

West Hartford Public Schools  
Board of Education  
Regular Board Meeting  
**November 7, 2018**

Present: Mrs. Blanks, Dr. Greenberg, Mr. Levine, Mr. Pauluk, Ms. Polun, Dr. Thomas-Farquharson, Mr. Zydanowicz, Superintendent Tom Moore, Student Representative Gus Bacon (Conard), Substitute Student Representative Megan Polun (Hall)

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

*Roll Call/Pledge of  
Allegiance*

No revisions to the current agenda

*Revision to agenda  
order*

Mrs. Kristi Laverty, Principal of Duffy School, introduced students from the Duffy Coding Club run by Christine Mori, Curriculum Specialist at Duffy School. Students from the Coding Club described the importance of coding and demonstrated to the board how their Ozobot's worked and what they can be used for. The Board thanked students for coming to present.

*Student Participation*

Marybeth Callan Serdechny, 115 Grennan Road, West Hartford, spoke on School Start Times.

*Public  
Communication*

Julia Deane and Serena van der Hulst, Sedgwick Middle School students, West Hartford, spoke on School Start Times.

Mary Fleischli, 28 Brunswick Ave., West Hartford, spoke on School Start Times.

Suzanne Tenser Chaletsky, 56 Pheasant Chase, West Hartford, spoke on School Start Times.

Abiah Clarke Ruel, 28 Buckingham Lane, West Hartford, spoke on School Start Times.

Nora McHugh, 53 Boulanger Ave., West Hartford, spoke on School Start Times.

Dahlia Pendergrasi, 423 Mountain Rd., West Hartford, spoke on School Start Times.

Alyssa Donnelly, 17 Pine Rd., West Hartford, spoke on School Start Times.

No Unfinished Business at this time.

*Unfinished Business*

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| <p>Approval of start time change for Board of Education Meetings</p> <p>Mr. Levine moved and Ms. Polun seconded:</p> <p>THAT the Board of Education approve the start time change for Board of Education meetings from 7:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., beginning with the meeting on January 15, 2019.</p> <p>Motion did not pass.</p> <p>Ratification of the Local 818-051, AFSCME Council 4, Cafeteria Manager's contract.</p> <p>Mr. Pauluk moved and Mrs. Blanks seconded:</p> <p>THAT the Board of Education ratify the negotiated agreement between Local 818, AFSCME Council 4, Cafeteria Manager's and the Board of Education, for the period of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2022.</p> <p>Mr. Rick Ledwith described and highlighted key areas of the agreement, including wages, health insurance and pension. The Board asked various questions with regard to the contract.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>Ratification of the Local 818-027, AFSCME Council 4, Custodian III's contract.</p> <p>Mrs. Blanks moved and Ms. Polun seconded:</p> <p>THAT the Board of Education ratify the negotiated agreement between Local 818, AFSCME, Council 4, Custodian III's and the Board of Education, for the period of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2022.</p> <p>Mr. Rick Ledwith described and highlighted key areas of the agreement, including wages, health insurance and pension. The Board asked various questions with regard to the contract.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p> | <p><i>New Business</i></p> <p><i>Approval of Start Time Change for Board of Education Meetings</i></p> <p><i>Ratification of Local 818-051, AFSCME Council 4, Cafeteria Manager's contract</i></p> <p><i>Ratification of Local 818-027, AFSCME Council 4, Custodian III's contract</i></p> |
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Superintendent Tom Moore reported to the Board that Morley students participated in “Red Wagon Food Walk” where students in grades K through 2 brought food items to the W.H. Food Bank. This is a visible representation of giving for the whole town to see. Charter Oak International Academy is working with the West Hartford Police Department hosting a Car Seat clinic. Information available on the school website. Superintendent Moore also spoke about the professional development that took place during this year’s Election Day with 900 teachers participating throughout the district. This is a chance for all teachers to talk across disciplines. Overall this was a very successful day for our teachers. Mr. Moore also congratulated Eva our own 2019 Connecticut Kid Governor candidate from Norfeldt who was profiled this week. Voting will take place until November 13. Eva’s platform is fighting poverty. Mr. Moore answered questions from the Board regarding Rethinking School Start Time. There are many questions that will need to be answered once a decision is made on this topic.

*Staff Communications  
and Reports  
Superintendent’s  
Report*

Dr. Andrew Morrow, Assistant Superintendent for Administration and Eric Dency, Director of School Security and Safety presented an update on security and safety initiatives for the district. We continue to work closely with WHPD and WHFD to access safety procedures. School Resource Officers and Community Resource Officers maintain a presence in our schools daily. We have recently rolled out a new app to secondary schools including students and parents, giving them access to the Anonymous Alerts app. This app allows students and parents to quickly and anonymously report information to school officials. This will encourage students and parents to confidentially report bullying, cyber-bullying and other topics through private messages.

*Staff Reports and  
Board Discussions*

*Security Update*

Several other security plans were also discussed which included:

- Increased security presence
- Increased police patrols
- Continued review of security protocols within buildings
- Upgrading integrated video systems
- Door lock replacements
- Renovated school entrance ways
- Joint security/police training

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Mr. Paul Vicinus, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Ms. Anne McKernan, Director of Secondary Education, and Kerry Jones, Director of Elementary Education presented to the Board of Education on 2018 Smarter Balance results. The report showed the four-year ELA (Literacy Achievement) results for Grades 3 through 8. Although West Hartford students scored approximately 15% points above the state average, the percentage our students achieving mastery in 2018 was down 1.4%. Overall we have approximately 76% of students achieving goal. West Hartford's mathematics performance remains strong. Average across all grade levels tested 61.0% achieved mastery in 2018. This is about 15% points above the state average mastery rate for mathematics. West Hartford's overall position remains competitive within our DRG (DRG B). DRG B towns include: Avon, Farmington, Glastonbury, and Simsbury. Discussion continued with information on the positive gains in achievement for both our high needs group and our non-high needs group in mathematics. There is significant long-term focus and planning to address the achievement gap. Participation across the district for grades 3-8 was 99.5% for literacy and 99.2% for mathematics.

*Smarter Balance  
Results (SBAC)*

Approval of the Financial Report for the period ending September 30, 2018.

*Routine Matters*

*Financial Report*

Mr. Pauluk moved and Mr. Zydanowicz seconded:

THAT the Board of Education approve the Financial report for the period ending September 30, 2018.

Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes from the October 16, 2018 Regular Board of Education meeting.

*Approval  
Of Minutes*

Ms. Polun moved and Dr. Thomas-Farquharson seconded:

THAT the Board of Education approve the minutes of the Regular Board of Education meeting of October 16, 2018.

Motion passed unanimously.

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Hall High School (substitute) Student Representative Megan Polun reported to the Board that Hall boy's soccer and girl's field hockey are heading to states this week, the Hall/Conard Football game will be next week and a pep rally is being planned for Friday, Madrigal shows begin next week tickets are available online. Veteran's Day will be observed on Monday, foods classes will prepare lunch for the veterans and a concert will be performed, parent/teacher conferences will begin next week. Conard High School Student Representative Gus Bacon reported to the Board that college early action is underway, last Thursday the Conard PTO presented a panel for parents College Admissions/Life after Conard which helps parents and students navigate the college app process, Pep Band Mifest Pyramid concert is scheduled for next week, the Black Box 10 play festival will kick off on Wednesday in the Black Box Theatre, Conard drama presented the Crucible and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students will be discussing this in classes. Gus also reported the Conard Homecoming dance will take place after the Hall/Conard football game and a pep rally is being planned for next Friday.

*Information and Reports*

Dr. Cheryl Greenberg announced the following meeting dates:

1. Tuesday, November 20, 2018, Regular Board of Education meeting, Town Hall, 50 South Main Street, room 314, Legislative Chamber, 7:00 p.m.
2. Tuesday, December 4, 2018, Regular Board of Education meeting, Town Hall, 50 South Main Street, room 314, Legislative Chamber, 7:00 p.m.
3. Tuesday, December 18, 2018, Regular Board of Education meeting, Town Hall, 50 South Main Street, room 314, Legislative Chamber, 7:00 p.m.

*Future Business:  
Announcement of Meeting Dates*

No requests for future agenda items.

*Request for future Agenda Items*

Nancy Barnum, 19 Garfield Rd., West Hartford, spoke on School Start Times.

*Comments from Visitors*

Liz Santoro, 132 Garfield Rd., West Hartford, spoke on School Start Times.

Annie Donovan, 50 Linnard Rd., West Hartford, spoke on School Start Times.

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Mrs. Blanks moved and Mr. Pauluk seconded:

*Adjournment*

THAT the Board of Education adjourn at 9:48 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

ATTEST:

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Dr. Cheryl Greenberg, Chairperson      Dave Pauluk, Secretary  
*Respectfully submitted by: Mrs. L. Hamel, Substitute Clerk of the Board*

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