

WEST HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION

September 5, 2023

Regular Board Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was held on September 5, 2023, 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 6:03 p.m. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Alliance.

BOARD MEMBERS

IN ATTENDANCE:

Cebi Waterfield
Robert Guthrie
Kim Kenny
Patrick Egolum
Anne Heffernan
Andrea Talamelli
Patricia Libero

ABSENT:

Morgan Watts

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Neil 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: Closed: 6:03pm

C. REPORTS

C.1.a. Student Representatives

C.1.b. Administration/Status of Schools

Superintendent Cavallaro started off the meeting by telling the board members how well the opening of the school year went. He is very hopeful for the new school year. He expressed his concerns about the heat for this week. He will monitor and communicate

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with other surrounding districts regarding ½ days. Superintendent Cavallaro advised the board that the teacher's contract is on the agenda and the teachers have a great/fair contract. Additionally, he spoke about district numbers and the only concerns he has is the numbers at forest for kindergarten. He is also working with Winkle Bus Company to get a contract to MARB since MARB has approved the security and food contracts.

Assistant Superintendent Drenzek informed the board members the state has released the numbers and once they have the finalized report card she will have a presentation for the board.

Questions from the board ensued.

C.1.c. Board

Patricia Libero- Happy about the new year. Mentioned Mackenzie Gardner and achievements. Lastly, expressed how she would like to see more kids from the school's doing presentations about what they are doing in their classrooms.

Anne- Lives close by and it's nice to see the kids happy about the school year. Very happy to see the success with the new staffing.

Kim- Happy with the great start to the new school year.

Cebi- Congratulated Mackenzie and mentioned that she is proud of all the football seniors from last year that are now in college and playing on their colleges team. Lastly, she stated she appreciates the teachers and all that they do.

D.1 Approval of Minutes

D.1. The West Haven Board of Education Regular Board Meeting was held at Molloy School, 255 Meloy Rd., West Haven, CT 06516 on August 21, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Move to Approve.

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

Patrick Egolum made the motion

Andrea Talamelli seconded the motion

Abstain: Patricia Libero

Discussion: None

All board members present were in favor

Minutes **D.1.** Approved

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D.2. Resignations: (Certified)

23-101 Diandra Swaller

Intermediate Teacher (Carrigan)

Resignation

Effective: 08/23/2023

23-102 Jacquelyn Corcoran

Social Worker (Savin Rock)

Resignation

Effective: 08/28/2023

23-103 Kristen Pedersen

Special Education (Carrigan)

Resignation

Effective: 10/01/2023

Move to Approve.

Move to Approve.

Chairwoman Waterfield asked for a motion to approve **D.2 (23-101 – 23-103)**

Patrick Egolum made the motion

Robert Guthrie seconded the motion

Discussion: None

All board members present were in favor

New Hire **D.2.** Approved

D.3. New Hire: (Certified)

23-104 Jennifer Cusano RN, 17 Sleepy Hollow Circle East haven CT 06512

School Nurse (TBD)

Salary: \$45,405.51

Step: 2

Effective: 08/24/2023

23-105 Alexander Terry, 414 Mount Sanford Rd., Cheshire, CT 06410

General Music Teacher (Washington School)

Salary: \$42,477.00

Step: 1 BS

Effective: 08/24/2023

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23-106 Melissa Deroche, 36 School St., Hamden, CT 06518

Intermediate Teacher (Carrigan)

Salary: \$65,482.00

Step: 6 BS + 30

Effective: 08/24/2023

23-107 Kaitlyn Zennis, 75 Riverside Dr., Milford, CT 06461

Speech & Language Pathologist (WH)

Salary: \$66,339.00 (\$1,876.94)

Step: 5 BS + 60

Effective: 09/26/2023

23-108 Eric Peterson, 14 Cedar Island Ave., Clinton, CT 06413

ELA Teacher (Bailey)

Salary: \$78,156.00

Step: 9 + 30

Effective: TBD

Move to Approve.

Chairwoman Waterfield asked for a motion to approve **D.3 (23-104 – 23-108)**

Andrea Talamelli made the motion

Anne Heffernan seconded the motion

Discussion: None

All board members present were in favor

New Hire **D.3.** Approved

D.4. New Business:

23-106 Settlement Agreement between the West Haven Board of Education and the West Haven Federation of Teachers, Local 1547.

Move to Approve.

Chairwoman Waterfield asked for a motion to approve **D.4 (23-106)**

Kim Kenny made the motion

Andrea Talamelli seconded the motion

Discussion: Board member asked if there were any unfinished parts. Response no.

All board members present were in favor

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Informational

Chairwoman Waterfield asked for a motion to adjourn

Andrea Talamelli made the motion

Kim Kenny seconded the motion

All board members were in favor

The meeting adjourned at 6:19 pm

Respectfully submitted, Amanda Foster