

## **WATERBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

### *MINUTES ~ REGULAR MEETING*

Thursday, October 20, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

Waterbury Arts Magnet School, 16 South Elm Street, Waterbury, Connecticut

**PRESENT:** President Brown, Commissioners Harvey, Hernandez, Pagano, Rodriguez, Stango, Sweeney, Theriault, J. Van Stone, and T. Van Stone.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Superintendent Kathleen Ouellette, Chief Academic Officer Darren Schwartz, and Director of Personnel Robert Brenker.

#### **1. SILENT PRAYER**

President Brown called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. with a moment of silence.

T. VAN STONE: Tonight in our silent prayer, we did have a couple of our former educators pass in the recent days. First I would like to talk about Ms. Mildred McKay. Tonight we'd like to remember Ms. Mildred McKay who passed away Thursday, October 6 at the age of 97. Ms. McKay was a teacher in the Waterbury Public School System for 34 years. Let us remember Ms. McKay and recognize her service and dedication to the students of Waterbury.

Secondly, this one is a little tougher for me. John Bellino was an educator with the Waterbury Schools coming on board in September of 1963. He retired in June of 1998. He was also my friend. John was an avid baseball fan and player. He starred at Crosby and Danbury's Teacher College now known as Western Connecticut State University. I first met John as an educator when my son Tom had Mr. Bellino for his teacher at Barnard School in the early nineties. My time spent with John was as a teammate in duck pin bowling in the Mount Carmel League for many years rolling in the basement of St. Joe's Church. John was always there to ask about my kids as he became fond of my son Matt also a left-handed pitcher. From my son's high school career through his college and amateur days, John would always ask how he was doing. John amazingly continued to play amateur baseball into his sixties. John is also a well-known and respected umpire for over 30 years. Being honored just a few years ago as the Connecticut High School Umpire of the Year. This past summer John was still on the field for many games for the Mickey Mantle World Series hosted by the City of Waterbury. For his playing days and accomplishments at Western Connecticut he was honored in their athletic hall of fame. John is a Waterbury legend and he will be missed. I will not say sadly because John was never sad. Thank you.

#### **2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

Vice President Rodriguez led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

#### **3. ROLL CALL**

CLERK: Commissioner Harvey.

HARVEY: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Hernandez.

HERNANDEZ: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Pagano.

PAGANO: Present.

CLERK: Vice President Rodriguez.

RODRIGUEZ: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Stango.

STANGO: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Sweeney.

SWEENEY: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Theriault.

THERIAULT: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Jason Van Stone.

J. VAN STONE: Present.

CLERK: Commissioner Tom Van Stone.

T. VAN STONE: Present.

CLERK: President Brown.

BROWN: Present.

#### **4. COMMUNICATIONS**

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

1. Copy of communication dated October 5, 2016 from Civil Service certifying Anxhela Spahi for the position of Paraprofessional.
2. Copy of communication dated October 6, 2016 from Civil Service certifying Marino Dancona for the position of HVAC Technician.
3. Email communication dated October 13, 2016 from Robert Goodrich regarding Minority Teacher Recruitment Policy Oversight Council and Superintendent Evaluation.
4. Email communication dated October 14, 2016 from CABA regarding policy highlights.

BROWN: Discussion? All in favor, opposed, abstain. Motion carries, thank you.

#### **5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve the minutes of March 31, 2016 Workshop, April 7, 2016 Regular Meeting, April 28, 2016 Special Meeting, April 28, 2016 Workshop, May 5, 2016 Regular Meeting, May 12, 2016 Workshop, May 12, 2016 Special Meeting, May 26, 2016 Workshop, June 2, 2016 Regular Meeting, September 29, 2016 Workshop, and October 6, 2016 Regular Meeting.**

BROWN: Discussion? I just want to thank Carrie for really, it's been a lot of work for really catching up on all the minutes. So moving forward we will be able to do the minutes, she has her new gadget, she said it would be more timely so. Thank you very much Carrie. All in favor, opposed, abstain. Motion carries. Thank you.

## **6. PUBLIC ADDRESSES THE BOARD**

**Upon a motion by Commissioner J. Van Stone and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to suspend the regular order of business to allow the public to address the Board at 6:40 p.m.**

BROWN: Discussion? All in favor. There's nobody signed up. Is there anybody who wishes to speak that didn't have an opportunity to sign up?

**Upon a motion by Commissioner J. Van Stone and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to return to the regular order of business at 6:40 p.m.**

BROWN: Discussion? All in favor, motion carries.

## **7. SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Dr. Ouellette read and distributed the following announcements:*

Today Board President Elizabeth Brown and I attended a bill signing and roundtable discussion of PA 16-41, An Act Concerning the Recommendations of the Minority Teacher Recruitment Task Force, in Bloomfield, CT. After the signing, Governor Dannel Malloy and State Department of Education Commissioner Dianna Wentzell, hosted a roundtable discussion featuring legislators, parents, students, and other stakeholders. The roundtable discussion focused on the importance of minority teacher recruitment and how districts and the state can work to increase their efforts around minority teacher recruitment. Our National Teacher of the Year Mrs. Jahana Hayes served on the roundtable panel.

On October 3, the State awarded Waterbury \$3,879,836 for Tech Upgrades as part of \$6.7 million granted to Alliance District schools from the Low-Performing Schools competitive grants. Our grants writer, Louise Brown submitted 19 school applications. Will Zhuta our IT Manager assisted with supplying information about the technical infrastructure needed at each school.

The infrastructure (fiber, switches, and wireless access points) were fully funded at each of the 13 schools awarded a grant. A specific number of personal computers, laptops with carts, and smartboards (short of the numbers requested) were awarded. Attached is a spreadsheet detailing the awards to each school.

Seventy-eight (78) schools from twenty districts applied for grants, and grant awards were made based upon the strength of the applications, with Waterbury being awarded 13 grants of the 23 total grants awarded. Michael Kent with the State Department of Education noted being challenged at many levels about why there were so many awards to Waterbury and he explained that this was a very competitive grant and that awards were made on that basis.

We are thrilled that so many Waterbury applications were funded. Preparing the 19 school applications was a very difficult, yet now rewarding experience (\$3,879,836 worth of rewarding).

The State Department of Education expects another round of competitive grants to be announced with a new RFP in January or February. The total grant award limit for this grant program is up to \$900,000 per school over multiple years, and Louise would like to prepare to apply not only for a first year of funding for the six schools not awarded this year, but also for another \$250,000 for each of the schools awarded this year as is permitted for a second year of funding such schools. Will Zhuta will assist Louise by compiling a list of technology and security needs for the schools. Kudos and sincere appreciation to our Grants Writer Louise Brown.

This past Saturday we held the formal ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony for the new addition to Kennedy High School, and celebrated the naming of the Charles Donato Field. The weather was beautiful, and the attendees spent time touring the building as well as the playing fields after the ceremony.

Crosby High School and Hoops4Life's second annual Trunk R Treat will take place next Thursday evening, October 27<sup>th</sup>, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. The event is open to children ages five to thirteen. All children must be accompanied by an adult and must wear a costume.

The 12<sup>th</sup> annual Mardi Gross and Halloween ComicFest will be held Saturday, October 29, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The event includes an indoor Halloween movie marathon, a costume parade for children at 1:00 p.m., scary stories, crafts, candy, and more, all taking place at the Silas Bronson Library.

The district's annual Hispanic Heritage Celebration will be held on Friday, October 28, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at Crosby High School. Selected students will attend and present.

Bucks Hill Elementary School will hold its second annual Vocabulary Parade that same day at 1:00 p.m. Students will wear costumes to depict a selected vocabulary word. This year's theme is Geography and Politics.

October 31 marks the end of the first marking period for all of our students.

BROWN: Commissioner Pagano.

PAGANO: Thank you Madam President. The distribution that you've attached on the technology, did you say there were 19 schools that got it?

SUPERINTENDENT: They prepared 19 school applications, 13.

PAGANO: Thank you.

## **8. PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS**

BROWN: I just want to say kudos to the students at Waterbury Career Academy. Commissioner Harvey and myself and Superintendent had an opportunity to attend their Heritage Day and it was very exciting and lively. This is, one of the students, it was very interesting because he had started this, a lot of them are seniors now so they had done

it since they were freshman so they were really a little melancholy that this is their last Heritage Celebration but it was very well done and we appreciate all their hard work.

Onto the Consent Calendar. Would anybody like to remove anything from the Consent Calendar?

*President Brown proceeded to read the Consent Calendar, Items 9.1 through 9.7.*

## **9. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve the Consent Calendar, Items 9.1 through 9.7, as listed:**

- 9.1 With the approval of the Committee of the Whole, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of Connecticut State Department of Education 2016-2017 (year five) Consolidated Alliance and Priority School District Application.
- 9.2 With the approval of the Committee on Finance, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of the submission of the Consolidated Two-year (2016-2018) Federal Grant Application.
- 9.3 With the approval of the Committee on Curriculum, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of an Agreement with CVS Health, Inc. to provide pharmacy technician externship training for qualified students.
- 9.4 With the approval of the Committee on Curriculum, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission be granted to Kerry Coyle, CHS, and four chaperones to take 50 students to Salem, MA on November 4, 2016 for the Salem Walking Tour.
- 9.5 With the approval of the Committee on Curriculum, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission be granted to Bob Haxhi, WHS, and four chaperones to take 48 students to Boston and Salem, MA from November 2 through 3, 2016.
- 9.6 With the approval of the Committee on School Facilities and Grounds, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of the use of school facilities, at no charge, by the following school organizations and/or City departments:

| <b>GROUP</b>   | <b>FACILITIES AND DATES/TIMES</b>                                                                                                                                                                            |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| N. Clemente    | WAMS café: Wed., Oct. 19, 4:30-7:00 pm (Family Science Night)                                                                                                                                                |
| J. Christalini | Duggan lib.: 10/18/16-4/25/17, Tuesdays, 2:15-3:15 pm<br>(Yearbook club meetings)                                                                                                                            |
| R. O'Neill     | Carrington lib. & entry way: Wed., Oct. 19, 5:30-8:30 pm<br>(Family Night for parents & students/Book Fair)<br>Carrington playground: Fri., Oct. 28, 5:30-8:15 pm<br>(Family Night PTO Trick or Treat event) |
| P. Theriault   | WAMS atrium: April 6, 5-8 pm (Cultural Night)                                                                                                                                                                |
| M. Speraha     | WAMS gym: Fridays, 10/28 & 2/17, 8 am - 1 pm<br>(National Honor Society sponsored blood drive)                                                                                                               |

|                |                                                                                            |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| M. Petrillo    | Bunker Hill gym: Fri., Oct. 28, 5:30-8:30 pm (Movie Night)                                 |
| J. Christolini | Duggan café: Thurs., Oct. 27, 4:30-6:30 pm (m/s dance)                                     |
| S. Petteway    | Bucks Hill gym: Thurs., Oct. 20, 5:30-7:00 pm (Family Night)                               |
| Demirali       | Sprague gym: Thurs., Oct. 27, 5:00-7:30 pm (International Night)                           |
| C. Swain       | Reed Comm. Room: Mon., Oct. 17, 5:30-7:00 pm (Bldg. Comm. mtg.)                            |
| J. Parisi      | Wilby media center: Sun., Oct. 16, noon – 4 pm (alumni assoc. mtg.)                        |
| V. Balsamo     | Crosby café: Sunday, October 16, 6:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.<br>(JROTC culinary arts breakfast) |

- 9.7 With the approval of the Committee on School Facilities and Grounds, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of the use of school facilities by outside organizations and/or waiver requests, subject to fees and insurance as required:

| GROUP | FACILITIES AND DATES/TIMES |
|-------|----------------------------|
|-------|----------------------------|

**REQUESTING WAIVERS:**

|                |                                                                          |             |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| EMAA           | Generali gym: 11/3/16-3/31/17, Saturdays, 3-6 pm and                     |             |
| Richard Godsil | Sundays, 1-6 pm (basketball)                                             | (\$8,778.)  |
|                | W. Cross gym: Oct. 15 and Oct. 22, 10 am – 5 pm<br>(basketball sign-ups) | (\$672.)    |
|                | Rotella gym: 11/5/16-3/31/17, Sat. & Sun., 9 am – 6 pm<br>(basketball)   | (\$15,960.) |
|                | W. Cross gym: 11/5/16-3/31/17, Sat. & Sun., 9 am – 6 pm<br>(basketball)  | (\$15,960.) |
|                | Gilmartin gym: 11/5/16-3/31/17, Sat. & Sun., 9 am – 6 pm<br>(basketball) | (\$15,960.) |

**GROUPS NOT SUBJECT TO FEES OR WAIVER DUE TO TIME OF USE OR PREVIOUS WAIVER:**

|                    |                                                                 |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| EMAA               | W. Cross gym: 11/5/16-3/31/17, Mon. thru Fri., 5 - 9 pm         |
| Richard Godsil     | Rotella gym: 11/5/16-3/31/17, Mon. thru Fri., 6 – 9 pm          |
| Grandville Academy | Reed computer room: 10/24/16-5/2/17, Mon. & Tues., 5:00-6:00 pm |
| M. Mosley          | (classes)                                                       |

BROWN: Discussion? All in favor, opposed, abstain. Motion carries.

**10. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT**

*There were no items removed from the Consent Calendar.*

**11. COMMITTEE ON GRIEVANCES**

- 11.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner Rodriguez and duly seconded by Commissioner Jason Van Stone, it was voted unanimously to approve WTA Grievance 15-16-11, heard by the Committee on October 18, 2016, be upheld. The administration shall assign 36 of 38 parking spaces in the current lot to WTA members only. Central Office will continue to work on attaining additional parking spaces prior to the winter snow season.

BROWN: Discussion? All in favor. Thank you.

**11.2 Upon a motion by Commissioner Rodriguez and duly seconded by Commissioner Jason Van Stone, with Commissioner Theriault “abstaining”, it was voted to approve SAW Grievance 2016-2017 #003, heard by the Committee on October 18, 2016, denied. The issue is the City’s responsibility and not within the Board of Education’s purview.**

BROWN: Discussion? Commissioner Harvey.

HARVEY: Madam President, could we hear what the issue was?

RODRIGUEZ: Absolutely Commissioner Harvey. I’m not gonna name employee, the employee apparently was entering the back parking lot on Grand Street and the parking ramp, it apparently...

HARVEY: You enter from the Leavenworth side.

RODRIGUEZ: Leavenworth. Was entering to the back and apparently the bumper that opens up came down and hit the top of her convertible vehicle. However we were informed during the grievance that she was attempting to follow another car and you have to give it time to come up and that property is actually owned by the City and not the Board of Education. And she apparently went through the City and that was denied as well. She is seeking \$500 for her deductible.

HARVEY: Question – I know that gate very well and I hate to say I’m afraid of a gate but I know that I kind of, was a little bit, to use Commissioner Theriault’s word trepidatious about proceeding. Are there any signs there that say that or any warning signs on that? Have they put any signs up?

BRENKER: There are no signs up. When employees get the parking privilege they get the little card that opens the gate and they’re taught how to use it.

HARVEY: I know how to use it.

BRENKER: The employees were taught too. The gate was up then there’s a safety mechanism with the gate itself. Once the button is pushed to put the gate down one car has to go through first so it doesn’t come down on top of someone. So the gate goes down. Now in this, I did a reenactment, I time it, it took less than two seconds for the gate to be fully down. So the only, the gate was fine, it’s worked fine since the incident which is about a year and a half/two years ago. It was checked by the contractor that maintains it. There is no issue with the gate. The employee went in right behind close to another car, probably not wanting to get the car out to put it in the reader. I don’t want to speak to her state of mind.

HARVEY: Just so I understand this, the employee was attempting to come in on the Leavenworth side and instead of putting the card in like you do to gain access; they were trying to skip that process.

BRENKER: There were two cars, they pulled up, the gate was up. The first car went through, the second car went through right behind on bumper of the first car, the gate came down as it is supposed to.

BROWN: She didn't use the card.

BRENKER: She did not use the card nor did she wait. She tried to go in without taking the card out and use the card.

HARVEY: Okay. So the gate was up or it was down?

BRENKER: It was up.

BROWN: It was up for the first car. She should have waited till that car went through, till it came down, used her card, and then it would go up for her.

HARVEY: Alright, I'm just trying to understand it because sometimes we have the gate up.

BRENKER: Yes, it was.

HARVEY: I mean there's no cars, the gate was up, was it that situation?

BROWN: No.

BRENKER: The gate was up but it was put in the down position. However it doesn't go down until one car goes through because it's a safety issue if you just press the button from where it is and say go down there could be a person or a car or whatever right underneath it, we don't want that. So one care has to proceed through first, the gate then goes down and it operates in the usual fashion with the car reader against the card on the left side.

HARVEY: So I'm just trying to make sure because I know we have the gate up sometimes early in the morning and I don't know if this was that time.

BRENKER: It's up at different times of the day, there's no one time. It's not up early in the morning when I come in it's always down.

HARVEY: The way I witness it it's usually early in the morning the gate is up. When did this employee attempt, was it early in the morning?

BRENKER: I didn't bring my notes. I don't recall what time of day it was. But it's not just early in the morning...

SUPERINTENDENT: Let me just put it in perspective, I'm one of the first ones in, 7:15, and most staff follow behind me and that's always functioning when I arrive to work. It's always in a down position, you have to push.

SWEENEY: Madam Chairman, point of order. The grievance was denied based on the liability of the City and we're delving into the grievance and outside the purview of the grievance. So it's certainly discussion maybe that the Commissioner would like to have with Central Office but it's not pertinent to the grievance.

HARVEY: Point of order.

STANGO: Madam President, move the question please

BROWN: The point of order is this discussion pertinent to what's before us, I'll allow it to continue.

HARVEY: If I'm supposed to vote on this, alright.

BROWN: What do you want to know?

HARVEY: I'm almost done but I just, if I'm not supposed to vote on it then take...

BROWN: No, please finish, I'm asking you to finish your question quickly.

HARVEY: So my question was we don't know what time of day this was, this was not early in the morning?

BRENKER: My answer was Commissioner I can't tell you tonight because I didn't bring the file with me. It was two o'clock in the afternoon.

HARVEY: Thank you very much, thank you Darren. Now I'm all set.

STANGO: Move the question please.

BROWN: All in favor, opposed, abstain.

THERIAULT: Abstain.

BROWN: One abstention. Thank you.

### **Items 11.3 – 11.6**

**Upon a motion by Commissioner Rodriguez and duly seconded by Commissioner Sweeney, it was voted, with Commissioner Theriault "abstaining" and Commissioner Jason Van Stone voting "no", to approve Item #11.3, SAW Grievance EB-1; Item #11.4, SAW Grievance EB-2; Item #11.5, SAW Grievance EB-3; and Item #11.6, SAW Grievance EB-4 be removed from the Agenda due to the refusal of the grievant to present his case.**

BROWN: Discussion? All in favor, I'm sorry, Commissioner Van Stone.

J. VAN STONE: I just don't understand the, so the City had presented its side and the grievant decided not to. The Grievance Committee neither upheld or denied the grievance, it just...

RODRIGUEZ: I'll speak on it. So we were, this was a very interesting grievance, probably the most interesting I've had since being on this Board. The grievant attended according to email track records it indicates that he agreed to the extension for this grievance hearing. However while he was present he claimed that he did not agree to present on his grievance. The City was there, ready, willing and able to present on behalf of the district but the grievant decided that he was not gonna present to the Grievance Committee because he felt that it was already in breach of the contract, that the hearing was not heard within 16 days of him submitting his grievance. However our email track indicated that he agreed to extend the grievance hearing and unfortunately without his sort of testimony. After the fact we learned we could have moved forward without his testimony and unfortunately we did not do that but we also felt that we were

not going to take any action because he claimed that we were in the breach of contract. So if his goal was to be sent to an arbitrator then we'll allow that to go to the arbitrator.

J. VAN STONE: So we had the opportunity to deny the grievance but the group didn't understand that until after the meeting had convened?

RODRIGUEZ: That is correct.

J. VAN STONE: Thank you.

HARVEY: Were we in the midst of voting and then we stopped.

BROWN: We had discussion and now all in favor of removing it...

HARVEY: Excuse me, point of order, we were in the midst of voting, I don't have any problem with the discussion but then we stopped and had the discussion so I think we need to go back...

BROWN: I didn't see his hand raised so the discretion of the Chair I let him discuss and now we are...

HARVEY: But we were in the midst of voting...

BROWN: Nobody had voted yet. Thank you. All in favor, opposed.

J. VAN STONE: No.

BROWN: Abstain.

THERIAULT: Abstain.

BROWN: Motion carries. Thank you.

**11.7 Upon a motion by Commissioner Rodriguez and duly seconded by Commissioner Jason Van Stone, it was voted unanimously to approve SAW Grievance 2016-2017 #004 be postponed until further notice at the request of the School Administrators of Waterbury.**

BROWN: Discussion? All in favor, opposed, abstain. Motion carries. Thank you.

## **12. SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTIFICATION TO THE BOARD**

**Upon a motion by Commissioner Jason Van Stone and duly seconded by Commissioner Stango, it was voted unanimously to receive and place on file items 12.1 through 12.6, Superintendent's Notification to the Board, as listed:**

### **12.1 Athletic appointments:**

Blaschke, Jen – JV Soccer Coach, CHS, effective 9/14/2016.

Maxen, Will – Assistant Football Coach, WCA, effective 8/26/2016.

Modenese, Michelle – Cheerleading Coach, WHS, effective 09/28/16.

Ortiz, Alejandro – Assistant Football Coach, WCA, effective 08/26/16.

Spinelli, Lucille – Volleyball Coach, NEMS, effective 09/27/16.

12.2 Athletic resignations:

Laudisi, Laurie – Girls’ Basketball Coach, Carrington and Co-ed Tennis, Driggs, effective 8/29/2016  
 Mauro, Jen – Head Cheerleading Coach, WHS, effective 8/31/2016.  
 Perusse, Joe – Assistant Football Coach, WHS, effective 8/31/2016.

12.3 Grant funded appointments effective immediately:

Sheinkopf, Shoshann – Non-public Title I Instructional Tutor, Yeshiva K’Tana, part time, \$32 p/hour, non-union and without benefits.  
 Soler, Waleska – Recreation Specialist, SDOE and 21<sup>st</sup> Century After-school Program, 10 hours p/week @ \$12.00 p/hour, non-union and without benefits.

12.4 Walsh Before and After School Program appointments, contingent upon enrollment, salary per contract, funded by Title I and Priority School Grants:

|                                        |                            |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Ana Paris (am teacher)                 | Seritha Anglin (am/pm aid) |
| Jennifer Lillian (Lead teacher and pm) | Kenneth Yaffe (pm teacher) |
| Samantha Swartz (pm teacher)           | Bernice Walker (pm aid)    |
| Joanne Maldonado (sub)                 | Patricia Justs (sub)       |
| Timothy Riccio (sub)                   |                            |

12.5 Teacher transfers:

Giskin, Miriam – transfer from Chase Title I Literacy to Chase Reading, eff. 10/3/16.  
 LeClerc, Tracy – involuntary transfer from Crosby Autism to Bucks Hill Annex Preschool Autism, effective 10/3/16.  
 Marks, Amanda – transfer from State Street Special Ed to Crosby Special Ed/Autism, effective 10/3/16.  
 Rodriguez, Rachel – transfer from Carrington grade 4 to Driggs Title I Literacy, effective 10/3/16.  
 Williams, Patty – transfer from Wallace ELA to Districtwide Literacy Facilitator/Coach, effective 10/3/16.  
 Zappone, Evette – transfer from Wilby Title I Literacy to Districtwide Literacy Facilitator/Coach, effective 10/3/16.

12.6 Teacher new hires:

| Name   |          | Assignment |             | Step |   | Effective |
|--------|----------|------------|-------------|------|---|-----------|
| Koxha  | Rozeta   | CHS        | ESL teacher | MA   | 5 | 10/6/2016 |
| Rivard | Danielle | CHS        | Math        | PhD  | 7 | 8/25/2016 |

BROWN: Discussion? All in favor, opposed, abstain. Motion carries. Thank you. Item 13 – Unfinished Business of Preceding Meeting Only.

THERIAULT: I had asked at our last meeting, our last regular meeting, why the disclosure information is not used anymore. Obviously you were given a que by Corporation Counsel or someone else not to use that. I’d just like an explanation.

BROWN: Yes, thank you. The disclosure includes language that says “chairman will disallow a speaker from continuing to speak if slanderous or defamatory remarks are made”. I am reviewing that language. That is a judgement call and according to Corporation Counsel when I asked because some Commissioners were questioning the Chair’s decision related to certain comments made by the public and I decided to get

some guidance and the guidance came back that said that there really has to be a preponderance of evidence to justify this. So rather than put that there that, it's really not enforceable in other words. So I am reviewing some other comments prior to public speaking but I'm not going to be using that sentence.

THERIAULT: So in other words we're gonna follow the same procedure that the Board of Aldermen follows with regard to their remarks. They don't have a disclosure any more either.

BROWN: Then that's correct then. Commissioner Stango.

STANGO: Thank you Madam President. Along that same item that Commissioner Theriault was speaking about. At the end of that statement we used to say "there will be no responses this evening to any questions or concerns raised because they will be referred to administration for review and response". Now I'm not saying you have to say that every time, as long as this Board understands that, they should understand it by now, so I just wanted to point that out.

BROWN: Yes, and for clarification after getting that information from Corporation Counsel, I'm gonna say the same thing but without that sentence prior to the public speaking. Commissioner Hernandez.

HERNANDEZ: I have a question in regards to what Commissioner Stango said. When do they get a response and who gives them that response when they ask questions in front of us?

BROWN: Well typically the questions are referred to appropriate staff and they are answered outside of that or referred to the appropriate committee.

HERNANDEZ: Does the public know that?

BROWN: I believe so but we can always say it again.

HERNANDEZ: I think we should because I don't really think they know who to go to to get their questions answered because I wouldn't know and I'm sitting on this Board

BROWN: Because it does say they will be referred to the administration for review and response so that's the Superintendent.

SUPERINTENDENT: Yes. And if it's an FOI issue then it must go through Corp Counsel. If it's information or parent issue it will certainly be referred to Mrs. Marold right away. Tonight she could not attend. We refer it there. If it's something easily we can send it to one of the designated ILDs, Chief Academic Officer, or Chief of Staff. However if it's preparing documents that we truly don't have and it appears to be more of an FOI request they would have to prepare that paperwork, we would send it to Corp Counsel and they would respond.

HERNANDEZ: Okay. I was just really, like when some people come up and they just want to ask a certain question, we can't answer them, so I don't believe they really know who the person is that they're supposed to get that answer from.

SUPERINTENDENT: It would generate through me and then from there, I would meet with corresponding individual.

HERNANDEZ: Thank you.

BROWN: Vice President Rodriguez.

RODRIGUEZ: Thank you Madam President, through you. I've been absent at some of the regular meetings due to travelling but I wanted to publically acknowledge, I didn't have the opportunity to do this, I want to publically acknowledge Paul Whyte, Chief Academic Officer Darren Schwartz, Pam Baim, Noreen Buckley, Michele Baker, and several of our administrators who attended the Chronic Absenteeism presented by these fine individuals from our district in collaboration with the Hispanic Coalition of Greater Waterbury and Alderman Victor Lopez. They presented in front of about 20 individuals in the room at the Loyola Development Corp building on South Main and it was well received and we're hoping to do another one at a bigger, with a larger audience. But I just wanted to publically acknowledge you guys and thank you for the work that you guys continue to do because I know that many folks that attended were very happy. And I want also to give a shout out Adela Jorge Nelson who was there translating for us as well. I just want to say I'm very proud of the team that we have in this district and just thank you for all coming out that. Thank you.

### ***EXECUTIVE SESSION***

**Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Stango, it was voted unanimously to convene into executive session at 7:05 p.m. for discussion concerning the appointment, employment, performance, evaluation, health, or dismissal of a public officer or employee.**

PRESENT: President Brown, Commissioners Harvey, Hernandez, Pagano, Rodriguez, Stango, Sweeney, Theriault, J. Van Stone, and T. Van Stone.

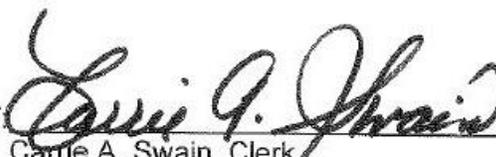
ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Ouellette.

**Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Jason Van Stone, it was voted unanimously to return to the regular order of business at 7:17 p.m. with no votes taken.**

### ***ADJOURNMENT***

**Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Jason Van Stone, it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:17 p.m.**

ATTEST

  
Carrie A. Swain, Clerk  
Board of Education