintendent Sequeira, Chief Operating Officer Paul Guidone, Director of Personnel Ron Frost, School Business Administrator Paul Mazzaccaro, Attorney Maurice Mosley, and School Inspector Herbert Greengas.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

President Hayes called the meeting to order at 6:44 p.m. with a moment of silence and a prayer and Superintendent Snead led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

CLERK: Commissioner Flaherty-Merritt.

FLAHERTY-MERRITT: Present.

CLERK: Commissioner Geremia.

GEREMIA: Present.

CLERK: Commissioner Harvey.

HARVEY: Here

CLERK: Commissioner Petteway – absent.

CLERK: Commissioner Stango.

STANGO: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Sweeney.

SWEENEY: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Theriault.

THERIAULT: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Uriano.

URIANO: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner White.

WHITE: Here.

CLERK: President Hayes.

HAYES: Here.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Upon a motion by Commissioner Geremia and duly seconded by Commissioner Sweeney, it was voted unanimously to receive and place on file the following communications:

1. Copy of communication dated April 13, 2007 from Civil Service certifying Sarah Forestier for the position of Paraprofessional.
2. Copy of communication dated April 17, 2007 to Alan Kramer from New England Association of Schools and Colleges regarding accreditation.
3. Communication dated April 23, 2007 from Waterbury Teachers' Association regarding two provisions of the collective bargaining agreement.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upon a motion by Commissioner White and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve the minutes of March 26, 2007 and April 2, 2007.

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. Any discussion? Hearing none – all in favor, opposed, motion passes unanimously.

PUBLIC ADDRESSES THE BOARD:

Upon a motion by Commissioner Harvey and duly seconded by Commissioner Uriano, it was voted unanimously to suspend the regular order of business to allow the public to address the Board at 6:46 p.m.

Patti J. Brown, 149 Anna Avenue, had the following comments: I'm here to speak about the revisions to the high school grading and revisions to athletic eligibility. I was an athlete in high school, I didn't grow up in Waterbury, I grew up in Wolcott, Connecticut, but I now reside in Waterbury and I've been here for about 12 years. I was an athlete at Wolcott High and I had standards. In order to play I had to do well in my

classes and I also had to deal with the raff of my father if I didn't. I believe it was 70, a grade average of 70. There was a time where I was having trouble in school and I wasn't making the grade and I was like, oh my God, I can't play basketball. I played three sports – volleyball, basketball, and softball. And that made me stop doing whatever it was that I was doing and I brought my grades up because I wanted to do what I love to do and as a kid you want to have fun, play time, even in high school that's what you think about. I think having a grade point average, a passing grade of 65, I think it brings about a low standard of thinking, a low standard of goals, a low standard of living and I don't think it's realistic. Because out in the real world even 70, if we were graded and we were graded at 70 at any of our jobs you know it would be hard to hold onto our jobs. Also, I am, I think I am the end game of a low standard of education. I am a correction officer at Manson Youth Institution and I supervise children of the ages of 14 to 21. And a lot of them, the majority of them, cannot speak their own language which is English; they cannot speak correct English let alone write English. There was an individual there, a young man, he had to sign some paperwork, he could print his name and I said now you have to sign it, you have to write in cursive, he said he didn't know how, he can't even read in cursive and that just blew me away. And he was 15. But needless to say he didn't come from a Waterbury school but I think he's common, he's not unique and there's some trouble in the system especially if the grade point average or passing grade stays at 65. And to not discredit the teachers, I know the teachers are doing what they can, but I know it also starts at home and I believe it might be 80% at home and 20% at school and I think it's all behavioral also but I think to raise the passing grade would be, bringing a child up rather than breaking an individual down, and it's another higher standard for opportunity and a higher percentage of being able to create those opportunities. I thank you for your time and thank you for listening.

Joseph Wall, 118 White Birch Drive, had the following comments: I've lived in Waterbury for 21 years and this is the first time I've ever attended any kind of a Board meeting. My children are a product of the Waterbury School System and it can be, the schools are a lot better than a lot of people give them credit for, no doubt about that, but most of the work has to be done at home and with the teachers. My oldest son graduated from Wilby High School in 2005, top of his class, came up through the public schools; he goes to a very prestigious university in Washington, DC. The number one student in his class, goes to Yale, you can do it, schools are good enough. Don't lower the standards, raise them, raise them even higher. As far as the student-athletes go, make it even higher. These children are students first and participation in sports is not a right, it's a privilege that must be earned. All the coaches in the City should be asked to watch that movie Coach Carter, there's a very important lesson to be learned in that film, personal responsibility. The No Child Left Behind Law makes tutoring available for all students in this City; all they have to do is ask. How bad do these student athletes want it? All they have to do is ask for help. The onus is on the student not the coach. The coaches should encourage their athletes to seek help but do not change their program to accommodate these students. They have to earn their way onto the team the good old fashion way, through hard work. Like I said, I have two children that have already graduated from Wilby High School; one of them was a student-athlete. He didn't get into that school from his athletics; he got in there on academics. Hard work and proper motivation starts in the home at a very early age, school work before extra activities, no exceptions. My youngest son is going to Wilby right now, top of his class, and he's an athlete. But it starts at home. The rest of the students they can be high achievers, all it takes is hard work and motivation. Maybe not being able to play might

be the motivation they need to raise the level for all the students. Now awhile back when this standard was proposed I only saw one coach speak out against it, it just so happened that he's the only one in town with a state championship level basketball team. I wonder how far they would have gotten without raising the standards. If they had had this standard last year would he have gotten that far? I don't know but he seems to be a little bit worried, worry about the student first, athletics comes second, it's a privilege to represent your school on the athletic field, it's not a right. Thank you.

HAYES: Is there anyone else wishing to address the Board?

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Geremia, it was voted unanimously to return to the regular order of business at 6:55 p.m.

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. Any discussion? All in favor, opposed.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: To begin my report I'd like to bring a former Waterbury coach forward who's coaching in another way even though he's retired. Most of you remember Bobby Brown, outstanding educator and former basketball player and coach. Even though he's retired he's still working very hard on behalf of the Waterbury community. He has something to present.

BROWN: Good evening everyone, I'm here tonight to represent the United Way of Greater Waterbury. We have a presentation we're making to the Board of Education, you the employer, on behalf of all of your employees. The City of Waterbury, Waterbury Board of Education and its teachers were among the top 20 contributors to the United Way campaign this year and for that we're very, very grateful. With the support of Dr. Snead who I labeled as the coach of the team this year and with Linda Janowitz, who I didn't realize would be here, but who coordinates and does an awful lot of work. And with the help of Dr. Sequeira in the past, the teachers of Waterbury as usual have done a wonderful job. During the past year the teachers of Waterbury gave over \$35,000 to the United Way campaign which was far and above what any of the other school systems, which I do 10 towns and again the teachers in Waterbury have been wonderful. So as they very often say, leadership starts at the top, through the efforts of Dr. Snead and with the help of, the big help of Linda, the campaign was successful and we look forward to another successful campaign next year. Thank you.

SUPERINTENDENT: To continue, last Wednesday, I held a meeting with all principals and Police Chief O'Leary. The discussion went very well. It was very productive with discussions on the appropriateness of when police should be called to schools, and the actions that are taken once police arrive.

Also on Wednesday, I attended the Kennedy High School National Honor Society inductions.

On Thursday, I attended a Lions Club luncheon honoring this year's winners of the Peace Poster Contest. The entry from Edgar Vargas, North End Middle School, was selected as the Lions Club district winner. The Lions Club district includes New Haven and Fairfield counties. The other two winners from Waterbury were Narsama Gobindraj, West Side, and Nicole Nguyen, Wallace.

Also on Thursday, I attended the United Way dinner and awards ceremony.

Friday, I and several members of Central Office staff met with Don Thompson from Staywell Health Clinic and other city officials regarding school based health clinics. This matter will be further discussed by the Health and Safety Committee. I don't know if you've been asked already Mrs. White.

WHITE: I'm in agreement. Send me the information and I'll give it to the rest of my committee.

SUPERINTENDENT: I attended a really nice activity at Walsh School on Saturday. This community event included many different activities and featured information from several different community agencies.

On Sunday, I attended a National Congress of Black Women's luncheon honoring legends in the community at the Marriott.

I would just like to remind everyone that the annual Superintendent's Student Recognition Awards are tomorrow afternoon at Kennedy High School, beginning at 3:30 p.m. As always, Commissioners are invited to join us on stage and to offer their congratulations to the students and families.

Installation of the playscapes at Wendell Cross and Washington Schools are scheduled to commence next week.

The Board of Aldermen has scheduled its required Public Hearing on the site selection for the new Gilmartin School and site selection and property acquisition for Duggan School on May 8th at 6:45 p.m., just prior to its regular meeting on that date.

The Board of Aldermen has requested the use of the recital hall at WAMS for its meeting place beginning in June. A formal facility use request will be submitted for consideration at our next Workshop.

There will be no school on Friday. This is a Professional Development day for teachers.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS: My comments just briefly. I'll just speak to the revisions to the Athletic Eligibility. I just wanted to make it clear, there's no lowering of expectations here. What we initially came up with had some people concerned because basically a 70 and 79 were being treated the same as a 2.0 and what we're looking for is the grade point average that the colleges look for and they acknowledge a 70 as a 2.00, a 71 as a 2.1, that's all we're doing with this. This has pretty much been a done deal; this is just clarification for us. While I spoke with Joe Palladino, and there was a story in the paper today, he sort of mixed things up a little bit because I mentioned to him how we've raised the overall standards for everyone to 65 and he sort of got them mixed. That's already been done and we've also made a commitment from this Board to review that next year to see about raising that again. So as the speaker stated we all understand that it starts at home but we need to provide some incentive for some of these kids because they just don't have it. With regard to a particular basketball team you had talked about and I know my initial reaction about impending

doom because all these kids that didn't do as well this year are going to continue to do not as well, I don't buy into that at all. I believe they're going to be motivated to do better. And I know, there's one particular kid at Crosby and when he got wind on this early part of the year and his grades went up dramatically. We are also going to be monitoring our athletic directors, our guidance counselors are going to be monitoring, to make sure these kids are still being challenged. We've taken away remedial courses, there was some concern about special ed kids but again our kids are at different levels. Mr. Wall, I'm sure your kids are in the honor programs, or AP Programs or whatever, but even our special ed kids, we have an expectation, we owe it to them to have an expectation for achievement for them as well. I know that's a concern some people have brought forward. And again, the help is there, we're going to monitor it, Dr. Snead I know is going to be monitoring it to make sure that not just our athletes but all of our students seek that extra help. So going from 60 to 65 we did that to just get moving in the right direction and we're going to monitor those results as well because we believe if you raise the expectations we'll get better results. And we appreciate those of you who came down tonight to speak on it and also just to my fellow Board members who might not have seen the Channel 3 story on it, I found it pretty interesting. She tracked me down, called me, they went to Crosby and tried to interview people, and they kept like a tease, like there was some big problem and then they let off the story and they said they're raising the standards in Waterbury, the Board of Ed is raising the standards but there are some who think it's gonna cause a lot of problems. They interviewed the same lady twice and then we had positive comments from three other individuals and somehow they made this out that the people in Waterbury were reluctant to do this. I'm sure you've all experienced the same thing I have; everybody believes the same thing that we should do it and they also understand that the problem really starts at home. And again, some of these kids, while some say the only reason they come to school is to participate in sports well that's not the only reason they should come to school but if they want to come to school to participate in sports and they've been, understand they have to perform in the classroom we've sort of hit it from both ends. And the final thing with this 65 which again we're not addressing tonight and I think we're gonna address going forward, is that I believe right now a diploma with kids getting 60's for a passing grade is not something we should really be proud of that because we're sending kids out into the workforce or to try to go to college and, Dr. Snead and I were talking, some of these kids come back and say they went to Naugatuck Valley and they told me they have to pay for these courses in math or in English. Well they had an opportunity to learn it in school. You mentioned we got a lot of kids that do well, even Wilby has its negative attachment to it. But again if you've got a family behind the student, we believe we have the staff and what we need in place to help kids be successful. Again, I don't think you have to worry about any vote that's going to happen tonight but it will only take a couple of minutes before you see us vote on this. Next, our reports.

REPORTS

1. COMMITTEE ON GRANTS

- 1.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner Geremia and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve the 2007 – 2009 Connecticut State Department of Education's IDEA Grant Application.**

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. Any discussion? Hearing none – all in favor, opposed, motion passes unanimously.

1.2 Upon a motion by Commissioner Geremia and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve to apply for the US Department of Education’s “Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools” grant.

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. Any discussion? Hearing none – all in favor, opposed, motion passes unanimously.

1.3 Upon a motion by Commissioner Geremia and duly seconded by Commissioner Sweeney, it was voted unanimously to approve the 2007-2009 School Readiness Grant application.

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. Any discussion? Hearing none – all in favor, opposed, motion passes unanimously.

2. COMMITTEE ON SCHOOLHOUSES

2.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner Theriault and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve a contract with Jemco Environmental for asbestos abatement at Kennedy High and Crosby High/Wallace Middle Schools.

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. Any discussion? Hearing none – all in favor, opposed, motion passes unanimously.

2.2 Upon a motion by Commissioner Theriault and duly seconded by Commissioner Sweeney, it was voted unanimously to approve a contract with Sonitrol Corporation for security systems monitoring at various schools.

HAYES: Motion made and seconded – any discussion?

WHITE: I was just going to ask that Schedule “A” that’s attached be updated. It has been revised but there are still some things that weren’t that we discussed. The annex, the new media centers. We want to make sure all the new additions are included also.

HAYES: Just for clarification. What we’re voting for is for them to do the monitoring, we can make sure that they’re monitoring what they’re supposed to be monitoring.

THERIAULT: I think I would be a bit derelict if I didn’t recommend and congratulate Sonitrol for the wonderful job they have done protecting our schools through nearly 30 years in Waterbury. They’ve been very responsive and very helpful and proactive in preventing burglaries, fires, vandalisms, all kinds of things. They’re one, as was said in the past, they’re one of the few systems that actually has ears so they can hear in our schools. So not only do they protect our schools they do a vital job in making sure that those schools are prepared each day heat wise without any vandalism and pilfering and

stealing, there's all kinds of things that go on in schools all around the country and ours have been very well protected due to the outstanding job this company has done through the years so I congratulate them.

3. COMMITTEE ON BUILDING

3.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner White and duly seconded Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve the ED049 for the Enlightenment and Special Education Program Center.

HAYES: Motion has been made and seconded – any discussion?

THERIAULT: We've had some discussion on this and I am wondering while the building is being renovated what is going to be done with the students from the program? That's the first part of my question. The second part of my question as I raised before that I got an answer to at the Workshop was that we were going to expand the number of students at this program. Also keeping in mind that currently there are probably about, we probably service under 225 kids total at this program. We're gonna spend about 16 million dollars in renovations and we're looking to probably double the program to about 500 to 550 students of which hopefully more than 60% will be attending cause they'll have a finer facility than they have now. Certainly the conditions at State Street right now as they exist are deplorable and we certainly need to do something with regard to this. So reluctantly I am going to vote for this because I think that the alternative school needs a new home. I'm kind of satisfied that the project actually has been pared down to half from 32 million to 16 million and I just think the other Commissioners should be cognizant of some of the concerns that I raised with regard to the number of students being served and attendance. Thank you.

HAYES: You're asking questions I don't know if you wanted me to just respond briefly. Again what we're voting for tonight is simply to get in line for the money to do this. We haven't determined yet how we're going to handle that whole construction deal but we've got to get in line to get the money this year. This particular one will be about 250 to 300 students; I believe we were talking closer to 11 or 12 million dollars, 14. Again, the other part we're hoping to get going forward, we want to try to break up the K to 8 and the high school kids because that has its problems as well. So basically what this vote is is simply to get in line for the funding and then those other concerns you have we'll have to address going forward.

THERIAULT: Thank you Commissioner.

HAYES: Anyone else? Hearing none – all in favor, opposed, motion passes unanimously. I just wanted to point out that in your packet you have item 4.4 but on the front sheet item 4.4 was lost, it didn't make it to the second sheet.

4. COMMITTEE ON RULES & REGULATIONS

4.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner White and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve revisions to the High School Grading/QPR Policy – #6040.

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. Any discussion? Hearing none – all in favor, opposed, motion passes unanimously.

4.2 Upon a motion by Commissioner White and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve of revisions to the Student-Athlete Eligibility Checklist – High School Policy- #5020.

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. Any discussion? Hearing none – all in favor, opposed, motion passes unanimously.

4.3 Upon a motion by Commissioner White and duly seconded by Commissioner Uriano, it was voted unanimously to approve revisions to the Student Discipline Policy’s “Procedures for Disciplinary Action”.

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. Any discussion? Hearing none – all in favor, opposed, motion passes unanimously.

4.4 Upon a motion by Commissioner White and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve revisions to the Nondiscrimination Policies - #4005 and #5015.

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. Any discussion? Hearing none – all in favor, opposed, motion passes unanimously.

5. COMMITTEE ON TEXTBOOKS & COURSES OF STUDY

5.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner Flaherty-Merritt and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve the Pre-k through 8 Writing Curriculum.

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. Any discussion?

WHITE: It isn't discussion. I would like to applaud the Committee that worked on this curriculum. I found it very, very interesting; they were able to break things down to such a low level and make it sensible and it appears to be very doable. I myself think it's award winning. So again, I'd like to congratulate all that took part in making this a success that it was. And also I passed mine back in, I'm conserving. But it's very interesting.

HAYES: Any further comments, discussion?

THERIAULT: I too thought that the writing curriculum is a wonderful, wonderful tool. I looked at it, read it, I think we have spent a lot of time with regard to writing and our writing curriculum over last, I want to say 10 years, and when you look at the results on the CMT's and CAPT's you will see that there are results. I would like to see the same kinds of results with regard to reading and math where we are still floundering between 45 to 55%. Meaning that 45 to 55% of our children are still failing. I think to reach a goal of 75% in the writing curriculum as we do in most grades is absolutely outstanding.

Now that we arrived there I think that we need to bolster up mission with regard to reading and math and go forward and also a little bit more work in the science area on the CAPT test at the high schools. I certainly congratulate Dr. Sequeira and his staff as usual an outstanding job turning over every rock, every stone, doing everything possible to make improvements happen, looking at programs as we go along and things that aren't working, modify or deleting, and adding new programs and making modifications and these things are starting to pay off. And congratulations to you Dr. Snead as well, your leadership as well, those scores on the writing curriculum, when you look at them they are absolutely outstanding. So that's a key ingredient when children go out into the world of work knowing how to write, knowing how to read and knowing how to do math also, but we're getting there. So hopefully with things like this we'll be able to increase those scores as we go forward. Thank you to all.

HAYES: Anyone else? Hearing none – all in favor, opposed, motion passed unanimously.

6. COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

6.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner Flaherty-Merritt and duly seconded by Commissioner Uriano, it was voted unanimously to approve the use of school facilities by school organizations and/or City departments.

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. Any discussion? Hearing none – all in favor, opposed, motion passes unanimously.

6.2 Upon a motion by Commissioner Flaherty-Merritt and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve the use of school facilities by outside organizations with fees as outlined in their attached Use of Building Permit and subject to the receipt of all necessary deposits, insurance information, and/or lifeguard/CPR certifications, as listed.

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. Any discussion? Hearing none – all in favor, opposed, motion passes unanimously.

6.3 Upon a motion by Commissioner Flaherty-Merritt and duly seconded by Commissioner Uriano, it was voted unanimously that the request of the Waterbury Symphony Orchestra for a waiver of custodial fees in the approximate amount of \$70.00 for their use of Waterbury Arts Magnet School on May 9, 2007, be approved.

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. Any discussion? Hearing none – all in favor, opposed, motion passes unanimously.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Flaherty-Merritt and duly seconded by Commissioner Uriano, it was voted unanimously to approve items 6.4 through 6.6, as listed:

- 6.4 Request permission be granted to M. Boatright, KHS, and one chaperone to take 20 students to Jackson, NJ on May 3, 2007 to attend Six Flags Business & Marketing Day.
- 6.5 Request permission be granted to L. Capolupo/V. Barone, KHS, and 13 chaperones to take 125 students to Agawam, MA on June 1, 2007 to visit Six Flags.
- 6.6 Request permission be granted to 1st Sgt. Weber, WHS ROTC, and three chaperones to take 40 students to Norfolk, VA/Washington, DC from May 20 through 26, 2007 to attend military orientation training.

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. Any discussion? Hearing none – all in favor, opposed, motion passes unanimously.

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTIFICATION TO THE BOARD

Upon a motion by Commissioner Geremia and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to receive and place on file items 7.1 through 7.4, as listed:

7.1 Athletic appointments effective immediately:

Crane, Richard – Head Track Coach, CHS.

Veronneau, Michael – Head Freshman Baseball Coach, CHS.

7.2 Teacher transfers:

<u>Teacher</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Sharkey, Jessica	Hopeville RR/Inclusion – Temp.	Hopeville RR/Inclusion – Perm.	10/04/06
Ribeiro-Garcia, Maria	NEMS – TESOL	Sprague/Bucks Hill – TESOL	03/02/07
Johnson, Mary	NEMS – TESOL	Walsh – TESOL	03/02/07
D'Amico, Galina	New Hire	NEMS – TESOL	01/02/07
DiMaio, Francisco	Sprague/Bucks Hill – TESOL	Chase Bil. Resource 3, 4, & 5	03/02/07
Kayfus, Rachel	New Hire	Hopeville Bil. Basic Skills	01/02/07
Isaku, Ermira	CHS/WAMS - TESOL Temp.	CHS/WAMS – TESOL Perm.	03/02/07
Darrow, Maribeth	NEMS – TESOL	WMS – TESOL	08/27/07
McGrath, Carol	Carrington – TESOL Temp.	Carrington – TESOL Perm.	03/02/07

7.3 Resignations:

DeLauri, Courtney – Bucks Hill School, Paraprofessional, effective 4/27/07.

Lundstrom, Christine – Crosby High School English, effective 6/30/07.

Macary, Meaghan – Crosby High School Math, effective 06/30/07.

Toro, Evelyn – Crosby High School Spanish, effective 04/09/07.

7.4 Leave of absence requests:

Matthews, Kristy Lynn – Hopeville School, requesting an unpaid childrearing leave from 5/9/07 through 01/02/08

Sevelowitz, Kathleen, NEMS, requesting an unpaid childrearing leave from 4/30/07 through 6/15/07.

Sonnenschein, Esther – Speech and Language Pathologist, requesting an unpaid childrearing leave from 4/11/07 through 4/30/07.

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. Any discussion? All in favor, opposed, received and placed on file. Anything under unfinished business? Anything under new business?

WHITE: On the Superintendent's Report, the Board of Aldermen has requested the use of the Recital Hall at WAMS for its meeting place in June; obviously they're going to be displaced from here, so if they're going to be displaced we will too. Should, what?

HAYES: inaudible.

WHITE: Well where are we going to meet, out in the street?

HAYES: I already mentioned that to Paul. I think we're just going to work with the schedule.

WHITE: All kidding aside, where will we be?

HAYES: Even if we get doubled up we can always move to another room.

WHITE: They will move to another room because it's our building.

SUPERINTENDENT: There's two auditoriums.

HAYES: Commissioner Harvey.

HARVEY: Two things, I noticed that we did not include on our itinerary for the week the mention that Karen Hines will be giving her presentations on business etiquette to Wilby, Crosby, Kennedy, and the Waterbury Arts Magnet School. So I just wanted to make sure, I know we received an e-mail on that information but I think it would be beneficial if the Commissioners have time to attend these sessions that will be given, there's one on May 3 – WAMS, Kennedy High School and May 11 - Wilby and Crosby. So I think it would be very beneficial if you have the time to attend.

WHITE: Will we be getting an e-mail?

HARVEY: I thought we did.

SWEENEY: I didn't get anything.

HARVEY: I'll forward to you what I received then. Just a few comments, I was hoping that we would talk about this tonight but I'll just make my comments because I feel that something needs to be said and it's in regard to the ad-hoc legislative committee. First let me commend you President Hayes for recognizing the importance of forming such a committee. It is very important and it's important that we are in sync with our legislatures. But there are two things that I was a little concerned about – one was the

fact, I understand it's your prerogative to appoint but I was surprised that you didn't ask for volunteers for this committee and the reason why I think I was surprised was because we've done this in the past when we've formed committees. So I was a little surprised at that. And the second thing that I was surprised at and before I say this, Commissioners, taking nothing away from those that were appointed to this committee but I was a very surprised at the fact Commissioner Petteway was omitted as a member of this committee and the reason why I was surprised at this omission is because she works for the State Treasurer in Hartford, she's in Hartford daily, the legislators know who she is so it would seem that would be a very logical selection. In your e-mail you stated as usual Board members are welcome to participate but it's not the same as being an actual member of the committee. So, and Commissioner Petteway . . . so I'm just going to wrap up . . . very, very surprised, I think it's just logical appointment for Commissioner Petteway to be on this committee and I would hope that you reconsider.

(note: recording system began to malfunction at this time)

HAYES: we were up in Hartford at the CAFE day on the Hill . . . she didn't find the time or couldn't get to that meeting . . . at the two occasions when I met with the legislators . . . you know the way we run our committees, we listed to everyone . . . I know sometimes its hard for people, I'm pretty flexible with my schedule . . . they don't . . . when I put that out there . . .

HARVEY: . . . I know that she's not been able to access her e-mails like I have been but I just wanted to say that I would hope that in the future President Hayes you would ask for volunteers. I think that that may be the best way to do it that way those of us who are interested can . . .

HAYES: Ultimately I'll have to make a decision

SWEENEY: I have pushed for this ad-hoc Committee since last year . . . it should have come at no surprise to anybody that this . . . it was on the Agenda, I'm sorry but I don't have any sympathy . . .

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Commissioner Geremia, and duly seconded by Commissioner Flaherty-Merritt, it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:34 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
Carrie A. Swain, Clerk
Board of Education

Resolutions signed by Mayor Michael J. Jarjura on May 1, 2007