

# WATERBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Monday, February 23, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.

(For the March 9, 2009 Rescheduled Board Meeting - MINUTES ATTACHED)

## **COMMITTEE MEETING**

The Board of Education Committee meetings were held on Monday, February 23, 2009 at Wilson School, 235 Birch Street, Waterbury, Connecticut, starting at 5:44 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Vice President White, Commissioners D'Angelo, Flaherty-Merritt, Harvey, Laccone, Stango, Sweeney, and Theriault.

**ABSENT:** President Hayes and Commissioner Pinto.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Superintendent Snead, Assistant Superintendents Cullinan and Sequeira, Chief Operating Officer Paul Guidone, Director of Personnel Ron Frost (left at 6:20), School Business Administrator Paul Mazzaccaro (left at 8:13 p.m.), Attorney Maurice Mosley, Education Liaison Mary Ann Marold (left at 7:21 p.m.), and School Inspector Herbert Greengas (left at 8:13 p.m.).

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

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The Committee meetings adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie A. Swain, Clerk  
*Board of Education*

## **WATERBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

### *MINUTES ~ RESCHEDULED REGULAR MEETING*

Monday, March 9, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.

Carrington School, 24 Kenmore Avenue, Waterbury, Connecticut

**PRESENT:** President Hayes, Commissioners Flaherty-Merritt, Harvey, Laccone, Pinto, Stango, Sweeney, Theriault (5:45), and White (5:45).

**ABSENT:** Commissioner D'Angelo.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Superintendent Snead, Assistant Superintendents Cullinan and Sequeira, Chief Operating Officer Paul Guidone, Director of Personnel Ron Frost, School Business Administrator Paul Mazzaccaro, Attorney Maurice Mosley, and Education Liaison Mary Ann Marold.

### **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

President Hayes called the meeting to order at 5:38 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 D'Angelo – absent. Commissioner Flaherty-Merritt.

FLAHERTY-MERRITT: Present.

CLERK: Commissioner Harvey.

HARVEY: Here

CLERK: Commissioner Laccone.

LACCONNE: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Pinto.

PINTO: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Stango.

STANGO: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Sweeney.

SWEENEY: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Theriault (arrived at 5:45 p.m.) Commissioner White (arrived at 5:45 p.m.)

CLERK: President Hayes.

HAYES: Here. Vice President White did tell me most likely she'll be late but she'll be here. Commissioner D'Angelo did call me and say he didn't think he was going to be able to make it.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

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

1. Communication dated February 9, 2009 from Wendell Cross kindergarten teachers regarding reinstatement of paraprofessionals.
2. Communication dated February 2009 from Tony D'Amelio in response to the Board of Education's letter of February 3, 2009.
3. Copy of communication dated February 23, 2009 from Civil Service certifying Nicolau Moreno, Jr. for the position of Maintainer I.
4. Copy of communication dated February 25, 2009 from Civil Service certifying Joseph Colaco for the position of Maintainer I.
5. Communication received February 26, 2009 from Sprague's kindergarten teachers regarding reinstatement of paraprofessionals.

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. All in favor, opposed, motion passes unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Flaherty-Merritt, it was voted unanimously to approve the minutes of February 17, 2009.**

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 Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Flaherty-Merritt, it was voted unanimously to suspend the regular order of business to allow the public to address the Board at 5:41 p.m.**

HAYES: Motion made and seconded. All speakers are encouraged to submit prepared written statements to the Commissioners. Comments shall be limited to a maximum of three minutes. There will be no responses this evening to any questions or concerns raised; they will be referred to the Administration for review and response.

**Linn Asplund, 167 Madison Street, had the following comments:** Good evening Board members, ladies and gentlemen. I had got a phone call after your Workshop meeting pertaining to the auditorium. For one thing, people who do not know me, I do

not have any stepchildren, he's a step-grandson through a marriage of my son. So I wanted to clear that up; I have enough kids already. Pertaining to what had happened, the Chief of Police there, he felt that he didn't hear anything about what went on. Well I have two sources because after you people had heard what I had spoke about, well I got a phone call from one of the officers that was there at my workplace and he had mentioned that because of the incident they may not be able to do it again and I felt well that wasn't my problem but he also said that he didn't think anything of it because he hears it all the time. And I thought you should of used a little bit more judgment on that so there's two there and also a teacher did mention that he was a little concerned because there wasn't a consent sent home to the parents. So as far as Chief of Police, there are a couple of sources. And I think that's about it. Thank you.

HAYES: Anyone else wishing to address the Board? Anyone else wishing to address the Board?

**Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Flaherty-Merritt, it was voted unanimously to return to the regular order of business at 5:44 p.m.**

HAYES: Motion made and seconded.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** I've got to say that I had mixed feelings coming up here tonight because when I passed the Church I thought about a very good friend of mine, Mr. Frank Lombardo, and it brought back very, very fond memories. I see his daughter here. I hope your Mom is doing well and the family is doing well. I couldn't help but think about your father.

The groundbreaking for the new Gilmartin School took place this morning. It was very well attended. Several busloads of students from Gilmartin School came to watch and some assisted with the groundbreaking. Several members of the Gilmartin family were also in attendance. Representatives of the Board of Education included President Hayes, Commissioners Mary White, Ann Sweeney, Paul D'Angelo, John Theriault, and Charles Stango. Mayor Jarjura was in attendance along with several members of the Board of Aldermen. Do any of you wish to speak about that?

SWEENEY: . . . had a great time . . . they had a nice time with the shovels and the hard hats and shoveling the dirt . . . they got a great kick out of watching the wall . . . very well done, extremely well attended . . .

SUPERINTENDENT: The District Improvement Plan Executive Committee met last week to continue discussing implementation of the plan, especially the Professional Learning Communities piece.

Last Thursday the National Education Association's Cat in the Hat van came to Wendell Cross School. Students listened while members of the CEA and NEA read two Dr. Seuss books, then had an opportunity to have their picture taken with the Cat in the Hat and Thing One and Thing Two. Students also received a classic red and white hat to take home as well as a Dr. Seuss book.

I was invited to speak to all of the students at Walsh School on February 27. This went well. Joe Gorman was there as well and he gave the students some exercises they could do at their desks to help them generate energy before they take the CMT's.

Waterbury submitted two proposals for the November CABE/CAPSS conference. Ann Marie Cullinan submitted one on our well-regarded truancy clinic, and Nancy Vaughan submitted one on the value on improving communications with staff and parents. Commissioner Stango, you're involved in this, is there anything you would like to comment on?

STANGO: I am the representative to CABE . . . I also attend the Convention every November and I've attended for about three years now and, as I sit and watch presentations, I think how great it would be if Waterbury had some kind of representation doing a workshop. So now we do, that will be great, I look forward to seeing that in November. It should be a good turnout and good news for Waterbury.

SUPERINTENDENT: Our CMT and CAPT testing is continuing. It will continue through most of March.

There will be a joint press conference between the Mayor and myself this Wednesday morning in the Mayor's office at 11 a.m. We will be discussing an integrated community plan that will help children succeed in school, work, and life. The plan is a combination of three initiatives which include:

1. Waterbury School Readiness Council's Blueprint focusing on children 0 – 8.
2. The Prevention Policy Board's Community Youth Plan focusing on ages 9 – 21.
3. The Waterbury Public School's District Improvement Plan.

Our meeting with Abigail Hughes, who is the Superintendent of Vocational Technical School from the State Department of Education, went quite well. We met with her and her staff as a follow-up to a prior meeting we had and tried to work out a partnership so that we can all work . . . what they want and we will be in support of each other . . . Among those in attendance were Ann Marie Cullinan, Paul Sequeira, Victoria Chaudhuri, and Joe Nole. We presented a draft of this project and explained why our concept is different from Kaynor Technical. We explained our proposed Waterbury Career Academy, that was a suggested name that came up at a prior meeting, and we would be offering such career strands as allied health, engineering technology (which includes mechanical arts), computer repair academy, and health and human resources. It was suggested in that prior meeting that we needed to add a couple of strands in our proposed draft of the curriculum; keeping the original and just changing the name . . . A further update will occur at next week's School Building Committee meeting before consideration planned at our next Workshop. I got to tell you that the mood was entirely different from the initial meeting we had. The State Vocational Technical Department was very cooperative, very supportive. So I left there feeling pretty competent . . . not going to receive opposition . . . I think we're going to be able to move forward . . .

Crosby High School won its sixth straight NVL championship in boys' basketball and Kennedy High School won its NVL championship in girls' basketball, and both are preparing to advance in state tournament play. The first game of the boys' state basketball tournament starts tonight with Crosby vs. Trumbull at 7 p.m. at Crosby.



I met this morning with representatives from the Labor Committee of the local NAACP. We spoke about the opportunities for minority and local employment on the school construction jobs. Paul Guidone, Maurice Mosley, and Jeff Cugno from O & G were there with me. Everyone seemed very satisfied when we finished our discussion.

There was a very nice article in the Waterbury Republican paper today regarding an Enlightenment student that I have enclosed.

And, I just want to pass out copies of pictures we took recently at a Black History Month celebration at the Enlightenment School.

(Note: Commissioners Theriault and White arrived at 5:45 p.m.)

**PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:** Briefly for me under President's comments, I'd like to thank Vice President White for filling in for me again. As far as the Kennedy girls, they are already advanced, they're into the quarter finals, they won two games, we need to get our information a little more up-to-date. They're one of only eight teams left in the State in the Girls Class L. A great bunch of girls, they've represented the City well. The Kennedy boys as well are in the State tournament, they didn't make the list . . . I think that's this evening in Torrington. I'd like to wish them well . . . I was hoping to go tonight if we get done, some reasonable time. Hopefully they'll be around for a second game.

With regard to the meeting that you had with the labor committee of the NAACP, I appreciate that . . . get something like that taken care of, some misunderstanding . . . gotten everybody up-to-date, but most importantly we've got to get people to these job fairs. It's mind-boggling to me, regardless of what community they come from, when they have job openings at CoCo Key, or whatever, they have thousands of people standing in line. We've got jobs where you can actually build a career, support a family, pay your taxes, and have your kid go to college; we've got to draw people there. It really is amazing to me. If anybody knows anybody, in particularly Waterbury kids, in particular minority kids, get them there on Thursday and hopefully . . . Thank you. Now we'll go onto our Consent Calendar.

Commissioner Hayes proceeded to read the list of Consent Calendar items.

HAYES: I need to remove Item 9.1 so I can abstain.

## **9. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**Upon a motion by Commissioner White and duly seconded by Commissioner Flaherty-Merritt, it was voted unanimously to approve the Consent Calendar, items 9.2 through 9.13, as listed:**

- 9.2 With the approval of the Committee of the Whole, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of Crosby High School's revised Mission and Expectations Statement, as attached.

- 9.3 With the approval of the Committee of the Whole, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of Waterbury Arts Magnet School's revised Mission and Expectations Statement, as attached.
- 9.4 With the approval of the Committee on Grants, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of Professional Service Agreement with Glen Martin Research Associates, Inc., to provide evaluation services for the Early Reading First Grant.
- 9.5 With the approval of the Committee on Grants, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval for Waterbury's Early Childhood Education Program to apply for the 2009-2011 School Readiness Grant.
- 9.6 With the approval of the Committee on Grants, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval to apply for the U. S. Department of Education's "Improving Literacy Through School Libraries" grant.
- 9.7 With the approval of the Committee on Grants, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval to apply for the U. S. Department of Education's "Reading First Special Cohort" grant for Bucks Hill and Driggs Schools.
- 9.8 With the approval of the Committee on Grants, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval to apply for the U. S. Department of Education's "Carl M. White Physical Education" grant.
- 9.9 With the approval of the Committee on Schoolhouses, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of a Maintenance Services Agreement with Honeywell, Inc., to provide building automation maintenance services.
- 9.10 With the approval of the Committee on School Activities, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission be granted to the following for use of school facilities school organizations and/or City Departments.
- 9.11 With the approval of the Committee on School Activities, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission be granted to the following for use of school facilities by outside organizations/waiver requests.
- 9.12 With the approval of the Committee on School Activities, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission be granted to J. Hermes, CHS, and four chaperones to take 48 students to Scranton, Gettysburg, and Philadelphia, PA from April 29 through May 2, 2009 to visit various historical sites.
- 9.13 With the approval of the Committee on School Activities, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission be granted to R. Haxhi, WHS, and four chaperones to take 50 students to Washington, DC from May 26 through May 28, 2009 to visit various historical sites.

HAYES: Motion has been made and seconded. All in favor, opposed.

**10. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT**

- 9.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner White and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, with Commissioner Hayes “abstaining”, it was voted to approve an Agreement between the Waterbury Board of Education and the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Secretarial/Clerical Bargaining Unit for the period of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2011.

HAYES: Motion is made and seconded. All in favor, opposed, I abstain.

**11. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

- 11.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner White and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, with Commissioner Sweeney and President Hayes voting “no”, it was voted to approve the 2009-2010 school year calendar, as attached.

HAYES: Motion is made and seconded. Is there any discussion?

FLAHERTY-MERRITT: They did make some changes, there were other changes that I was going to make an amendment . . . don't see the point . . .

HAYES: Any other comments? Hearing none – all in favor, opposed, Commissioner Sweeney and myself voting no.

**12. COMMITTEE ON BUILDING**

- 12.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner White and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, with Commissioners Sweeney and Theriault voting “no”, it was voted to approve Amendment Number One (1) to the Agreement with The Waterbury Development Corporation for project management services regarding site selection, land acquisition, relocation activities, and other administrative services relating to the School Construction Program project.

HAYES: Any discussion? All in favor, opposed, Commissioners Sweeney and Theriault voting no.

CLERK: A note on 13.5, the second name is being removed.

**13. SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTIFICATION TO THE BOARD**

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Stango, it was voted unanimously to receive and place on file items 13.1 through 13.5, as listed:

- 13.1 **Grant funded appointments effective immediately:**  
Coppola, Rita – Accountant II, Educational Grants, 12 months per year, 35 hours per week, \$716.80 per week, SEIU position with benefits.



13.2 **Extended School Hours appointments, maximum of 6 hours per week, salary according to individual's contract, funded by the ESH Grant:**

Phoenix, Donna – Substitute PE Teacher, Generali.

13.3 **Teacher transfers:**

Mikael-Chartouni, Tagrid – from WSMS Guidance to KHS Guidance, effective 02/02/09.

13.4 **Teacher new hires:**

137	Gomola, Michael	WSMS	Science	MA+30	5	12/1/08
138	Tomasko, Stacy	Hopeville	Special Ed	BA	1	01/5/09
139	Hansen, Laura	Wallace	Science 7	BA	1	12/9/08
140	Aird, Huch	Enlightenment	Biology	BA	1	12/22/08

13.5 **Retirements:**

Gregoire, Sandra – Kingsbury grade 2, effective 07-01-09.

~~Mendez-Clark, Lian – MMS Science Technology, effective 07-01-09.~~

Napomiceno, Norma – WSMS Math grade 6, effective 06-30-09.

Piel, Joanne – WSMS LA grade 6, effective 06-30-09.

HAYES: Motion is made and seconded. All in favor, opposed. Anything under New Business? Any Old Business?

HARVEY: . . . meeting with the NAACP. Can you give me a little more information . . . discussion about?

SUPERINTENDENT: The person there . . . had a lengthy discussion on how to access work and . . . go to . . . submit names and addresses so they can receive information about upcoming job offers. It worked out well.

HARVEY: And they were satisfied too?

SUPERINTENDENT: Very much so.

HAYES: Anything else under Old Business?

***ADJOURNMENT***

**Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Flaherty-Merritt Upon it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:03 p.m.**

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Carrie A. Swain, Clerk  
*Board of Education*