

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
WEST HAVEN, CONNECTICUT  
AGENDA #16  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**October 15, 2018  
Board Meeting Room  
6:00 PM  
Page 1 of 2**

**A. Call to Order, Rosemary Russo, Chairwoman of the Board of Education**

**A.1. Pledge of Allegiance**

**B. Public Portion of Meeting**

**Resolved:** It shall be the policy of the West Haven Board of Education for individual members, if they so desire, to engage in dialogue with members of the general public during the time allowed on its agenda for public participation.

Dialogue must be confined to information gathering purposes and at no time will individual persons or personnel be the subject of discussion.

It is understood that the Board Members and Administration will be given adequate time to research any inquiry resulting from such dialogue and shall do so on specific direction of the Chair. It will be the authority of the Chair to cut off dialogue at any time it deems feasible.

**C. Reports:**

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

State Representative, Dorinda Borer will give a presentation on School Safety

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

**C.1.c. Board**

**C.1.d. Committee**

**D. Pursuant to Robert's Rules of Order** the following questions are subject to the Board's vote without debate. Should a member choose to debate a specific question, he will move to lay the question on the table, and it shall become the first item of New Business. The Board will then vote on the remaining questions.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
WEST HAVEN, CONNECTICUT  
AGENDA #16  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**October 10, 2018  
Board Meeting Room  
6:00 PM  
Page 2 of 2**

**D.1. Approval of Minutes**

**D.1.a.** The **West Haven Board of Education Special Board Meeting** was held in the Board's Meeting Room, City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, CT on Monday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:45 PM.

**D.1.b.** The **West Haven Board of Education Regular Board Meeting** was held in the Board's Meeting Room, City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, CT on Monday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 PM.

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

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

**D.4. New Business**

**18-84 ED-099 Connecticut State Department of Education  
Agreement For Child Nutrition Programs**

**Move to Approve**

**F. Informational**

**F.1. Stacey Anquillare**, 4 Hunting Lane, North Haven, CT 06473  
Position: Medical Building Paraprofessional –Forest School  
Salary: Step 1 \$18,278.97 plus stipend \$800  
Effective: October 9, 2018

**F.2. Nigel A. Davis**, 19 Gilbert Ave., West Haven, CT 06516  
Position: Math Aide – Bailey Middle School  
Salary: Hourly Rate \$16.09  
Effective: October 3, 2018

**F.3. Cynthia A. Denysenko**, 145 Chauncey Street, West Haven, CT 06516  
Position: Math Aide – Forest School  
Salary: Hourly Rate \$16.09  
Effective: October 3, 2018

ED-099 Revision 1/18  
7 CFR Part 210  
7 CFR Part 215  
7 CFR Part 220  
7 CFR Part 225  
7 CFR Part 226  
7 CFR Part 245  
7 CFR Part 250

1584

**Connecticut State Department of Education**  
Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education  
450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 504  
Hartford, CT 06103-1841

## AGREEMENT FOR CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS

**15600**

*Child Nutrition Program Sponsor Agreement Number*

West Haven School Lunch

*Sponsor Name (Town, City, Board of Education, School, Organization, or Corporation)*

325 Main Street, West Haven, CT 06516

*Street Address, City, State, Zip Code*

For State Use Only	
<b>Type of Agency</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education Institution	
<input type="checkbox"/> Government Agency	
<input type="checkbox"/> For-profit Organization	
<input type="checkbox"/> Indian Tribe	
<input type="checkbox"/> Military Installation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Private Nonprofit Organization	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	

This Permanent Single Agreement (Agreement) represents the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) requirement for state agencies to provide each school food authority (SFA) with a single Agreement when a state agency administers any combination of the USDA Child Nutrition Programs (CNPs). This Agreement replaces all previous Agreements with the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) for each CNP indicated on page 2.

This Agreement shall be effective commencing on the approval date indicated on page 2 and remain in effect unless terminated as provided herein.

By signing this Agreement (page 15), the sponsor agrees to comply with the requirements for any CNP in which it is approved to participate.

The sponsor must comply with all requirements included in documents submitted as part of each CNP application, in addition to the requirements of this Agreement.

**This is not an application to participate in a CNP.**

P.L.

# WEST HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



*"Schools Committed to Excellence"*

P. O. Box 26010

West Haven, Connecticut 06516

Telephone: (203) 931-6825 Fax: (203) 937-4319

Jolene Barnes  
Personnel Director  
jolene.barnes@whschools.org

28 September 2018

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Neil Cavallaro, Superintendent of Schools

**FROM:**  Jolene Barnes, Personnel Director

**SUBJECT:** Recommendation: Medical Building Para  
Forest School

Principal Thomas Hunt would like to recommend the following candidate for the open position:

Name:	Stacey Anquillare
Address:	4 Hunting Lane North Haven, CT 06473
Position:	Medical Building Paraprofessional
Location:	Forest School
Annual Salary:	Step 1 \$18,278.97 plus Stipend \$800
Effective:	October 9, 2018

Cc: Thomas Hunt, Principal  
Joseph Lucibello, Director of Pupil Services  
Matthew Cavallaro, Finance Director  
Marilyn Halligan, Para Union Local 2262 Union President  
Georgianna Dini, Para Union Local 2262 Union President  
Theresa Carlucci, Payroll  
Board Agenda/Informational  
Personnel File

P.2.

# WEST HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

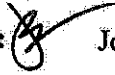


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Jolene Barnes  
Personnel Director  
jolene.barnes@whschools.org

28 September 2018

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Neil Cavallaro, Superintendent of Schools  
**FROM:**  Jolene Barnes, Personnel Director  
**SUBJECT:** Recommendation: Math Aide  
Bailey Middle School

Thomas Hunt would like to recommend the following candidate for the open position:

Name: Nigel A. Davis  
Address: 19 Gilbert Ave  
West Haven, CT 06516  
Position: Math Aide  
Location: Bailey Middle School  
Annual Salary: Hourly Rate \$16.09  
Effective: October 3, 2018

Cc: Robert Bohan, Principal  
Dr. Nicole Danishevsky, Math Coordinator  
Matthew Cavallaro, Finance Director  
Theresa Carlucci, Payroll  
Board Agenda/Informational  
Personnel File

P. 13.

# WEST HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



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Jolene Barnes  
Personnel Director  
jolene.barnes@whschools.org

28 September 2018

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Neil Cavallaro, Superintendent of Schools  
**FROM:**  Jolene Barnes, Personnel Director  
**SUBJECT:** Recommendation: Math Aide  
Forest School

Thomas Hunt would like to recommend the following candidate for the open position:

**Name:** Cynthia A. Denysenko  
**Address:** 145 Chauncey Street  
West Haven, CT 06516  
**Position:** Math Aide  
**Location:** Forest School  
**Annual Salary:** Hourly Rate \$16.09  
**Effective:** October 3, 2018

**Cc:** Thomas Hunt, Principal  
Dr. Nicole Danishevsky, Math Coordinator  
Matthew Cavallaro, Finance Director  
Theresa Carlucci, Payroll  
Board Agenda/Informational  
Personnel File

D. I. a.

**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING  
WEST HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION  
October 1, 2018  
Board Meeting Room**

A Special Meeting of the Board of Education was held on October 1, 2018 in the Board Meeting Room on the second floor of City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, Connecticut. The meeting was called to order at 5:45 PM by Rosemary Russo, Chairwoman of the Board of Education. The meeting opened with a pledge to the flag.

**BOARD MEMBERS  
IN ATTENDANCE:**

- Rosemary Russo, Chairwoman
- Robert Guthrie, Vice Chair
- Susan Walker, Secretary/Treasurer
- Patrick Leigh
- James W. Morrissey
- Patricia Libero
- Karen Pacelli
- Rosa Richardson

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Lauren Aceto

**ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:** Neil Cavallaro, Superintendent of Schools  
Anne Druzolowski, Assistant Superintendent  
Matt Cavallaro, Director of Finance

**CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:**

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES**

**PRESENT:** Brendan Carew  
Sumedha Chowdhury  
Julia Walker

Chairwoman Rosemary Russo said we are very lucky tonight to have West Haven High School students presenting to us. Dana Parades had the West Haven High School Cheerleaders come forward and give a cheer. Applause. Everyone said it was a nice way to start the meeting. Thanks were given to the cheerleaders and their coach Kelly Last for their presentation this evening. Dana said we wanted to showcase our nursing program tonight. Mrs. Valerie Cosenza, RN is the spotlight teacher from the high school and she is an award winning nursing instructor who continually has scores at the top of the charts. We produce more than 30 certified nursing assistants every year in this program and it is one of the programs Dana is most proud of. Two student nurses Adriana and Jerry talked about the program. Adriana said she is part of Ms. Cosenza's nursing class and also HOSA. Adriana said Ms. Cosenza is a very fabulous teacher. We learn by reading and listening to how the words are pronounced so we understand how the

words work and she makes sure that we know the skills 100% and what a prognosis means and diagnosis and she has us do a lot of other things. She can tell if we are absorbing the material through our composition notebooks which she utilizes. She checks our notebooks for the stuff that we learned and has us bullet point them to make sure we are keeping on track and doing our 30 minutes of learning every night. For HOSA she has us go on trips to an actual class and we also work on skills because she will not allow us to go to clinical if we do not know the skills 100%. Today we practiced putting the patients in wheelchairs and transporting them up and down the ramp in school. The board gave thanks.

Jerry is part of Mrs. Valerie Cosenza's nursing class and also a part of HOSA. This is probably one of the best classes he has ever taken at West Haven High because it is filled with such diversity, both male and female and a few from all over the world. It is just good and a fun class to be in. It is like an honor to be in this class, we are number 1 in the state and a very good opportunity that all students should take advantage of.

Adriana said we do more than just helping ourselves in this class we help other people. We had a blood drive during HOSA where we all volunteered time out of our school day to help the people that needed blood. Last year we helped Pam Gardner and she really appreciated it; it was really nice to see her smile. The board gave thanks. Applause followed. Dana said they could go on and on all day about our nursing program but since we only have 15 minutes she wanted to thank all of the student nurses for being here. Mrs. Cosenza's students are very dedicated to her and dedicated to this program because they all came out this evening.

Dana said we will showcase another student group this evening and those are students who are participating in the Yale Pathways to Science and we have Sumedha Chowdhury and Miranda Burrows to speak about this. Applause.

Sumedha said the Yale Pathways to Science Program is a program that students from 6<sup>th</sup> grade onward are recommended to participate in events during the school year as well as in the summer. During the school year they have lectures with Yale professors and they have Engineering Day and have a Chemistry Day and that gets students involved and interested in the science and technology field. When you are in high school they still have this program and also have summer programs.

Miranda is a senior at WHHS and she talked about a program she participated in over the summer the Yale Pathways To Science Summer Scholars Residential Program. This program allows select pathways seniors, selected by an application process, to spend two weeks at the Yale campus. Students experience a typical day for a college student. They are responsible for getting to bed by curfew time, getting up in the morning, making sure classwork is ready and having the assignments given to us and getting to classes on time. This taught them responsibility, time management etc. The classes were taught by former Yale students as well as high school educators. The classes were very informative and we did a lot of hands on stuff with them. The classes Miranda took were disorders of the brain, learning of consciousness and college essay writing and in addition we also had a program just for the residential students which was called College Readiness. They taught us about setting goals, decision making and the dos and don'ts of college and how to get through certain situations that we might see in college. Miranda said she not only became more educated and learned more about the fields she wanted to pursue but she also met many students who had the same career paths and choices that she wants to go in. This made her experience more memorable and more rounded. They also had counselors, BA and RA's who talked to them about the programs and answered any questions we had about the schoolwork, campus life and what their experiences were. This program was very



well designed in touching the surface of what a college life would be like and what we had to look forward to. She would really recommend this to any high school junior that is involved in the Yale Pathways Program to take advantage of this rewarding program and apply this year.

Sumedha said that the Yale professors and students really helped. She was able to talk to the residential advisor who advises the students that live at Yale during the school year and he talked to her about admission tips and how college works and that is really insightful as she is a senior now and applying to colleges. The summer program is available to freshman and sophomores but they don't get the residential option. Students are also able to participate in internships in Yale labs so they get to have lab experience and work experience before heading off to college which is really nice for students. Even if you can't attend the program because it is restrictive and is six weeks over the summer, Maria the coordinator, helped me contact professors who are looking for students and Sumedha was able to get an internship with another professor for the school year and that was really nice. Chairwoman Russo asked how long the summer program is. Sumedha said two weeks and the internships are six weeks. Pat Libero asked if you receive high school credit for this or is it just the privilege of going. It is the privilege of going and if you get an internship they might write you a letter of recommendation. Thank you. The board gave thanks.

Dana said the Fall Festival is coming up and this is something that really showcases all that we have to offer in West Haven. We have all of our clubs, sports, and academic classes come together and put on a really nice festival at the high school. We have our Trick or Trunk and to speak more about this and about senior class council we have Jon and Brandy. Jon is involved with student council and has been looking at the upcoming Fall Festival coming up Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. A sports clinic will begin at 10:00 AM and anyone from West Haven involved in West Haven sports and the partnerships with other schools will come over and get a sense of what it means to be a student athlete in West Haven. This will last until around 11:00 AM. This will take place at the West Haven Gym on the turf at the field. The Mackrille gym will be used for some girls' basketball, tennis courts and other areas where all the sports will meet and talk and that will last about an hour until 11:00 AM when the festival will start. This is taking place on the field this year because the construction means we can't use the courtyard like we normally do. Around 75 clubs and activities have been invited to attend and we are expecting around 50 tables for clubs to sit at. There will be some raffles, food trucks, and Rita's Ice. Activities start at 11:30 with the band, dance group and cheerleader performances. Around 12:15 there will be an obstacle course and there will be challenges between children from the different schools and prizes will be awarded. At 12:30 there will be a singing competition where six students will be judged by four West Haven Alum with singing backgrounds and prizes will be awarded. Before the Fall Festival we will be unveiling the new painted rock for the class of 2019 in front of the field and Brandy will tell you more about the student council.

Brandy is part of the student council and they will be having a booth there. You can learn a lot about West Haven High School by going to the Fall Festival with all the groups and organizations there. Hopefully the board members will be able to come. Thank you.

Jon said the 2019 Class Council will have their elections for our running positions that will happen on Friday and on Thursday each candidate will make a speech so that students in the class of 2019 can make a better vote based on what each candidate says. Senior Day is coming up on the PSAT Day where lower classmen will take the PSAT's. We will have time to do some senior activities and take our class photo on the field and there will be other activities; ice skating

and possibly bowling at the duck pin bowling place. We are trying to get Mr. Westy is something we are trying to get going again because it was always a fun thing to be doing at our school. We are all looking forward towards prom at the end of the year which will be held at Woodwinds in Branford. Senior activities are what we want to focus on because after all this time we have spent fund raising and attending school senior year culminates into this great last final hooray; we want to enjoy our final few days in West Haven and for some of us it may be our final few days in Connecticut so thank you very much. Applause.

Dana said it is nearly impossible to fit all we have to offer at the high school in just 15 minutes so we just took a little snippet for you.

Jim Morrissey congratulated all the students. There are wonderful things that go on at West Haven High School and he knows this is only a small part of it. As a board member I just want to say thank you. There are fine students at West Haven High School who do a great job and as board members we are proud of you. In regard to the nursing program Mrs. Cosenza is a wonderful teacher. Jim's daughter was in the nursing program at WHHS and because of Mrs. Cosenza's wonderful guidance being a great teacher his daughter is a nurse at the VA Hospital. She loved her class with Mrs. Cosenza and always talked so highly of her. When she entered your class she came home and said she wanted to be a nurse. Mrs. Cosenza you really made that kid's dream come true and Jim hopes that the students here tonight go on and become nurses also it is a great profession and he knows you do a wonderful job. Thank you for all the hard work that you do. Applause. Dana said the students have not done their clinical yet but maybe sometime later in the year they can come back and report to you. Mrs. Cosenza is really on top of their skills so that when they go into the clinical setting she is sure they are providing the absolute best patient care. This program has kids from everywhere at every academic level and academic ability and every background and everyone really has an equal opportunity in Mrs. Cosenza's class and that really speaks to her character as a teacher and that is one of the reasons we chose her as our spotlight teacher. Pat Libero said Mrs. Gardner texted her to see how her peeps were doing and Rosa said we are very proud of all of you. Thank you. Applause.

Chairwoman Russo asked for a motion to adjourn.

Karen Pacelli made the motion

Sue Walker seconded the motion

All board members were in favor

The Special Meeting adjourned at 6:04 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Marylou C. Amendola  
Board Secretary

D.1.b.

**WEST HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**October 1, 2018**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**Board Meeting Room**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was held on October 1, 2018 in the Board Meeting Room on the second floor of City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, Connecticut. The meeting was called to order at 6:05PM by Rosemary Russo, Chairwoman of the Board of Education. The meeting opened with a pledge to the flag.

**BOARD MEMBERS**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Rosemary Russo, Chairwoman  
Robert Guthrie, Vice Chair  
Susan Walker, Secretary/Treasurer  
Patrick Leigh  
James W. Morrissey  
Patricia Libero  
Karen Pacelli  
Rosa Richardson

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Lauren Aceto

**ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:** Neil Cavallaro, Superintendent of Schools  
Anne Druzolowski, Assistant Superintendent  
Matt Cavallaro, Director of Finance

**CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:**

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES**

**PRESENT:**

Brendan Carew  
Sumedha Chowdhury  
Julia Walker

Chairwoman Russo turned the meeting over to Superintendent Cavallaro before beginning public session. Superintendent Cavallaro said we have a very special announcement tonight which is something we have been working on and hoped it was going to happen. We received the official word today from the U.S. Department of Education. In Superintendent Cavallaro's 10 plus years as Superintendent this is one of the proudest moments that he has had. It is a very special honor that was bestowed upon one of our schools. Superintendent Cavallaro turned the meeting over to Dr. Druzolowski who oversees curriculum instruction and has worked with Tom Hunt. Dr. Druzolowski showed a video of the U.S. Secretary of Education, Betsy DeVos who stated, "I'm pleased to celebrate with you as your school is named a National Blue Ribbon School. We recognize and honor your important work in preparing students for successful careers

and meaningful lives.” She looks forward to meeting the honorees in Washington D.C. in November to celebrate their recognition and learn from their experiences.

Congratulations on your students’ accomplishments and for your extraordinary commitment to meeting their unique needs. Forest School is one of the 2018 National Blue Ribbon Schools. Dr. Druzolowski said we don’t select ourselves to go forward we are selected by the State Department of Education based on test scores. They look at overall performance, educational gap closing which is the huge one, and they have promise for people who have improved quite a bit. Forest School was chosen for educational gap closing for its data for 2016/2017. They saw data that said we were instructing all kids not just some kids and that has been our goal for the past 10 years. All kids will benefit from instruction not just a top group, a middle group, or a lower group; everyone. When we presented this to the school they were very excited and crying because you can imagine all of the work they have done and they stayed the course. This is due to every teacher, paraprofessional, custodian, nurse and lunch aide. Everybody in that building has contributed to the success of what is going on.

Mr. Tom Hunt, Principal of Forest School will be going to Washington. Tom said it was a very long process. We learned of our eligibility early last year and began working on the procedure to apply towards it and it was a year-long process. Because we really didn’t know that we would get it until we got it so we were sworn to secrecy. Today he and Dr. Druzolowski watched the live release from Washington this afternoon and in a half an hour he went back to school and put together a quick assembly for the kids and they viewed exactly what you viewed tonight and they got to see their school’s name on the video screen in our gymnasium. This is something we got because we show up every day and do what we like to do and it is geared towards all kids. The new state accountability report really takes into account all children now; it is not just the proficient child and above, it is all children. His EL learners and his Special Education Resource Children and his Tier 3 Instructional Children and remedial kids are showing huge amounts of growth and are finally being recognized as learners. He is honored to be nationally recognized and very humbled at the same time. We will continue to go to our building and do what we do day in and day out. What we do is strongly supported by the administration. The PD offerings and the workshops that teachers go to, the training that they get and carrying out the strategies that they learn at the training to execute their class lessons are really invaluable and we need to maintain that on a consistent basis. All those pieces to the puzzle got us to where we are today. Thank you very much. This was the lead story in the New Haven Register Journalist, Mark Zaretsky stated. Applause.

Dr. Druzolowski said 8,800 schools have been recognized in the past 36 years. This year we had four in Connecticut five if you count the non public which is a small school in Simsbury St. Mary’s. We have an elementary school in New Canaan which has different demographics and we have ours and the University of Hartford Magnet School and Killingworth High School. This was a pleasant surprise to everybody and they all worked very hard. The leadership is a really big piece of it. Our friend here, Tom Hunt, follows every pathway and every map that we put out and we thank you so much; it is a pleasure working with you. Applause.

Chairwoman Russo said we are all beyond proud and the work you accomplished is really unbelievable. She knows how hard that is and knows the population at Forest and to get this honor is really something. She thanked Tom Hunt, Superintendent Cavallaro, Dr. Druzolowski, the teachers, the paras, nurses, the custodians everyone contributed and you all should be very proud. We are so proud of you. Thank you again. Applause.

## **B. Public Portion of Meeting**

Chairwoman Russo opened up public session and asked three times if anyone would like to address the board this evening. There were no speakers.

## **REPORTS**

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

Superintendent Cavallaro said this is one of his proudest moments and is proud of Anne and her team and Tom and the team over at Forest. You don't do these things to get honored but it is certainly nice when people notice and when you start to show results and all the hard work you have put in starts to pay off. We will showcase Forest and honor the teachers, paras, nurses, the custodians because it is a team effort. Forest is a happy place, everyone is very welcoming, it is an inviting place, a very clean place and a good place to learn and it starts with my good friend Tom so again thank you for all you do it really is a pleasure working with you.

Superintendent Cavallaro thanked Dana and the high school students. This is the first meeting and we will do this once a month which is great. Unfortunately we are limiting every school to 15 minutes and it is difficult to showcase only a few of their clubs. The high school has the festival coming up at the end of the month and it is a great way to showcase all of the clubs, activities and other good things going on at WHHS. It was nice to have the kids talk about how they feel about the programs.

Superintendent Cavallaro said we had a really good week last week and the teacher's contract was approved by both the City Council overwhelmingly and at the MARB subcommittee meeting on Thursday we received a lot of nice compliments. It was really a pleasure working with the teacher's group and at the end of the day we thought it was a very fair contract.

Matt Cavallaro gave a budget update and said we finished last year just under \$100,000.00 under budget so we had a very successful year. We talk about Special Education and Transportation at all our meetings and with the excess cost we were able to stay pretty close to the budget figure. We had a small over run in the Special Ed Transportation because of the needs of children it can change day to day. The good thing about that is it is bid every year and this year we had our bids for the next fiscal year in August and we had a new company come in that really underbid some of the runs and we expect to see some savings. We had a great year in Workman's Comp and hopefully this will continue. The HAS did what we thought it would do but there weren't huge savings because we had to pay out 50% of the deductible to get the membership into the plan

which is standard. This really did stabilize the claims and we were able to live within the means of the budget and it was basically the same amount as we budgeted the prior year which is pretty much unheard of. We think this plan will only get better over time and more membership we get enrolled. Matt asked if there were any questions. Bob Guthrie asked how the relationship was with the new finance director for the city compared to previous administrations. Matt has met him a couple of times and had some brief conversations with him and he seems like a good guy and Matt is looking forward to working with him and hopes they have a great working relationship like we have had with the ones in the past. Neil senses that he is looking to modernize the office and he thinks as time goes by we will be doing more with the office upstairs and getting on the same page and making sure everybody is utilizing the software which both the city and the BOE pay for. Chairwoman Russo thanked Matt.

Joe Lucibello, Director of Pupil Services said Rosa Richardson asked that we review some of this information at the last board meeting and Dr. Stefania Larry will help with the presentation. He passed out two sheets of paper an Out of District Tuition Sheet and our current Self Contained Classrooms in District which has the number of teachers, paras, med techs, nurses and the number of students. These numbers are of today and in the PreK Rooms it is an ongoing up and down number but the numbers in the Self Contained Labs have gone up this year a little bit which puts a little strain on our resources. We were able to hire some additional paras which have helped and hiring more teachers has helped tremendously. Dr. Larry will explain a couple of rooms and give examples of the students that would be in some of these particular rooms. Superintendent Cavallaro said Joe did a really nice job of putting the numbers together and I really wanted you to have an idea of what some of the classes look like and some of the needs of these children. On the surface everything looks very expensive however when you see the services that we are providing and the number of kids we are offering these services to it becomes more meaningful to you as a board.

Dr. Larry said a self contained classroom you may also hear it called a learning lab is a classroom consisting of students just with disabilities. It is a classroom with a very low teacher student ratio to meet the needs of our students and it consists of students with various disabilities. Students in our self contained classrooms or learning labs do spend time with their typical peers and that is determined by their planning and placement team consisting of their parents or guardians, clinicians in the building, the building principal and the teachers and they decide what is best for that student to transition with non disabled peers. In West Haven we are fortunate to have a variety of learning lab placements. We are very individualized in our approach. We have self contained classrooms for students that are medically fragile. Many of our students in our medically fragile rooms are non ambulatory so they have wheel chairs and they may use walkers, standers to transition in the building. Many of our students in the medically fragile classrooms have nurses assigned to them for feeding purposes as they may have a G Tube and also for respiratory purposes and some carry oxygen and all their medical equipment. We also have in district Autism Specific Labs for students who have the diagnosis of Autism and Autism is a spectrum so there is a range of how a student may present. We have students with autism who are in our traditional education classrooms but the

students in our autism learning labs primarily have limited communication and many are nonverbal and require other means of communication whether it be low tech options, just simple picture cues or other visuals and some have high tech communication systems where they may use assistive tech and they may have an iPad for their communication needs. Students in our autism programs traditionally have difficulty with personal social skills so there is a lot of direct teaching and personal social skills for our little guys in our pre-school and this could be basic functional play. Many have difficulty playing with common household toys so it is direct instruction on even how to use a train on a track. We have developmental learning labs and students in those classrooms have a range of disabilities. Some have cognitive impairments and some are visually impaired. We have two students this year that with a cortical vision impairment that have lost most of their vision and are on the braille track. We have students in our developmental learning labs that present with some behavioral needs and concerns. Behavior in an elementary setting can look a variety of ways it can be general non compliance, property destruction, aggression at times so luckily we have experts in the building that help with programming for our students that have behavioral type needs. Students are placed in a lab after we have exhausted every action within our regular education setting over a period of time where we use intervention and determine what is best for the student. We work with the clinicians in the building, the experts in the building, and if it is a cognitive delay or some other type of impairment we can use our resources within the regular education room prior to going to a lab placement. There are students who transition back from the lab to a regular education environment. Students in our regular education class do experience some delays and they are serviced by the special education staff in the building. Some students just require that push-in support or that co-teaching model and some students need that resource support where they are pulled from the classroom to work on skills and then we have our learning lab placements which is based on student need and individualized.

Joe Lucibello said on the Self Contained Report you notice Carrigan has two more rooms than Bailey because in the medical room and the high needs room we didn't want to have students transition too many times so we decided to keep them more of a 5-8 so they do not go to Bailey they stay at Carrigan. Those rooms tend to have more students because you are talking about four grades as opposed to two. Stefania said as Joe said with our preschool classrooms they generally start low in September because we receive students as they transition from the birth to three programs to us when they turn three. Questions were asked by board members and responded to.

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

The BOE vs. City Council Food Drive for WHEAT is being kicked off today and will run until November 19. Please bring in non-perishable food items.

The full report can be found on the last page of the minutes.

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

Jim Morrissey said it is a great idea to bring our schools in and showcase the great things that our students do during our board meetings. He knows it is only for 15 minutes but is sure the board will be happy to give you more time if possible to showcase the schools

throughout the whole year. Jim thanked Dana for the good job she did and stated it is nice to see all the great things going on at our high school and all of our schools. People should learn more about this instead of the negative things. Jim congratulated Forest School and echoed the statements of other board members great job Mr. Hunt, Neil, Anne and all the teachers, paras and whole staff at Forest School. This is a great honor and you should be proud.

Rosa Richardson said it is nights like tonight that make her very proud to serve this community. Thank you.

Karen Pacelli commended Forest School but also wanted to thank the students too because it was their hard work also, the teachers of course but it is also the students.

Pat Libero said they had reading day at Mackrille and Miss Connecticut showed up and she is adorable. The kids were excited and it was a really nice day and they always do a nice job there. Pat read to kindergarten children and it was fun. Congrats to Forest that is really exciting. It is nice to hear good news for us. Pat loved that West Haven High came here tonight and share what they are doing because she thinks they always get a bad rap and she is happy there are lots of good things to celebrate. She is glad we are the lead story on the New Haven Register so thank you.

Sue Walker congratulated Mr. Hunt, the teachers, staff and students at Forest that is fantastic. A couple of years ago Forest received a School of Distinction Award so you have wonderful things going on and I congratulate you. Sue thanked the high school for coming. It gave her a blast from the past. For four years she coached the high school cheerleaders. Great things are going on there and at every school in West Haven and the world should know about it so congratulations to all of you.

Chairwoman Russo said this was really a fun meeting. The Cheerleaders starting it off really made it; she wishes they could start all the meetings off. There are a lot of things happening in West Haven Public Schools and she doesn't think people realize what we have going on. As Chairman of the Board Rosemary tries to make it known to City Council and to other people who will listen that we are doing great. We are always in budget, test scores are good, our teachers are the best and that was a big sacrifice for them to make and they did it and have done it before. I hope they don't have to continue to do it. Rosemary said to City Council that she really hopes the day will come when we don't have to beg for every penny that we get. She enjoys having the schools come in and looks forward to the others coming. Congratulations to Forest it goes without saying. She went to a PTA Council Meeting and she just wants to urge the board members to please join the PTA of your adopted school as they need the membership and we need to support them. It would be nice to become more involved with the PTA's because they are a driving force in our schools. They are a small group of people who work really hard to enrich the lives of our children.

#### **C.1.d. Committee**

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

**D.1.a. The West Haven Board of Education Regular Board Meeting** was held in the Board's Meeting Room, City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, CT on Monday, September 17, 2018 at 6:00 PM.



Chairwoman Russo asked for a motion to approve the Regular Meeting minutes D.1.a.,  
Karen Pacelli made the motion to approve the minutes  
Rosa Richardson seconded the motion  
Discussion: Bob Guthrie abstained as he was not present during the last board meeting.  
All board members were in favor  
Minutes are approved

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

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

**18-82 Molly Funk**, 858 Freeman Avenue, Stratford, CT 06614  
Part-Time Speech Position – Forest and Carrigan Intermediate School  
Salary: \$30.00 per hour  
Effective: September 14, 2018

Chairwoman Russo asked for a motion to approve New Hire item 18-82  
Rosa Richardson made the motion  
Karen Pacelli seconded the motion  
Discussion: Superintendent Cavallaro said that this position is in addition to a full time person at each school. Rosemary asked how many hours for part time is it 19 ½ hours or less. Joe Lucibello said we are doing two days right now and the teachers already in the schools will let us know if they require any more but he doesn't anticipate it going above 15. It is one day at one school and two days that will be split because she is working in Milford also.  
All board members were in favor  
Item 18-82 is approved

**D.4. New Business**

**18-83 2019 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Competitive Grant**

Chairwoman Russo asked for a motion to approve item 18-83  
Dr. Druzolowski said this is a competitive grant that we are applying for and it is limited to \$50,000 to ensure homeless children are identified and go to school and get the support that they need to stay in school and thrive.  
Bob Guthrie made the motion  
Rosa Richardson seconded the motion  
All board members were in favor  
Item 18-83 is approved

**F. Informational**

Chairwoman Russo asked for a motion to adjourn

The motion was made by Rosa Richardson  
Karen Pacelli seconded the motion  
The meeting adjourned at 7:03 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Marylou Amendola  
Board Secretary

BOE Student Rep Report

C.l.b.

October 1, 2018

1. There is an early dismissal on Wednesday for professional development
2. Assemblies for the beginning of the year were held this past week.
3. Students from the West Haven High School Band volunteered at the Apple Festival this past weekend.
4. Congrats to football team for their win on Friday
5. PSATs on Oct. 10th for 9<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> graders. Seniors will have Senior Day. The school will have a special schedule for that day.
6. Pep rally and Homecoming is on Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>
7. Senior class speeches Oct. 4th and elections on Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>
8. SATs are this Saturday (Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>)
9. ACTs are on Oct. 27<sup>th</sup>
10. Parent Visiting Day is October 22<sup>nd</sup>. No school for students. Parents can visit from 9am to 12pm and then in the evening from 6:00pm to 8:30 pm
11. No school Monday the 8th for Columbus day