

WEST HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION
November 16, 2020
Regular Board Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was held on November 16, 2020 at West Haven High School Cafe, McDonough Plaza, West Haven, CT. Rosa Richardson, Vice-Chairwoman of the Board of Education called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Alliance.

**BOARD MEMBERS
IN ATTENDANCE:**

Ann Heffernan
James Morrissey
Robert Guthrie
Patrick Egolum
Rosemary Russo
Patricia Libero
Andrea Talamelli

ABSENT: Cebi Waterfield, Chairperson

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Neil C. Cavallaro, Superintendent of Schools
Anne P. Druzolowski, Assistant Superintendent
Matthew Cavallaro, Finance Director

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES
PRESENT:**

B. Public Portion of Meeting

Karen Studley, 258 Richmond Ave, the last time I spoke, my concern was with Distant Learning at WHHS. My son is on Distant Learning due to hockey. I am looking for an update to the community of what can be expected. Has seen some live update at WHHS. Distant Learning needs to be live instruction. We need a update of your progress, thank you for hearing us.

Teddi McKenna – see attached

Kristan Scanlon – see attached

Public Portion ended 6:07 p.m.

C. REPORTS

C.1.a. Administration/Status of Schools

Superintendent Cavallaro – COVID is on the rise in the City. We cannot dismiss what the State Department of Education or the Department of Health has said, keep schools open as long as you can, the spread is not coming from the schools. Maureen Lillis, City Health Director has been very helpful. There are weekly meetings with the State of Ct for any towns in the orange or red. Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, family travel and students returning from college, I would like to do remote learning the week after Thanksgiving. There is nothing in the teachers' contract that says they cannot teach remotely. The teachers will teach from the classroom and the current Distant Learnings will be part of the class. I will send the notice out to give parents enough time to get daycare. We want to put qualified staff members in front of the students. I want to compliment the quarantined teachers for still teaching their classes even though they are home in quarantine.

Questions from the board ensued.

C.1.b Student Representatives

The student representatives were not in attendance but Rosa Richardson did a shout out to student rep Anthony Vendrella SCC 2020 All-Conference Athlete. Soccer team for their SCC win.

C.1.c. Board

Robert Guthrie – Dr. D best wishes on the next chapter in your life. West Haven is fortunate to have a person of your caliber. You are always looking to move students, staff, and districts forward. It also helps to have a consistent leadership team between the Superintendent, the Assistant Superintendent and Business Manager who work so well together. Many things happen because of your efforts. West Haven School District benefited greatly because of your role in the effects. Many districts are not fortunate to have the stable leadership that we have, thank you for everything. Congratulations to both our boys Cross Country and boys Soccer for the first championship in WHHS history. I hope that when it is safe to do so, we can give each team their night to shine.

Rosemary Russo – echo on Bob, to Anne I already said what I wanted to say at the last meeting, but please know you have a place hear all the time. You will be truly missed. Thank you for everything you did for all our kids.

Patrick Egoim – Anne, thank you, I hope you come back. Maybe we hire you as a consultant.

Rosa Richardson – I continue to hound and harass you on your decision. But you will be missed.

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 November 2, 2020 at 6:05 p.m.

Vice-Chairwoman Richardson asked for a motion to approve the minutes **D.1.a**

Rosemary Russo made the motion

Patrick Egolum seconded the motion

Abstain – Anne Heffernan

Discussion: None

All board members present were in favor

Minutes **D.1.a** were approved

D.2. Resignations: (Certified):

D.3. New Hire:

20-91 Joanne Trenchard, 324 Third Ave, West Haven, CT 06516

Position: Head Coach Girls Lacrosse - WHHS

Salary: \$3,000.00

Effective: November 9, 2020

Vice-Chairwoman Richardson asked for a motion to approve the minutes **D.3. 20-91**

Robert Guthrie made the motion

Patricia Libero seconded the motion

Discussion: None

All board members present were in favor

New Hire **D.3. 20-91** were approved

D. 4 New Business: Vice-Chairwoman Richardson presented flowers to Dr. Anne Druzolowski, Assistant Superintendent for her retirement.

Informational

Vice-Chairwoman Richardson asked for a motion to adjourn

Rosemary Russo made the motion

Anne Heffernan seconded the motion

All board members were in favor

The meeting adjourned at 7:08 PM

Respectfully submitted, Tamara Mursko