

WEST HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION

July 20, 2020

Regular Board Meeting

Via Zoom and You Tube

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnxjT9Xhh5zXqpc2AVKZbg>

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was held on July 20, 2020 as a Virtual Business meeting via Zoom and You Tube, pursuant to Governor Ned Lamont Executive Order NO. 7B. Rosa Richardson, Vice-Chairperson 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:

Rosa Richardson, Vice Chair
Patricia Libero, Secretary/Treasurer
James Morrissey
Patrick Egolum
Andrea Talamelli
Robert Guthrie
Rosemary Russo

ABSENT:

Cebi Waterfield, Anne Heffernan

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

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

PRESENT:

Anthony Ventrella
Mackenzie Gardner

B. Public Portion of Meeting

Vice - Chairwoman Richardson read the public comments received via email into the record.

See attached.

REPORTS

C.1.a. Administration/Status of Schools

Superintendent Cavallaro introduced Miguelina Felix the new West Haven Board of Education Communication Director. Governor Lamont made it clear that we are to open for 180 days; that is what we are planning. Dr. Williams our medical advisor recommendation is to wear masks and social distance. An in person meeting was preferred but the Mayor deemed no public meeting so a Zoom meeting had to take place. The Pupil Services Department is reviewing each student one by one to see what their needs are. Our goal is 180 days. Per the State guidelines, we will have three plans; in school, Hybrid and Distance Learning. The State of Ct reduced the student attendance by three days for more Professional Development for teachers. We will be review the school calendar and possible move the first day of school to September 8, 2020, the day after Labor Day. I would like to introduce Lina Felix, our new Communication Director.

Lina Felix – gave a summary of her resume. She would like each principal to do a mock video to show the parents and staff of each grade level what the school year will look like on a daily bases.

Marissa Acampora was introduced as the COVID Liaison for the Board of Education. She thanked Neil for offering her the position and gave thanks for all the hard work thus far.

Superintendent Cavallaro is continuing to look to the State of CT for guidance. Hiring is in good shape. We have a number of teachers on medical leave. Special area teachers may have to go into the classroom.

Dr. Wendy Charbonneau gave a presentation on the Parent Back to School survey – see attached.

Principal – Drenzek, Weber, Bohan and Paredes gave a presentation on back to school – see attached. Questions from the board ensued.

C.1.b. Student Representatives' Report

Mackenzie Gardner – asked about the start of school.

Anthony Ventrella – summer conditioning started at WHHS. Shout out to the counselors for helping the seniors out via Zoom with their college applications.

C.1.c. Board

Patricia Libero – thanked the administrators and staff for all their help. Shout out to Chris Everone and the custodians for moving all the equipment. I really appreciate it.

James Morrissey – thanked Neil and the Administrators for the nice presentation. Great job up to now getting the schools ready. I know it is not easy. Some parents want the kids to go to school. Some have questions. There is no easy answer. I want to make sure Winkle Bus is sanitizing. Rob and Dana did a great job with the graduations. The kids enjoyed themselves; the staff was very supportive, great job. Talked to Neil about an in person meeting. The Zoom meet was disappointing, in person is better. If we are asking students and staff to come to school, we should be in person ourselves. Maybe we should try to ease in the first week to see how it goes. Welcome Lina, congratulations. I am sure you will do a great job. Just wondering why the salary is TBA.

Rosemary Russo – thanked Bailey and WHHS for the nice graduations. Welcomed Lina.

Andrea Talamelli- thank you for all the time and effort put into getting the school ready.

Rose Richardson – thank you for all the work that has been done on the summer projects. Looking forward to see where we will be. I have the upmost confidence in our staff.

D.1. Approval of Minutes

D.1. The West Haven Board of Education Meeting was held in via Zoom and You Tube on Monday, June 1, 2020 at 6:00 PM.

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

Patrick Egolum made the motion

Rosemary Russo seconded the motion

Discussion: None

All board members present were in favor

Abstained: James Morrissey

Minutes **D.1.** were approved

D.2. Resignations: (Certified)

All-inclusive: 20-29 – 20-34

Vice-Chairwoman Richardson asked for a motion to approve the resignations.

D.2. All-inclusive

Robert Guthrie made the motion

Patricia Libero seconded the motion

Discussion: Rosa Richardson, congrats to all

All board members present were in favor

Resignations **D.2.** were approved

D.3. New Hire: (Certified)

All-inclusive: 20-35-20-56 - without 20-48 RN Carrigan School - Rescinded

Vice-Chairwoman Richardson asked for a motion to approve the new hires **D.3.**

James Morrissey made the motion

Patricia Libero seconded the motion

Discussion: None

All board members present were in favor

Items **D.3.** were approved

D. 4 New Business

None

Informational

Vice-Chairwoman Richardson asked for a motion to adjourn

James Morrissey made the motion

Patrick Egolum seconded the motion

All board members were in favor

The meeting adjourned at 8:34 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Tamara Mursko