

# **WEST HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**September 20, 2021**

## **Regular Board Meeting**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was held on September 20, 2021, at West Haven High School Cafe, McDonough Plaza, West Haven, CT. Cebi Waterfield, Chairwoman of the Board of Education called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Alliance.

### **BOARD MEMBERS**

#### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Andrea Talamelli  
Rosemary Russo  
Cebi Waterfield  
Anne Heffernan  
Rosa Richardson  
Robert Guthrie  
James Morrissey  
Patrick Egolum

#### **ABSENT:**

Patricia Libero

**ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:** Neil C. Cavallaro, Superintendent of Schools,  
Judith Drenzek, Assistant Superintendent of Schools  
Matthew Cavallaro, Director of Finance

**CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:** None

### **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:**

**B. Public Portion of Meeting:** Opened: 6:09 p.m. Closed 6:10 p.m.

### **C. REPORTS**

#### **C.1.a. Administration/Status of Schools**

Superintendent Neil Cavallaro thanked Assistant Superintendent and the curriculum team for all their hard work and the time they put in with the building administrators to learn how to best help with students/staff. Superintendent Neil is setting the expectations high this year. We are not going to use the pandemic or kids being out of school as an excuse. Everyone is working hard to assess the kids now to help them move forward. He also informed the board that there is the

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Governor's Award and Commissioner's Award for the 2021 FAFSA Challenge on September 24<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Media center or the auditorium depending on the amount of people that will be attending. Lastly, Superintendent Neil Cavallaro introduced Michael O'Brien.

#### **C.1.b Student Representatives**

Danielle Ricketts- Listed all the students & counselors that will be attending the award ceremony on Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup> for the FAFSA Challenge. Congratulated the counselors that worked so hard on the challenge. They are going to have a surprise breakfast for them next Friday for their hard work.

Nabiha Khan- Informed the board on September 26<sup>th</sup> the new career center will be open. Additionally, they will have a career fair day on October 6<sup>th</sup>.

#### **C.1.c. Board**

James Morrissey- Requested information on a crossing guard for the corner of Jones Hill Rd & Morgan Ln. Superintendent Neil Cavallaro will contact the Police Department and make sure they assign one to the area. Additionally, the UI has approved the light request & within the next week they will start working on the light. Mr. Morrissey went to the WHHS gym to see the damage from the storm and was very surprised with the amount of damage. He is concerned with the amount of money the taxpayers have paid and how they are going to fix this so that it does not happen in the future. Superintendent Neil Cavallaro advised that they will be adding additional drains and the next steps to fix the damage will be an insurance claim. The last concerns Mr. Morrissey had was the amount of active students WHHS has & the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor bathrooms being closed. Superintendent Neil Cavallaro stated 1740. Mr. Morrissey stated that the school over capacity & that this was an issue prior to the remodel of the school. Superintendent Neil Cavallaro informed him that he addressed the state with the same concern prior to the remodel and they said he could request for an expansion if this ever happens. As for the bathrooms being closed that is due to the lack of security; however, there has been arrangements so that all bathrooms will now have security.

Rosa Richardson- Thanked the coordinators on their hard work with their presentation

#### **D.1 Approval of Minutes**

**D.1.a The West Haven Board of Education Meeting** was held in the West Haven High School, 1 McDonough Plaza, West Haven, CT 06516 on August 18, 2021, at 6:01 p.m.

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Chairwoman Waterfield asked for a motion to approve the minutes **D. 1.a**

Rosa Richardson made the motion

James Morrissey seconded the motion

Discussion: None

Abstain – Robert Guthrie & Patricia Libero

All board members present were in favor

Minutes **D.1.a** Approved

**D.1.b The West Haven Board of Education Meeting** was held in the West Haven High School, 1 McDonough Plaza, West Haven, CT 06516 on September 8, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

Chairwoman Waterfield asked for a motion to approve the minutes **D. 1.b**

Rosa Richardson made the motion

Robert Guthrie seconded the motion

Discussion: None

Abstain – James Morrissey

All board members present were in favor

Minutes **D.1.b** Approved

**D.2. Resignations: (Certified):**

**21-122 Rosie Ziou**

Teacher: Early Childhood Literature & Fashion Magazine Writing

Resignation

Effective: 09/03/2021

**Move to Approve.**

Chairwoman Waterfield asked for a motion to approve **D.2. 21-122**

Robert Guthrie made the motion

Rosa Richardson seconded the motion

Discussion: None

All board members present were in favor

**D.3. New Hire: (Certified)**

**21-123 Iwona Kubko**, B110 Sunrise Circle, Newington, CT 06111

School Psychologist: WHHS

Salary: \$88,284.00 Psychological Examiner Stipend \$6,207.76

Step: 10 BS + 60

Effective: TBD

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**Move to Approve.**

Chairwoman Waterfield asked for a motion to approve **D.2. 21-123**

Rosa Richardson made the motion

Andrea Talamelli seconded the motion

Discussion: None

All board members present were in favor

**D. 4 New Business:**

**Informational**

Chairwoman Waterfield asked for a motion to adjourn

Andrea Talamelli made the motion

Robert Guthrie seconded the motion

All board members were in favor

The meeting adjourned at 6:30PM

Respectfully submitted, Amanda Foster