



CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW BRITAIN

## New Britain Board of Education | Regular School Board Meeting

April 1, 2019 | Pulaski Middle School

### Call to Order and Roll Call

Mr. Nicholas Mercier, Vice-President of the New Britain Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 6:06 PM.

#### Board Members Present

Ms. Catherine Cheney, Mr. Merrill Gay, Ms. Violet Jimenez-Sims, Mr. Nicholas Mercier, Ms. Annie Parker, Ms. Sanders-Connolly

#### Board Members Absent

Ms. Yvonne Muniz, Ms. Nancy Rodriguez, Ms. Nicole Rodriguez, Mr. James Sanders, Jr.

#### Welcome from Pulaski Middle School

On behalf of the staff and students, Ms. Heather Whitehead, Vice-Principal of Pulaski Middle School welcomed the Board for holding the meeting at their school. She stated that “we are a community and we are here for you.

### Student Recognition

5 students from the district were honored for their art work that was on display with our sister city of Astugi, Japan. Mr. Mercier briefed us on the partnership between the two cities and stated that he looks forward to this presentation each year. We have had a partnership with Astugi for 35 years.

#### Superintendent’s Report

- A. Committee Reports
- B.

### Reports

The Superintendents Report is attached.

### Executive Session

Ms. Gayle Sanders-Connolly made a motion to go into executive session at 6:38 PM to discuss the following, seconded by Ms. Cathy Cheney

- 5D Update on pending legal matter
- 5E Approve Administrative appointments

Superintendent Sarra, Dr. Tucker (Chief Talent Officer), and Mr. Kane (Chief Operations and Finance Officer) were invited into executive session. Motion carried unanimously.

### New Britain Board of Education

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## Continuation of Meeting

The meeting resumed in open session at 7:00 PM

## Appointments

Ms. Cathy Cheney made a motion to approve the appointment of Heather Nicol as principal of Holmes Elementary School, seconded by Ms. Sanders-Connolly. Ms. Nancy Sarra feels very confident bringing her name forward. She works very hard, is detail oriented, is highly organized and is a champion for our students.

*The motion carried unanimously.*

Ms. Sanders-Connolly made a motion to approve the appointment of Ms. Gina Polley as an Elementary School Principal effective July 1, 2019, seconded by Ms. Annie Parker. Ms. Sarra said that she is excited to bring her on, she has 19 year experience in the Hartford Public Schools. Ms. Annie Parker said she also knows Ms. Polley from Summer School and knew she was going places. Ms. Gina Polley state that she is honored to become a principal in New Britain and has always had a love for teaching.

*The motion carried unanimously.*

## Presentations

Family Resource Center Redesign, presented by Sondra Sanford, copy attached.

Pupil Services Data Update, presented by Mark Spalding, copy attached

## 1. Consent Agenda

### **Operations: Approve minutes from the regular Board of Education Meeting on March, 4, 2019**

Submitted by Mr. Matthew Cannata | No subcommittee review

### **Operations: Accept Enrollment Report**

Submitted by Mr. Jeff Prokop | No subcommittee review

### **Partnership: Accept donation from Local 51 for New Britain High School Music Department (\$1,000)**

Submitted by Ms. Leona Clerkin |

This is a donation for the booklet for In the Heights.

### **Partnerships: Accept donation from Nellie Mae Education Foundation (\$18,000.00)**

Submitted by Ms. Ryan Langer |

### **Academics: Approve Purchase Order for Wilson Training (\$16,811.49)**

Submitted by Ms. Amy Anderson | Funding Source: Alliance

This quote is so that we can train staff within district.

### **Academics: Approve Purchase Order for LLI reading records and training in the LLI program (\$58,006.00)**

Submitted by Ms. Amy Anderson | Funding Source: Title I |

This quote is for additional materials for the Early Literacy Tutors who will be hired in the next school year.

### **Academics: Approve Purchase Order for Math Expressions Program (\$119,697.48)**

Submitted by Ms. Amy Anderson | Funding Source:

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This is a quote for additional consumable Math materials for the next school year.

*Ms. Gayle Sanders-Connolly made a motion to open discussion on the purchase of Math Expressions, seconded by Ms. Cathy Cheney. Ms. Violet Jimenez-Sims asked who uses this program. Ms. Amy Anderson stated that this purchase was for actual consumable books for K-5 and they are the only consumables they are purchasing now. She also noted that they have significantly reduced the amount being spent, only purchasing what they need.*

**Academics: Approve Purchase Order for Review 360 Social/Emotional Screener K-12 (\$32,506.00)**

Submitted by Ms. Amy Anderson | Funding Source: Local

**Academics: Approve Purchase Order for Houghton Mifflin Journeys and Math Expressions (\$158,774.48)**

Submitted by Ms. Amy Anderson | Funding Source: Local

*Ms. Gayle Sanders-Connolly made a motion to open discussion on the purchase of Math Expressions, seconded by Ms. Cathy Cheney. Ms. Violet Jimenez-Sims asked who uses this program.*

*Ms. Amy Anderson stated that this is a fraction of the original quote which was \$500,000.00. She stated that our six year on-line subscription expires August 31, 2019, she had the usage reports run and it is used heavily by teachers and offered in both English and Spanish. MR. Nicholas Mercier stated that they are text book related and discussed at both the Finance and Curriculum Sub Committees.*

*Ms. Gayle Sanders-Connolly made a motion to approve the purchase of this item, it was seconded by Ms. Cathy Cheney. Motion carried unanimously.*

**Academics: Approve Purchase Order for NWEA Map (\$59,800.00)**

Submitted by Mr. John Taylor | Funding Source: Title I

This is a quote for the purchase of NWEA map for the 19-20 school year. It was discussed that some teachers use this more than others.

**Academics: Approve Purchase Order for Google Expeditions (\$55,794.00)**

Submitted by Ms. Jen Wright | Funding Source: Alliance I

This is a quote for Google Expeditions, Ms. Wright gave an explanation of what Google Expeditions is, it will go hand in hand with the curriculum and lets students explore many different places.

*Ms. Gayle Sanders-Connolly made a motion to remove items h and l from the consent agenda, Ms. Cathy Cheney seconded the motion. Ms. Sanders-Connolly expressed her excitement with the purchase of Google Expeditions, she is hoping that the Board will get a demonstration at a future date. Ms. Gayle Sanders-Connolly made a motion to approve the purchase of Google Expeditions, seconded by Ms. Cathy Cheney. Motion carried unanimously.*

**Academics: Approve Bid Waiver and Purchase Order for the purchase of six Chromebook carts (\$57,306.00)**

Submitted by Mr. Damon Pearce | Funding Source: Local

This is a quote for the purchase of six additional Chrome carts for New Britain High School. These will be replacement carts as the high school has some of the oldest carts.

**Academics: Approve Contract for the SPPPT Program funding from the State of CT (\$100,000)**

Submitted by Ms. Ryan Langer |

This funding is for our Pregnancy Prevention Program. We receive this money annually.

**Academics: Approve Purchase Order to provide student agendas for all students in New Britain Public Schools (\$18,000.00)**

Submitted by Ms. Lara Bohlke | Funding Source: Title I |

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This is a quote for student agendas for the 19-20 school year. Agendas are provided to all students.

**Academics: Approve Purchase Order for student name badges. (\$13,000.00)**

Submitted by Ms. Lara Bohlke | Funding Source: Alliance I

This is a quote for id badge holders for all students. All students are provided with these each school year.

**Operations: Approve Purchase Order for purchase of two Chromebook carts for DiLoreto School (\$19,102.00)**

Submitted by Mr. Jeff Prokop | Funding Source: SIG

This quote is for the purchase of additional Chromebook Carts for DiLoreto. The purchase of these carts will give additional resources to the school.

**Operations: Approve Purchase Order for purchase of two Chromebook carts for Northend School (\$19,102.00)**

Submitted by Mr. Jeff Prokop | Funding Source: SIG

This quote is for the purchase of additional Chromebook Carts for Northend. The purchase of these carts will give additional resources to the school.

**Operations: Approve Purchase Order for purchase of two Chromebook carts for Smalley School (\$19,102.00)**

Submitted by Mr. Jeff Prokop | Funding Source: SIG

This quote is for the purchase of additional Chromebook Carts for Smalley. The purchase of these carts will give additional resources to the school.

**Operations: Approve Purchase Order for purchase of two Chromebook carts for Smith School (\$19,102.00)**

Submitted by Mr. Jeff Prokop | Funding Source: SIG

This quote is for the purchase of additional Chromebook Carts for Smith. The purchase of these carts will give additional resources to the school.

**Operations: Approve Purchase Order for purchase of two Chromebook carts for Pulaski Middle School (\$19,102.00)**

Submitted by Mr. Jeff Prokop | Funding Source: SIG

This quote is for the purchase of additional Chromebook Carts for Pulaski. The purchase of these carts will give additional resources to the school.

**Operations: Approve Purchase Order for purchase of two Chromebook carts for Slade Middle School (\$19,102.00)**

Submitted by Mr. Jeff Prokop | Funding Source: SIG

This quote is for the purchase of additional Chromebook Carts for Slade. The purchase of these carts will give additional resources to the school.

**Operations: Approve Finance Report – February 28, 2019**

Submitted by Mr. Kevin Kane | Page 148

**Personnel: Approve Personnel Transactions and Extracurricular Appointments**

Submitted by Dr. Shuana Tucker | No subcommittee review | No documents available in packet

**Personnel: Approve New Position Request for (1) Paraeducator at the New Britain Transition Center**

Submitted by Dr. Shuana Tucker | Reviewed by the Personnel Subcommittee on March 25, 2019 | Page 177

*Mr. Nicholas Mercier made a motion to delete item c as it was a duplicate of item I, the motion was seconded by Ms. Gayle Sanders-Connolly. Motion carried unanimously.*

## 2. New Business

Academics: Bid Waiver for LAS Links English Language Proficiency Assessment (\$9,551.00)

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*Ms. Gayle Sanders-Connolly made a motion to approve the purchase of the LAS Links, seconded by Ms. Annie Parker. Motion carried unanimously.*

Partnerships: Accept grant from the Community Foundation to establish Behavioral Transition Plan from preschool to kindergarten (\$30,000.00)

Submitted by Ms. Maegan Adams |

*Mr. Merrill Gay made a motion to accept this grant, the motion was seconded by Ms. Sanders-Connolly. Motion carried unanimously.*

Policy: Board Action to certify that all foods sold to students will meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards

Submitted by Ms. Ann Alfano | No Subcommittee Review | Page 187

The CSDNB Wellness Policy – 6142.101 – states that the Consolidated School District of New Britain’s Board of Education believes that children’s health is essential to their success in school. The Board of Education believes that its district schools and programs must engage students, parents and school staff members, and its greater school community to develop and implement practices that will enhance its health education, nutrition programs and physical activity/education programs in ways that will augment our students’ overall health, behavior and overall achievement.

Under Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.), healthy food certification (HFC) requires each board of education or governing authority for all public schools participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) to certify annually to the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) whether they will follow the Connecticut Nutrition Standards for all foods sold to students separately from a reimbursable school breakfast or lunch in the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) school nutrition programs.

The Connecticut Nutrition Standards apply to all a la carte foods offered for sale to students at all times, in all schools and from all sources including school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, fundraising activities on school premises and any other sources of food sales.

The three considerations for the vote by the board of education/governing authority are whether to meet the requirement of the state HFC statute (C.G.S. Section 10-215f) for HFC participation and food exemptions, and beverage exemptions under the state beverage statute (Section 10-221q).

- 1. Healthy food option:** Pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, the board of education or governing authority certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to, school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or by non-school organizations and groups.
- 2. Food exemptions:** The board of education or governing authority will allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the food items are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The “regular school day” is the period from the midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held.
- 3. Beverage exemptions:** The board of education will allow the sale to students of beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the beverages are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting or extracurricular activity. The “school day” is the period from the midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held, and must be the same place as the beverage sales.

*Prior motion: Mr. Merrill Gay made a motion to certify that all foods sold to students will meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards, the motion was seconded by Ms. Sanders-Connolly. Motion carried unanimously.*

*Amended motion: “Motion to certify that the Board of Education will follow all three considerations that meet the requirements of the state HFC statute (C.G.S. Section 10-215f) for HFC participation and food exemptions, and beverage exemptions under*

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*the state beverage statute (Section 10-221q).”*

*Ms. Gayle Sanders Connolly made a motion to add the following item, seconded by Ms. Cathy Cheney. Motion carried unanimously.*

Policy 5134.00 Students who are Pregnant, Married and/or Parents

This policy has not been updated since May 1992. Ms. Sanders-Connolly made a motion to accept the changes, seconded by Dr. Violet Sims. Motion Carries

*Ms. Gayle Sanders Connolly made a motion to add the following item, seconded by Ms. Cathy Cheney. Motion carried unanimously.*

Policy 6164.11 – Drug Education

*Ms. Cathy Cheney made a motion to accept the changes, seconded by Ms. Gayle Sanders-Connolly. Motion carried unanimously.*

*Dr. Violet Sims made a motion to add the following item, seconded by Ms. Gayle Sanders-Connolly. Motion carried unanimously.*

Policy 4131.00 - Professional and Staff Development

*Ms. Cathy Cheney made a motion to accept the changes, seconded by Ms. Gayle Sanders-Connolly. Motion carried unanimously.*

## **Closing and Adjournment**

Ms. Sanders-Connolly motioned to adjourn at 8:22 PM, seconded by Ms. Cathy Cheney. Motion carried unanimously.