

WATERBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES ~ REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, November 3, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

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

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

ABSENT: Commissioners Hernandez, Pagano, and Rodriguez.

ALSO PRESENT: Director of Personnel Robert Brenker and Education Liaison Mary Ann Marold.

1. SILENT PRAYER

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

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Commissioner Tom Van Stone led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

3. ROLL CALL

CLERK: Commissioner Harvey.

HARVEY: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Hernandez (absent). Commissioner Pagano (absent). Vice President Rodriguez (absent). Commissioner Stango.

STANGO: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Sweeney.

STANGO: She's in the building.

CLERK: Commissioner Theriault.

THERIAULT: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner J. Van Stone.

J. VAN STONE: I'm also in the building. Present.

CLERK: Commissioner T. Van Stone.

T. VAN STONE: Present.

CLERK: President Brown.

BROWN: Here.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Commissioner Jason Van Stone and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2016 Workshop and October 20, 2016 Regular Meeting.

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

6. PUBLIC ADDRESSES THE BOARD

Upon a motion by Commissioner Jason 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 6:34 p.m.

BROWN: Discussion? All in favor, opposed, abstain. Motion carries. All speakers are encouraged to submit prepared written statements to the Commissioners. Comments shall be limited to a maximum of five 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. And we thank you for taking the time to come before us tonight with your concerns and ideas.

Robert Goodrich, 14 Stanrod Road, had the following comments: I'm the cofounder of Radical Advocates for Cross Culture Education. I'm here tonight to ask you to remove from the Consent Calendar Item #9.2 and I hope that you will table this to a later meeting. First, I'd like to acknowledge that RACCE supports and advocates for more and better ways for candidates to become certified as teachers here in Connecticut especially candidates of color. We continue to do so here and at the State level. We believe in Relay's model that encourages more clinical classroom time for candidates while they're being trained. Furthermore the risk the current Waterbury Public School staff has taken to commit to Relay should be respected and this Board shows their respect by fully vetting Relay in public so all district stakeholders have an opportunity to learn about Relay. We need to be as brave as those professionals. We reject the . . . that teachers unions and current teacher prep programs have used to determine Relay's usefulness. However, does this Board know or understand the position of the unions and the current teacher prep programs on Relay's graduate school of education and teacher prep program? I believe you should before you vote. Does the Board understand the graduated release schedule for resident teachers that Relay recommends that's in the MOU that you'll vote on tonight? Does the Board understand Relay's gateway assessments for the resident teachers? Does this Board understand Relay's deliberate practices model? Does the Board understand the differences between Relay's program and other ARCs, Alternative Routes to Certification, or traditional prep or certification program? I hope the Board does but parents need to know or at least be given the opportunity to know. Section 13.1 designates Robert Brenker an HR professional not certified as an educator who is not trained in SEED or TEAM, has not ever been a teacher educator in a teacher preparatory program, as the person who's going to be responsible for assessing Relay's performance. There are more qualified, certified educators in the admin positions who should be designated as the responsible person to assess candidates such as Mr. Strand the Director of Teaching and Learning. That's one of the specific reasons why you shouldn't vote on this memorandum of understanding. Finally, if this Board and Relay wish to commit to using this ARC program as a means to bolster minority teacher recruitment and retention then it should be explicit in the MOU and measurements should be included in this MOU that require non-white candidates be given preference to the small amount of spots in the program. You have to make it clear. If we want an intersectional approach you should have a contract that has intersectional language,

without it this program has the possibility of being deviated for its intended person, specific intended purposes, and will not have the impacts that are being claimed. Thank you for your time, please take this off the Consent Calendar, discuss it. I hope you decided to table it to a different date. Thank you.

Erika Cooper, 885 North Main Street, had the following comments: I come in today to just, I would really like to thank the Board for their support, we have the STEAM Program, I really would like to thank Liz Brown for all of the support and Commissioner Hernandez isn't here, and Chuck isn't here as well, but I just wanted to address the Board on the STEAM Program to give you a little update on it. So it's the Almost Home . . . STEAM program. Today is our second day but we have gotten a lot of teachers that have come in to volunteer who really believe in this program. We just hired a marine biologist who's going to come in and teach these kids things. We also have someone who is coming in to teach them coding. So my program isn't just your everyday afterschool program, this program has a lot of components, architectural design as well. On next week of 11/9 I'm gonna give all the staff the invitations, I would like you guys to come out to the Comcast presentation and that way you can also see the kids and give a firsthand look. Crosby High School students and their teacher is also going to be there, they are one of the components to our STEAM Program. They will be teaching the kids how to build robots and different things. These are kids in fifth through eighth grade so my vision for this is that these kids when they get to high school that the teacher doesn't have such a hard time teaching them things that they really need that are going to help them to be productive members of society so by the time they reach high school they will already know their robotics, they will have some experience in coding, architectural design, as well as engineering. So if I could give you guys these.

Just one more thing with my STEAM program because there are so many people interested in the youth/social change piece that we have, we do have different funders that are gonna come in and not only for our program but to also help Walsh and different things that they may need help in whether it's new books or other things but my plan and my vision is that I have a love for Walsh, we did a mural on the ground that we're gonna help improve. We're not just someone coming into the school to borrow the school to do our program, we're there to help build up Walsh as well. So thank you very much.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Jason Van Stone and duly seconded by Commissioner Stango, it was voted unanimously to return to the regular order of business at 6:43 p.m.

BROWN: Discussion? All in favor, opposed, abstain. Motion carries. Thank you. I inadvertently skipped the communications so I'm going to go back to number four.

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. Email communication dated October 11, 2016 from Michael Sullivan supporting the request to name Wilby's soccer field in honor of Pedro DeBrito.

2. Communication dated October 6, 2016 from Paul Drewry supporting the request to name Wilby's softball field in honor of Winfield Cheske.
3. Copy of communications from Civil Service dated October 17, 2016 certifying Adivie Scott for the position of Lunch Aide and Paula Santos-Faria for the position of Food Service Helper.
4. Copy of communications from Civil Service dated October 20, 2016 certifying Stephanie Dunn for the position of Office Aide and Jean Creaven for the position of Food Service Worker.
5. Copy of communications from Civil Service dated October 21, 2016 certifying Angela Gross for the position of Food Service Worker and certifying Maria Castellanos for the position of Paraprofessional
6. Copy of communication from Civil Service dated October 24, 2016 certifying Susan Lugo for the position of Lunch Aide.
7. Copy of communications from Civil Service dated October 25, 2016 certifying Melissa Polselli, Jessica Rodriguez, and Shameka Dennis for the position of Paraprofessional.
8. Copy of communication from Civil Service dated October 25, 2016 certifying Jessica Rodriguez for the position of Lunch Aide.
9. Copy of communication from Civil Service dated October 26, 2016 certifying Evelyn Ortiz for the position of Office Aide.
10. Email communication dated October 27, 2016 from Connecticut Association of Boards of Education congratulating the Board for winning the CABA Board Recognition Award.
11. Email communication dated October 28, 2016 from CABA regarding policy highlights.

BROWN: Discussion? All in favor, opposed, abstain. Motion carries. The Superintendent was called to an emergency meeting, she might be here later. I'll read some of the highlights from her comments.

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following announcements were distributed for Dr. Ouellette:

Our district wide Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration was held last Friday October 28. Students from several different schools performed in the auditorium at Crosby High School. In observance of Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15 – October 15), principals, teachers and students across the district were invited to participate in a district-wide assignment. Each school had the opportunity to showcase their work, and selected students represented their school at the ceremony.

Joseph Gorman, our Supervisor of Health and Physical Education, will be receiving a 100 Plus Award from the CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence on behalf of the Waterbury Public Schools. This is a result of our partnership with Safe Haven

International which provides our students with instruction on teen dating violence, internet safety, healthy relationships, and anti-bullying strategies.

An estimated 900 winter coats have been distributed to high school students, courtesy of a generous donation from the Dalio Foundation. According to its website, the Dalio Foundation was founded in 2003 as a family foundation led by Ray and Barbara Dalio and their four sons. Our Education Liaison, Mary Ann Marold, organized the intake and distribution of the coats to our high schools. This effort was so successful due to our high school parent liaisons and the FACE Center office manager Jeanette Rivera.

The City of Waterbury is sponsoring a Community Conversation about the future of the city. Those seeking input about Waterbury's future should consider attending one of two conversations scheduled in November. The first will be held on Wednesday, November 9, at 6:30 p.m. at Maloney Magnet School. The second will be held on Tuesday, November 15th, at 6:30 p.m. at Reed.

We have been notified by the State Department of Education that the district has demonstrated full compliance with IDEA following a CSDE student file review.

On October 28, I attended the 41st Anniversary of the Mt. Olive Senior Citizens Center "Seniors Light the Way" Celebration at the Aria Banquet Hall. The event honored the history of the Mt. Olive Senior Citizens Center and each of the dedicated individuals who served in grand fashion to see that the needs of the senior citizens were being met. The event was very well attended.

The CT Money Management Workshops series for parents begins November 7, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Parent Resource Room at West Side Middle School. The series will address important money management strategies and is open to parents across the district.

This morning I attended a college and career fair for juniors and seniors at Wilby High School. Students had the opportunity to gain information on in state and out of state colleges.

School will be closed next Tuesday, November 8th, for Professional Development.

Schools will also be closed on Friday, November 11th, in observance of Veterans Day.

8. PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

BROWN: I don't really have anything, I just want to congratulate the Wilby High School students, I saw in the paper today that their wonderful banner is hanging in the halls of Congress. So that's quite an honor. There were only ten selected and our Wilby High School students, their banner was selected, so we're very proud of them and keep up the good work.

Would anybody like anything removed from the Consent Calendar?

HARVEY: Yes Madam President, can we remove item 9.2 and 9.3.

BROWN: Thank you. Any other items removed from the Calendar?

President Brown proceeded to read the Consent Calendar, items 9.1 and 9.4 through 9.11.

9. CONSENT CALENDAR

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Jason Van Stone, it was voted unanimously to approve the Consent Calendar, items 9.1 and 9.4 through 9.11 as listed:

- 9.1 With the approval of the Committee on Finance, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval to apply for the Connecticut State Department of Education 2016-2017 Immigrant Children and Youth Education Grant.
- 9.4 With the approval of the Committee on Curriculum, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission be granted to Joann D'Angelo, WAMS, and four chaperones to take 50 students to Stockbridge, MA on November 3, 2016 to visit The Norman Rockwell Museum.
- 9.5 With the approval of the Committee on Curriculum, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission be granted to Lauren Elias, WAMS, and five chaperones to take 50 students to New York, NY on December 14, 2016 to attend a performance of "Cats".
- 9.6 With the approval of the Committee on Curriculum, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission be granted to Luanne Rosin-Capolupo, KHS, and four chaperones to take 50 students to Hyde Park, NY on November 18, 2016 to visit FDR and The Vanderbilt Mansions.
- 9.7 With the approval of the Committee on Curriculum, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission be granted to Paul Whyte and three chaperones to take 9 students (WHS/3, CHS/3, KHS/3, WCA/3) to College Park, Maryland from November 13 through 17, 2016 for the Granville Academy College Tour.
- 9.8 With the approval of the Committee on Curriculum, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission be granted to John O'Toole, WCA, and four chaperones to take 50 students to New York, NY on November 9, 2016 to visit Ellis Island.
- 9.9 With the approval of the Committee on Curriculum, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission be granted to Elisa D'Agostino, WAMS, and seven chaperones to take 50 students to Pennsylvania from May 23 through 25, 2017 to visit various sites.
- 9.10 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:

GROUP	FACILITIES AND DATES/TIMES
V. Balsamo	Wallace café: Fri., Nov. 5, 6:00 - 10:00 pm (Homecoming Dance) Crosby aud.: Saturdays, 10/22 – 5/13/17, 10 am – 1 pm (play rehearsals)

M. Case	WAMS recital hall: Mon., Nov. 14, 5:30 – 7:00 pm (piano recital)
J. Silva	WSMS café: Fri., Feb. 3, 2:30 – 8:00 pm (aquaculture grant program) WSMS café: Fri., Dec. 2, 2:30 – 8:00 pm (interdistrict grant program) WSMS café: Thurs., Dec. 15, 4 – 9 pm (winter music concert) WSMS café: Wed., May 17, 4 – 9 pm (spring music concert)
P. Caldarone	Generali gym: 11/1/16-3/1/17, Mon, Wed, Fri., 3 – 5 pm (WMS practice) Crosby gym & café: Sat., Feb. 18, 2:30 – 6:00 pm (Jr. NVL cheerleading & Dance competition)
D. Kalan	Wilby café: Fri., Nov. 18, 6:30 - 10:30 pm (Homecoming Dance)
A. Solla	Career Academy café: Mon., Nov. 21, 6 – 7 pm (CNA pinning ceremony) Career Academy café: Mon., Jan 30, 7:30 am – 2:00 pm (Blood Drive) Career Academy café: Thurs., May 4, 6 – 8 pm (Super Senior Supper)
Mayor's Office	Reed café: Tues., Nov. 15, 6:30 – 8:00 pm (Public meeting/grant) Maloney café: Wed., Nov. 9, 6:30 – 8:00 pm (Public meeting/grant)
T. St. Pierre	Duggan gym: Sun., Nov. 6, 8:30 – 11:00 am (Turkey Run) Duggan café: Wed., Nov. 16, 2:30 – 5:00 pm (staff fundraiser) Duggan gym: Wed., Nov. 16, 4:00 – 7:00 pm (parent involvement event)
K. Yamashita-Iverson	Maloney rm. 109: Tues., Nov. 1, 5 – 7 pm (meeting re: Japan trip)
M.A. Petrillo	Bunker Hill gym: Thurs., Nov. 3, 6:00 – 7:30 pm (Math Night)
C. Altieri	Rotella aud. & café: Sat., March 25, 9 am – 5 pm (school play dress rehearsal) Rotella aud. & café: Sat. Apr. 1, 1 – 8 pm and Sun., Apr. 2, 10 am – 4 pm (school play performances)
D. Monti	Reed café: Thurs., Nov. 17, 5 – 7 pm (Family Math Night)
E. Racine, Jr.	Reed café, gym: 11/14 – 12/22/16, 7 am – 8 am (before sch. Program)
Park Dept.	Crosby gym: Thurs., Nov. 10, 6 – 9 pm (basketball playoff game)

- 9.11 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
CT. Music Educ. Ass. Marta Kwiczor	WAMS rms.: Sat., Nov. 5 th 7 am - 7 pm (southern regional auditions)

REQUESTING WAIVERS:

Neighborhood Housing E. Cooper	Reed café: Sunday, 11/20, 4 - 7:30 pm (annual Thanksgiving - Feed the Children event) (\$567.)
PAL (cancelled) Ofc. C. Amatruda	Wilby gym: Sat. Nov. 5, 11 am – 11:30 pm, annual wrestling event (\$2,835.) Bucks Hill gym: Sat. & Sun., 11/12/16 - 3/25/17 9 am - 5 pm (\$12,852.) Chase gym: Sat. & Sun., 11/12/16 - 3/25/17 9 am - 5 pm (\$12,852.) Driggs gym: Sat. & Sun., 11/12/16 - 3/25/17 9 am - 5 pm (\$12,852.) Generali gym: Sat. & Sun., 11/12/16 - 3/25/17 6 pm - 9 pm (\$5,712.) Gilmartin gym: Sat., 11/12/16 - 3/25/17 6 pm - 9 pm (\$3,024.) Kingsbury gym: Sat. & Sun., 11/12/16 - 3/25/17 9 am - 1 pm (\$7,140.) Maloney gym: Sat. & Sun., 11/12/16 - 3/25/17 9 am - 1 pm (\$7,140.) Reed gym: Sat., 11/12/16 - 3/25/17 9 am - 5 pm (\$6,804.) Sprague gym: Sat. & Sun., 11/12/16 - 3/25/17 9 am - 5 pm (\$12,852.) Walsh gym: Sat., 11/12/16 - 3/25/17 1 pm - 5 pm (\$3,780.) Sun., 11/12/16 - 3/25/17 9 am - 5 pm (\$6,048.)

	Wilson gym: Sat., 11/12/16 - 3/25/17 9 am - 5 pm	(\$6,804.)
	WSMS gym: Sat., 11/12/16 - 3/25/17 1 pm - 5 pm	(\$3,780.)
	Sun. 11/12/16 - 3/25/17 9 am - 4 pm	(\$5,376.)
	Wilby gym: Sat. 11/12 - 8 am - 1 pm	(\$252.)
	Wilby gym: Sat. 12/10/16 - 2/4/17 9 am - 3 pm	(\$2,058.)
Wtby. Knights Cheer. S. Clements	Crosby gym: Sat. 10/29 & 11/12, 11 am - 3 pm (cheerleading practice)	(\$420.)

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

Brian Evelich	Sprague classrooms: Mondays 1/9/17 - 6/5/17 2:30 - 4:00 pm
Child Evang. Fellowship	(CEF Good News Club after school program)
Bridge to Success	WAMS café: Thurs., Nov. 17, 4 - 8 pm (Focus Group mtg.)
Kris Durante	
J. Capobianco	Kennedy parking lot only: Sun., Oct. 30 th 9 am - 1 pm
Memory Walk	(parking for participants of memory walk for Nancy Matozzo)
P.A.L.	Kingsbury gym: Mon, Wed, Fri. 12/12/1 - 3/25/17 5:30 - 9:00 pm
Ofc. C. Amatruda	Maloney gym: Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri. 11/12/16 - 3/25/17 5:30 - 9:00 pm
	Reed gym: Mon, Wed, Fri. 11/21/16 - 3/25/17 5:30 - 9:00 pm
	Sprague gym: Mon. thru Fri. 11/12/16 - 3/25/17 5:30 - 9:00 pm
	Walsh gym: Mon. thru Fri. 11/12/16 - 3/25/17 5:30 - 9:00 pm
	Wilson gym: Thurs. & Fri. 11/12/16 - 3/25/17 5:30 - 9:00 pm
	WSMS gym: Tues. & Wed. 11/12/16 - 3/25/17 5:30 - 9:00 pm
	Chase gym: Tues. & Thurs. 11/12/16 - 3/25/17 5:30 - 9:00 pm
	Bucks Hill gym: Mon. thru Fri. 11/12/16 - 3/25/17 5:30 - 9:00 pm
	Driggs gym: Mon, Wed, Fri. 12/12/16 - 3/25/17 5:30 - 9:00 pm
Wtby. Knights Ch.	Crosby gym: Fri., 11/4 5 - 8 pm and Thurs. 11/17 6:30 - 8 pm
S. Clements	(cheerleading practice)
CT. Rivers Boy Scouts	Tinker café: Tues., Nov. 1, 5:45 - 7:00 pm (Join the Scouts Night)
E. Cooper/J. Hernandez	Walsh classrooms: 11/1/16 - 4/27/17, 3:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Neighborhood Housing/ Uplift a Life	(After-school STEAM Program)

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

10. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT

Committee on School Personnel

9.2 Upon a motion by Commissioner Stango and duly seconded by Commissioner Jason Van Stone, it was voted unanimously to approve of a Memorandum of Understanding with Relay Graduate School of Education to provide Alternate Route to Certification.

BROWN: Discussion? Commissioner Van Stone.

T. VAN STONE: Thank you Madam President. I was also in favor of removing this just for the point of having some discussion. I will be voting for this tonight however I think we have to keep in mind this is an MOU. It's our first step, we have a number of reasons why we need alternate paths for teachers, Career Academy comes to mind, as those will be specialists going down the road. But we need to go through this with a

little bit of caution. There's guidelines in here that come along with anything that you get money for, we need to provide mentoring, guidance, so there is a part of this that potentially down the road could have cost us some money. So we need to keep an eye on this, make sure it goes by the guidelines. It's an avenue to a quicker certification. This isn't gonna solve all our problems. I think everybody has a little different opinion of why this is out there but there's a number of reasons why it's out there. So I will go forward with this but we need to keep an eye on it and just make sure we are going by the guidelines and make sure we do provide the correct mentoring, that we don't put too much of a workload on the people who are in the program and hopefully down the road this brings us some good educators. So thank you.

BROWN: Thank you. Commissioner Harvey.

HARVEY: Yes, I'm here doing a quick Google search on a couple of articles that appeared in the paper, not our paper, but papers throughout the state in regards to this program, but one of the things that I want, and then I'm gonna talk about some concerns I have as well. The Commissioner, Commissioner Wentzell, paid a very high compliment to the City of Waterbury for thinking outside the box and going after this type of alternate program for those who wish to become teachers. She pointed out that this is one of the programs that we will use and she applauded it because she said we need various options for folks to get their certification, understanding that there is opposition. We understand that. But I must say that I applaud it, you know, I think if there's any, I know myself personally I was considering an alternate way of obtaining certification to become a teacher way back when, I guess I selected to be on the Board of Education, I don't know if I made a right choice. But at any rate I just wanted to point out that the Commissioner did pay a very high regard to the Waterbury Public School system and I believe it was at yesterday's meeting and that we need to applaud ourselves for that. Next I just want to also state that this was some of these initiatives that Dr. Tucker, of many of her initiatives, did pursue this and so I just wanted to make sure we realized that and remember that. Lastly, I have concerns as well and I would like for us, I agree, take some caution down the road and you know I'd like the speaker, Mr. Goodrich's suggestions, and I think we have, Carrie has documented your concerns and I think we need to look at those. But I kind of want us to move forward because this is something, if we take pause to this, we remove it then how long are we going to delay this process? So I think we need to take precautions but I will be voting for this as well. Again, I just wanted to highlight that the Waterbury School District was complimented on this and that this was approved by the State. Thank you.

BROWN: Commissioner Stango.

STANGO: I have a couple of questions for clarification, maybe Mr. Brenker can answer them. One of the questions I have is will there be a limit on the number of candidates in our district who can apply to do this program of certification?

BRENKER: In this initial MOU, which is a pilot, it's a one year pilot, it will end at the end of one year, it's not renewable, we expected six. It was six to ten but we selected six.

STANGO: So that's the limit, that's it for this year.

BRENKER: Yes, the six, we have six candidates in already, they are the candidates, we're not going to add any others.

STANGO: Now going forward, you say it's a pilot, but next year it could continue at that point, do we have a limit for that?

BRENKER: That's something we would set. There is a cost attached to it. We would like to see the benefit of it for sure.

STANGO: This program, we have the six already like permanent subs in our district, is that correct?

BRENKER: They were already permanent subs in our district, long term subs, yes.

STANGO: And, I know, I'm familiar a little bit with another alternate route which is from Bridgeport and Sacred Heart where we use the candidates as interns in the school system and then they go to school at night and it's pretty rigorous as far as I know of that program. These, this program, Relay, I read somewhere that it's online, is that correct

BRENKER: No, it's not.

STANGO: They go to a class and sit in a class.

BRENKER: One day a week they go to Bridgeport and are trained by the Relay group. Everyone in the class has there Bachelors Degree, that was the minimum requirement.

STANGO: So who monitors their progress in the school system or with their degree status? That would be the Relay group?

BRENKER: For Relay, Dr. Good. For the school system myself. We are the two contact people for implementation and maintenance of this contract, yes.

STANGO: So we have people in our school system who monitors them?

BRENKER: Each of these six will have a resident advisor who is going to monitor their progress and give weekly and monthly reports to Relay and to me on how they do.

STANGO: Once they become certified and are hired by our district is there any stipulation, do we have anything to know how long they will be required to stay with us?

BRENKER: During the initial meetings on this we were told it was a three year commitment that they would stay with us.

STANGO: And last I understand it's a program to recruit and keep minority teachers and promote minority teachers to be hired within our district. Now going forward, we have the six now, if we go forward with this next year are we going to limit it just to minority teachers at that point or can anyone apply?

BRENKER: The program isn't restricted solely to minority applicants. In Waterbury the six that were picked just happened to be minority applicants but from what I've been told the other cities that use there are non-minority applicants that were selected also.

STANGO: Okay. Thank you Mr. Brenker.

BROWN: Mr. Brenker, I a question in terms of the funding, it seems that the pilot program will be fully funded by Relay?

BRENKER: It's almost fully funded Madam President, that's correct. There is a remainder of \$500 which is split between the teacher and the district 50/50 – 250 for the teacher, 250 for the district.

BROWN: But the bulk of it is being...

BRENKER: Seventeen thousand, five hundred dollars is either by scholarship or waived by the Relay Graduate Program, yes.

BROWN: And I did note that the State Board of Education has approved of the Relay Program as an ARC.

BRENKER: Yes, as Commissioner Harvey pointed out, the meeting was held yesterday and it was approved, yes.

BROWN: Because that was part of the MOU, it was contingent that it be approved so it is approved. And when do you think it's going to go into effect now that it's been approved, as soon as possible?

BRENKER: We had the contract before you folks tonight and if you approve it it will go to the Superintendent for her signature and then Mr. Egan the WTA President and myself will sit down and negotiate the terms of implementation.

BROWN: And there will be certified teachers from Relay and school staff that will be supervising the applicants?

BRENKER: There will be certified teachers from the WTA in Waterbury. I don't know the qualifications of the Relay staff when they meet offsite.

BROWN: Okay, it's something we probably should, well we'll learn as we move forward.

BRENKER: As Commissioner Harvey pointed out, this was one of the many efforts of Dr. Tucker and we thank her for it. We are catching up with some of the programs that she's done.

BROWN: Great. I appreciate the clarifications and I'm very excited about it and Waterbury seems to be on the map in many ways with our CAFE recognition, congratulation Board members, and I think we are making a concerted effort to really think out of the box to address the recruitment issue. So thank you very much.

BRENKER: Thank you Madam President.

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

Committee on Building

9.3 Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Jason Van Stone, it was voted, with Commissioner Tom Van Stone voting “no”, to approve of the acceptance of the Reed Elementary School Project, State Project #151-0253, as complete.

BROWN: Discussion. Commissioner Harvey.

HARVEY: I'm looking at Commissioner Tom Van Stone, he's saying ladies first. I just would like to repeat pretty much what I said last week in regards to Reed School and the cracks in the floor. Again I want to thank all those involved with looking into this. What my intent was in pointing this out was just simply for us to take pause on this issue because I had not heard anything about what we were going to do in regards to remedy, to remedy the situation and the floors. I remember when the school opened the beautiful floors, there were cracks in the floors, unless my eyesight has changed I thought the cracks were a little bit smaller than they are now. Each time I went into the school as a result of community activities I was faced with the cracks in the floor. So I just wanted to ensure that we were looking at this even though it was something, it's a separate item, the acceptance of Reed School as done is a separate item but nonetheless it is an issue, considering that the majority of our schools, the average age of our schools are 50 years and over. So I'm pleased with what has been determined, I know we're still waiting for prices. Mr. Brenker, have we received any prices yet in regards to the cracks and what we plan to do with it?

BRENKER: No Commissioner, not yet. It's been a week and we haven't received it back yet. Mr. Sullivan is going to check back tomorrow with the concrete finishing company.

HARVEY: Great, okay. Thank you Mr. Brenker. And bless you to our TV camera guy over there. So, again, I just wanted to send that thanks out and I will be voting for this but I think moving forward the Building Committee or the Board as a whole needs to look at the ways that we or the process of approving the construction of schools, at what point do we take it over even when there are flaws in the construction. So I hope we will look at that moving forward. Thank you Madam President.

BROWN: Thank you Commissioner. Any other comments? All in favor, opposed.

T. VAN STONE: No.

BROWN: Abstain? Motion carries, thank you.

11. SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTIFICATION TO THE BOARD

Upon a motion by Commissioner Jason Van Stone and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted, with Commissioner Theriault “abstaining”, to

receive and place on file items 11.1 through 11.12, Superintendent's Notification to the Board, as listed:

- 11.1 Athletic appointments effective immediately:
Nicholas, Stefanie – Head Cheerleading Coach, CHS.
- 11.2 Chase Family Resource Center Books and Basketball Before School Program, salary per individual's contract, Monday – Thursday, 11/22/16 – 12/22/16:
Jacqueline Torres – Coordinator Steven Matthews – Teacher
Maria Mantilla – Teacher (sub) Vinca Shipe – Paraprofessional
Natalie Fox – Paraprofessional (sub) Vera Jarjura – Paraprofessional (sub)
- 11.3 Chase Family Resource Center Arts After School Program, salary per individual's contract, Monday – Thursday, 11/22/16 – 12/22/16:
Jacqueline Torres – Coordinator Dina Stanziano – Art Teacher
Gina Turner – Paraprofessional Angelica Cavallo – Teacher (sub)
Natalie Fox – Paraprofessional (sub) Vera Jarjura – Paraprofessional (sub)
- 11.4 Reed Family Resource Center Books and Basketball Before School Program, salary per individual's contract, Monday – Thursday, 11/22/16 – 12/22/16:
Ernie Racine – Coordinator Stacey Brown – Teacher
Catherine Coviello – Paraprofessional Deborah Price – Paraprofessional
Judy York – Library Media Specialist Elona Bala – School Counselor (sub)
- 11.5 Wilson Family Resource Center Books and Basketball Before School Program, salary per individual's contract, Monday – Thursday, 11/22/16 – 12/22/16:
Jessica Reho – Coordinator Kelly Fengler – Teacher
Jennifer Deeley – Teacher Donna Orsatti – Paraprofessional
Rebecca James – Paraprofessional Linda Fitzgerald – Instructional Tutor
- 11.6 Wilson Family Resource Center Arts After School Program, salary per individual's contract, Monday – Thursday, 11/22/16 – 12/22/16:
Jessica Reho – Coordinator Stephanie Porcaro – Teacher
John Pribila – Substitute Teacher
- 11.7 Extended School Hours (ESH) Program appointments, salary according to individual's contract:

School	Last name	First Name	Assignment
Bucks Hill	Arroyo	Maria	Teacher
	Bello	Delia	Administrator
	Cacho-Zuniga	Lurbin	Paraprofessional
	Corbo	Cherie	Teacher
	Dovale	Ashley	Teacher
	Fortuna	Anne Marie	Substitute
	Gerrish	Jessica	Teacher
	Gibson	Alyse	Substitute
	Hudobenko	Filomena	Administrator
	Khalsa	Siri	Substitute
	Krier	Ben	Teacher
	Dematteis	Jennifer	Teacher

	O'Donnell	Jen	Teacher
	Santiago	Koulla	Teacher
	Sanzone	Ashley	Teacher
Bunker Hill	Axvhiu	Bjanka	Teacher
	Cruess	Steven	Lead Teacher
	Gay	Rebecca	Substitute
	Greaney	Vanessa	Substitute
	Groppi	Susan	Substitute
	Guerrera	Maureen	Secretary
	Gwiazdoski	Andrew	PE Teacher
	Lyons	Donna	Substitute
	Nolisa	Ifunanya	Substitute
	Rochon	Howard	Substitute
	Stango	Melissa	Substitute
Carrington	Carosella	Stephen	Teacher
	Conway	Jaimie	Secretary
	Dussault	Kathryn	Teacher
	Hernandez	Ivan	Teacher
	Mollengarden	Alex	Teacher
Chase	Calabrese	Matthew	Administrator
	Caldarella	Lorri	Teacher
	Cavallo	Angelica	Teacher
	Currier	Doreen	Coordinator
	Dempsey	Lesley	Teacher
	Jarjura	Vera	Paraprofessional
	Matthews	Steven	Teacher
	Stokes	Laura	Teacher
	Turner	Gina	Paraprofessional
Driggs	Abarzua	Lauren	Teacher
	Atkinson	Jennifer	Secretary
	Cipriano	Jillian	Substitute
	Gomez	Bridgette	Substitute
	Kuncas	Justine	Teacher
	Misset	Aimee	Administrator (split)
	Quezada	Paula	Substitute
	Rijos	Carmen	Teacher
	Sheets	Lucia	Substitute
	Therriault	Michael	Administrator (split)
Duggan	Brittingham	Michele	Teacher
	Christolini	Janine	Substitute
	Diorio	Jill	Substitute
	Field	Susan	Substitute
	Finkenzeller	Frances	Teacher
	Guiffre	Maureen	Substitute
	Hart	Richard	Teacher
	McCool	Maria	Substitute
	Miller	Christine	Teacher
	Scirica	Erin	Teacher

Generali	Arnson	MaryLou	Teacher
	Barbieri	Nikki	Teacher – sub
	Coughlin	Timothy	Teacher
	DellaCamera	Ashley	Teacher – sub
	Dunlap	Laura	Paraprofessional
	Mangino	Maria	Teacher – sub
	Mendoza	Tania	Secretary
	Neibel	Amy	Teacher – sub
	Orsini	Marie	Teacher - sub
	Rhinesmith	Wendy	Teacher – sub
	Rock	Stefanie	Program Facilitator/Teacher
	Simoes	Odet	Teacher – sub
	Verrier	Marie	Para – sub
	Walling	Maggie	Para - sub
Gilmartin	Bulls	Tanya	Lead Teacher/Administrator
	Crocce	Kelly	Teacher
	Falcone	Brenda	Teacher
	Foy	Talisha	Lead Teacher/Admin. (sub)
	Rose	Mary	Clerical
	Sonziano	Jessica	Sub
Kingsbury	Bisaillon	Bret	Lead Teacher/Grade 5
	Capaldo	Christine	Substitute
	DiBella	Lee	Grade 4
	Gauvin	Anna	Grade 3
	Guedelha	Norma	Secretary
	Marques	Lauren	Substitute
	Rizzo	Lisa	Substitute
Reed	Boratko	Jessica	Teacher
	Griffin	Denise	Substitute
	Maturo	Jonna	Substitute
	Mendoza	Juan	Sub Administrator
	Serafin	Stephanie	Teacher
	Steffero	Melissa	Teacher
	Tomasella	Diurca	Administrator
	York	Judith	Substitute
Regan	Jimenez	Jessica	Teacher
	Razz	Jaimie	Teacher
	Russell	Blair	Teacher
	Stribling	Denise	Clerical
	Williams	Kim	Sub-Teacher
Tinker	Cote	Sue	Clerical
	DeSanto	Christine	Teacher
	Lerz	Darlene	Admin
	Mastrianna	Cathy	Substitute
	Ouellette	Francene	Teacher
	Parks	Michele	Substitute
	Sagendorf	Janet	Teacher
	Walent	Cheyenne	Substitute

Walsh	Bilbrough	Allyson	Teacher
	Davino	Jenna	Lead Teacher
	Maldonado	Joanne	Teacher
	Nadonly	Karen	Sub
	Natoli	Jane	Sub
	Raidhi	Ariola	Sub
	Salvatore	Janelle	Sub
Washington	Byron	Emily	Substitute
	Carpentieri	Carli	4 th
	Colby	Shannon	Substitute
	Fields	Jaime	Para
	Fitzgerald	Kris	Clerical
	Hanley	Jessica	Substitute
	Homewood	Gregory	3 rd
	Langan	Colleen	Substitute
	Sullivan	Mariannina	5 th
Wendell Cross	Amato	Joseph	Administrator (Sub)
	Chasse	Douglas	Lead Teacher/Grade 4
	Danziger	Byron	Physical Education
	Gendron	Courtney	Grade 3
Wilson	Deeley	Jennifer	Substitute
	Healey	Tara	Teacher
	Lestage	Sara	Teacher
	Orsatti	Donna	Secretary/Para
	Pinho	Kelly	Sub- Administrator
	Reho	Jessica	Substitute
	Rosser	Jennifer	Administrator
	Shaffer	Andrea	Teacher
	Vensel	Katie	Substitute

11.8 Teacher new hires:

Name		Assignment		Step		Effective
Dias	Mario	WCA	Tech Ed Manuf.	BA	6	8/25/2016
Lorusso	Angela	Gilmartin	Sp/Lang Path.	6 th	3	8/25/2016
Symonovich	Joan	Sprague/Reed	Sp/Lang Path.	6 th	3	8/25/2016

11.9 Academic Achievements effective August 25, 2016:

Name		From	To	University
Abate	Jason	BA/7	BA+15/7	Un. of Saint Joseph
Albert	Kristen	MA/3	MA+15/3	Southern
Angelo	Eileen	BA+15/3	MA/3	Un. of Saint Joseph
Augelli	Katie	BA/6	MA/6	Southern
Bala	Elona	MA+15/3	6+15/3	S. Heart Un. & Central
Battisti	David	MA/6	MA+15/6	S. Heart Un.
Benjamin	Krista	BA/3	BA+15/3	Un. of Saint Joseph
Brayton	Katie	6th yr/3	6+15/3	Un. of Bdgpt.
Bunko	Katherine	BA/3	BA+15/3	Post Un.

Byron	Emily	BA+15/3	MA/3	Un. of Saint Joseph
Calabro	Marissa	BA/3	BA+15/3	Southern
Carroll	Amy	6th yr/4	6+15/4	Western
Clark	Amy	BA/3	BA+15/3	American College of Educ.
Cocuzzi	Matthew	MA/5	MA+15/5	Un. of Saint Joseph
Conte	Joseph	BA+15/3	MA/3	Southern
Conway	Alyson	BA+15/3	MA/3	Central
Curley-Colon	Laura	MA/5	MA+15/5	Un. of Bdgpt.
DeFilio	Rachel	MA/3	MA+15/3	Un. of Saint Joseph
DeSantis	Amy	MA/3	MA+15/3	Un. of Bdgpt. & Augustanta Un.
Dunn	Brittany	MA+15/5	6th yr/5	Un. of Bdgpt.
Froese	Justin	BA/3	BA+15/3	Southern New Hampshire
Garcia	Ana	MA/5	MA+15/5	Central
Gaydosh	Kathy	MS+15/6	6th yr/6	Un. of Scranton
Gibson	Richardo	BA/3	BA+15/3	Southern New Hampshire
Godeere	Shelby	MA/7	6th yr/7	Southern
Goold	Emilyn	BA/2	BA+15/2	Central
Gotilbowski	Desiree	MA/5	MA+15/5	Central
Grandzinski	Kelsey	BA/2	BA+15/2	Un. of Saint Joseph
Griffin	Emily	MA/4	MA+15/4	S. Heart Un.
Higgins	Lisa	MA/5	6th yr/5	Southern
Iaiennaro	Katheryn	BA/3	BA+15/3	Un. of Saint Joseph
Iannucci	Donald	BA+15/5	MA+15/5	Un. of Saint Joseph
Illian	Dea	6th yr/10	6+15/10	Un. of Northern Colorado
Kachur	Leigh	6th yr/3	6+15/3	Southern & Andrews Un.
Killion	Christine	MA+15/10	6th yr/10	Southern
Kitney	Dawn	MA/3	MA+15/3	Un. of Saint Joseph
Kolan	Katherine	BA/6	MA/6	Un. of Florida
Kuang	Qi Li	BA/5	BA+15/5	Central
Lazenga	Blima	MA/6	MA+15/6	Un. of Bdgpt. & S. Heart Un.
Maldonado	Joanne	MA/2	MA+15/2	Capella Un.
Mauro	Jennifer	BA/6	MA+15/6	ARC & Albertus Magnus
McGrath	Robert	MA/6	6+15/6	Post Un.
Medina	Elisa	MA/6	MA+15/6	Un. of New England
Moriarty	Shea	6th yr/3	6+15/3	Un. of Bdgpt. & Indiana Un.
Morin	Keith	MA/6	MA+15/6	S. Heart Un. & Un. of Bdgpt.
Morris	Michaela	BA+15/3	MA/3	Central
Mosley	Sean	MA+15/5	6+15/5	S. Heart Un.
Natoli	Jane	MA+15/4	6th yr/4	Southern
Parisot	Lindsey	MA/3	MA+15/3	Un. of Saint Joseph
Pelosi	Emily	BA/3	BA+15/3	Un. of Saint Joseph
Perillo	Amanda	MA/5	MA+15/5	Central & Southern
Perrucci	Joseph	MA+15/6	6th yr/6	Un. of Saint Joseph & Greenville College
Phelan	George	BA+ 15/7	MA/7	Central
Polaco	Elizabeth	BA/2	BA+15/2	Post Un.

Porcaro	Stefanie	MA/3	MA+15/3	Un. of Bdgpt.
Rock	Kimberly	6th yr/3	6+15/3	Walden Un.
Rosser	Amy	MA/5	MA+15/5	Peabody Conservatory, Un. of Hartford, & Central
Scappini	Mary	MA/6	MA+15/6	Capella Un.
Sciascia	Mary Anne	MA/6	MA+15/6	Un. of Bdgpt.
Shule-Sejdaras	Benjola	BA+15/3	MA/3	Central & Un. of Saint Joseph
Slade	Chelsea	MA +15/4	6th yr/4	Augustana College
Terenzi	Timothy	BA/3	BA+15/3	American College of Educ.
Tremblay	Kristin	BA/3	BA+15/3	Un. of Cincinnati
Trigueiro	Marianna	BA+15/2	MA/2	Southern
Vance	Bridgette	BA/2	BA+15/2	Un. of Saint Joseph
Velodota	Danielle	BA/3	BA+15/3	Central
Veronesi	Carol	MA/9	6th yr/9	Westfield & Grand Canyon Un.
Veronneau	Michael	BA+15/7	MA/7	Post Un.

11.10 Involuntary transfers:

Saucier, Anne Marie – from Wilson School Special Ed Prek – 5 to Reed School, Special Ed grade 6, effective 10/17/16.

11.11 Retirements:

Sidella, David – WMS Physical Education, effective 04/01/17.

11.12 Resignations:

Kingsbury, Cristina – WCA English, effective 10/7/16

McCarthy, Mary – CHS Science, effective 10/28/16.

Telesco, Melissa – WMS Guidance, effective 10/14/16

BROWN: Discussion? All in favor, opposed.

THERIAULT: Abstain.

BROWN: One abstention. Thank you. Unfinished Business of Proceeding Meeting Only. Number 13 – Other Unfinished, New, and Miscellaneous Business.
Commissioner Harvey.

HARVEY: Quickly. In regards to Waterbury Public Schools presents Hispanic Heritage Month 2016, this, I truly enjoyed this program, this was at Crosby High School on October 28. Commissioner Hernandez attended, Superintendent attended, and it was, it started late, but it was a wonderful program. It was wonderful to see our little ones in their, dressed in their, I'm not gonna call them costumes but they were dressed in their culturally appropriate costumes and the dancing, the music, they were very well behaved, very well-rehearsed, and it was just a wonderful, wonderful program. I hope that next year we can you know plan for something a little bit larger. We almost received 100% participation from all the other schools. We had children from grades one through all the way up participating, giving their comments on what it meant to be proud of their heritage and I thought it was a wonderful, wonderful program and I give kudos to all those involved with the planning. So Madam President I will make sure you

get this program and you can just kind of look at it and hopefully get a feel of what occurred on that day.

Next issue is the budget cuts. I received or have received a couple of complaints Madam President and I was hoping that the Superintendent would be here, regarding cuts in after-school programs and busing that was one year provided and this year is not. And this is impacting on whether or not our students participate in these programs or not. So I wanted to, I have a couple of the schools, two of the schools that I received these complaints from and I just hope that we look at this because these programs are important. One of the programs was a college prep program, the student took the program one year and now this year there's no transportation, no bus transportation. So I'm hoping we can look at that and see what it is we can provide and/or give enough notification to these parents so they're able to adjust and if they have to come and pick up their students fine but it's just that it seems like it was abruptly cut and now the parents are at a loss on how they're gonna pick up the children or whether or not they're gonna participate in the program. So I just want to point that out.

Lastly, Commissioner Jason Van Stone, lastly just mentioned Commissioners that in a week or so, I don't have the exact date, but our students will participate in a college tour of our HBCUs, I know I probably mentioned this last week, we spoke about it in the Workshop, our Historically Black Colleges and Universities. We coordinated this with Granville Academy. Now this is another Dr. Tucker initiative and the students, we have three students from Waterbury Career Academy, three students from Kennedy, three students from Wilby, three students from Crosby who are able to participate in this free of charge with the exception of expense money that they will be responsible for. So we're just about ready to finalize the plans and I just wanted you to know that they are able to do this. We had one of our students who went on this tour, attended an HBCU, graduated with honors and is now studying in one of our New York colleges to be a lawyer. So there some good here. So I just wanted to again repeat that and just kudos to Dr. Tucker with this and I hope we can continue to do this every year. And with that I will end with that, Commissioner. Thank you.

J. VAN STONE: Thank you.

BROWN: I would just like to comment and thank Mr. Brenker and Commissioner Sweeney, Commissioner Theriault for raising the issue of the testing for West Side Middle School. You probably all saw that we did have some results to that so we really want to thank you. Hopefully we'll be able to save some money but I think pursuing that and really digging in and finding out if we really had to do the testing, if it was really necessary. We really appreciate it and you know hopefully that we'll get more information. Thank you for listening to the Board's concerns and responding. We really appreciate it.

BRENKER: Your welcome Madam President but we started today with mapping, our hygienist is there today and tomorrow, he's gonna map out the entire structure looking at the different color of the material, pick out the number of samples he needs, and hopefully pick them all out Saturday and then within another week we should have the results back. Thank you both also, we appreciate your help.

BROWN: Thank you for raising that. And also Commissioner Harvey we did receive news that the afterschool food program was going to be expanded to Walsh School. So again thank you staff for responding to the Board's concerns and the public and we really appreciate that dialogue and so we're very happy about that. Commissioner Theriault.

THERIAULT: I guess this would be under New Business. I'm sure the public, the general public and the Board saw the article in the newspaper not too long ago about chronic absenteeism and if you got to the second page inside the newspaper where it said "continued" you saw that Waterbury was among the highest in our particular ERG or district. I have been a real advocate and proponent of monitoring and watching the attendance of our students on a monthly basis, a yearly basis; in fact for the past 12 years. Our attendance has been deliriously bad, actually horrendous. If you looked at that article it said we went from 20% down to 18 and a half and that kind of corresponds with what I was looking at in terms of my data. It's not really my data it's the data supplied by our IT Department. And when we look at an average absence in our grammar schools and middle schools of 10 days per student and then we go up to our high school and we see an absence of 20 days per student, that becomes tremendously alarming. And I know there are, as Commissioner Stango pointed out, there are some significant reasons for that because some of our students do drop out, they're not supposed to drop out at 16 but some do. We have to carry them on the rolls. Some of them go to jail. Some of them just disappear. And some of them are still counted as shadows months after the first day of school and they haven't arrived. But it's very alarming to me, and I know the article did cite Waterbury as setting up teams and looking at the situation more diligently and I applaud those efforts. And I applaud the efforts of the ILDs and Paul Whyte and the other people that are involved in looking at this chronic absenteeism and we have situations in place when a student is absent four days in a month they're targeted and we start to find out from our social workers, our principals, vice principals, truancy staff, what's happening. There's no better way to find out but what the lady from, Mrs. Cooper, the lady from Walsh School is doing – that's grass roots, that's getting right down to the core of the problem and if I had a hat I'd take it off to her. Just having worked at Walsh School I know how important those grass roots efforts are; they're the epitome of growing a strong staff and a strong student body and good relations with parents. But I hope we will continue to be diligent. I can remember when I first started doing the analysis of the data, I actually went through 12,000 pages of documents and now thanks to Will Zhuta that document is all on one page. As we look at those and we compare them from year by year we must be very cognizant that if you're not there you can't learn. And I hate to hammer this . . . again but when you see the SAT scores in math at the high school at eight percent that means 92 percent of our kids are failing math in the high school. When you look at 33% in terms of language arts and reading that means 67% of our kids are failing language arts and reading. And I also wish to take umbrage with the fact that when we do this test in the future that we do the test in such a way, I don't care if it takes longer. Let's do it right, let's give them the test and make them do the written portion of the test and not dumb it down and say we didn't give the written portion of the test because we didn't give the test on Saturday. I don't care if it takes longer, I want an assessment of how well we're doing, reading and writing. We also know that the test scores in terms science were terrible. We know that the test scores with regard to the Smarter Balance test were a little bit better than they were last time so we got to give some credit where credit is due, a little bit better is better than going backwards. But I did want to bring to

the attention of the Board and the public to that article because even though the results were kind of disastrous from Waterbury we did get some good kudos and some good compliments in terms of our diligence in being proactive on this very important topic. Thank you Madam Chair.

BROWN: I just want to make one announcement. I know people have been seeing in the paper about the Kids Town Childcare Center that had an arrest of one of the staff members and we do have a Waterbury School Readiness Program that's operated through that private provider and I want the public and the Board to know that measures are being taken to make sure that every child is placed in a safe, appropriate, alternative setting. We're working as we speak. That's where the Mayor, Superintendent, and staff are working diligently with the State Office of Early Childhood to make sure that our families and children are being taken care of and their needs are being met. I just want to keep you apprised of that because I know you just don't want to read something in the paper. We are on top of it, we are doing our due diligence, and making every effort to make sure children are safe. So I will keep you apprised. Thank you.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to convene into executive session at 7:22 p.m. for discussion concerning the appointment, employment, performance, evaluation, health, or dismissal of a public officer or employee.

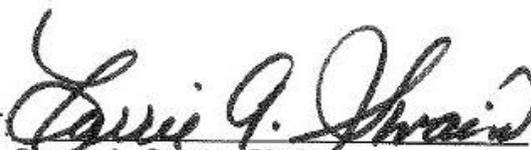
Present were President Brown, Commissioners Harvey, Stango, Sweeney, Theriault, J. Van Stone, and T. Van Stone. Also present was Robert Brenker.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to return to the regular order of business at 7:32 p.m. with no votes taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Stango, it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:32 p.m.

ATTEST


Carrie A. Swain, Clerk
Board of Education