New Britain Board of Education Regular Meeting
November 4, 2019 - 6:00 PM | New Britain Educational Administration Center

Call to Order and Roll Call

Call to Order
Ms. Nicole Rodriguez, President of the New Britain Board Education, called the meeting to order at 6:06 PM.

Board Members Present
Ms. Catherine Cheney, Mr. Merrill Gay, Mr. Nicholas Mercier, Ms. Annie Parker, Ms. Diana Reyes, Ms. Nancy Rodriguez, Ms. Nicole Rodriguez, Mr. James Sanders, Jr., Ms. Gayle Sanders-Connolly, Dr. Violet Jimenez Sims

Board Members Absent
None

Welcome
Ms. Nicole Rodriguez welcomed Ms. Diana Reyes to the New Britain Board of Education. On October 23, 2019, Ms. Reyes was appointed by the Common Council of the City of New Britain to fill the vacancy on the Board of Education created by the resignation of Ms. Yvonne Muniz.

Public Participation

Mr. and Mrs. Jefte and Vanessa Vazquez

Mr. and Mrs. Vazquez expressed their concerns regarding an incident that occurred with their daughter’s school bus driver last Friday. Mrs. Vazquez reported that the bus driver did not show up that day to pick up their preschool daughter and take her to Roosevelt Early Learning Center as evidenced by their surveillance camera. Mrs. Vazquez then stated that the bus driver began yelling and acting inappropriately with her husband when he questioned her later that afternoon. Mr. Vazquez reported that his daughter was traumatized by the argument that she witnessed between them. Both parents agreed that they do not like the manner in which the situation was handled by the bus company, First Student, and the district Transportation Department. Mr. and Mrs. Vazquez are very upset and would like someone from the district to contact them regarding their concerns with the bus driver’s behavior and would like to see a positive resolution to the situation.

Mr. John Board

Mr. Board encouraged the New Britain School District to adopt American Sign Language (ASL) as one of the official world languages taught as part of their curriculum. He stated that ASL is already offered as a course in over 30 school districts in Connecticut. Mr. Board emphasized that the inclusion of ASL would have many benefits for our students, educators, and community members including increased development of oral language skills, confidence in public speaking, and a more humanized connection with the deaf community.
Mr. Salvatore Escobales

Mr. Escobales, New Britain Federation of Teachers Union President, congratulated Ms. Andrea Foligno on her impending administrative appointment at Smalley Elementary School. Mr. Escobales wished Ms. Foligno the best of luck in her new position stating that she is a wonderful choice for the position and that the kids, teachers, and school greatly deserve her.

Pastora Migdalia Marquez

Pastora Migdalia Marquez spoke to the board on behalf of herself and other pastors from churches in the greater New Britain community through Spanish translation provided by Ms. Elisa Cruz-Gonzalez. Ms. Marquez acknowledged the important work that the board of education does for the children in the community. She stated that her grandson attended Holmes School for one year where he received an excellent education. Ms. Marquez extended her blessings to the board members and prayed for them to have the strength and wisdom to make important decisions for all of the children in New Britain.

Reverend Alexis Lopez

Reverend Lopez addressed the board through Spanish translation provided by Ms. Elisa Cruz-Gonzalez. He expressed concern about changes in the department of education specifically with regard to what will be implemented in the curriculum. Mr. Lopez stated that members of his Christian community intend to be present and looking ahead to the future for their children and grandchildren. Reverend Lopez extended his blessings to the board members.

Minister Elisa Cruz-Gonzalez

Minister Cruz-Gonzalez, founder of I’M Ministry of his LOVE Restoration Center, thanked the board members for their great work on behalf of other Christian pastors in the community. Ms. Cruz-Gonzalez expressed her gratitude for the kind and courteous way that her son is being treated in the Adult Education Program.

Pastor Vincent Placeres

Pastor Vincent Placeres of Grace Baptist Church expressed concern that Spanish students are not doing well in school and are at increased risk for dropping out. Mr. Placeres stated that the Spanish community wants to stand united with the school district and create a partnership to help change the statistics and help children succeed and be the best students and community members they can be.

Ms. Nicole Rodriguez invited the pastoral representation to attend the next community forum scheduled for November 13, 2019 at 5:30pm at OIC on 114 North Street.

Recognition of Board Members

Mr. Mercier motioned to add board member awards to the agenda in recognition of Ms. Nicole Rodriguez, Mr. James Sanders, Jr., Ms. Catherine Cheney, and Ms. Yvonne Muniz, seconded by Ms. Sanders-Connolly. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Mercier honored and individually thanked each outgoing New Britain Board of Education Board Member for their service to the families and children of New Britain. On behalf of the Consolidated School District of New Britain and the New Britain Board of Education, Mr. Mercier presented certificates to Ms. Rodriguez, Mr. Sanders, Jr., Ms. Cheney, and Ms. Muniz (in absentia).

Reports

The Superintendent’s Report is attached.
Mr. Mercier motioned to move item 6B (Discuss Legal Settlement) up after item 3A (Donation Presentation) on the agenda, seconded by Ms. Sanders-Connolly. Motion carried unanimously.

**Presentations**

**Donation from Paige Marchione, Ava Marchione, and Elie Crociata**

A video presentation created by Paige and Ava Marchione was shown highlighting their fundraising efforts to benefit New Britain Public Schools. Through the Kindness in Motion Program, the girls held a fundraiser at Dish ‘n Dat Restaurant in Canton. Dish ‘n Dat donated 25% of total food sales from that evening. Food sales totaled $1,000 which resulted in a donation of $250. The girls also collected an additional $700 from a raffle, bake sale, and donations that evening resulting in a fundraising total of $950. The girls would like the donated money to be used for school supplies and books.

Board members thanked the three girls for their generosity and efforts and presented a family member with certificates.

**Executive Session**

Mr. Mercier motioned to go into executive session at 7:09 PM to discuss items 6B (Discuss Legal Settlement pertaining to Workers’ Compensation) and 6A (Approve Administrative Appointment), seconded by Ms. Sanders-Connolly. Superintendent Sarra and Dr. Shuana Tucker (Chief Talent Officer) were invited into executive session. Motion carried unanimously.

**Continuation of Meeting**

The meeting resumed in open session at 7:23 PM.

**Old Business**

**Policy: Approve Revised Policy 6142.101 – District Wellness**  
Reviewed by Policy Subcommittee on September 16, 2019

The Policy Subcommittee made the following recommendations:

- **Item 11 - Qualifications of Food Service Staff**: Change “Staff development programs shall include appropriate certification and/or training programs...” to “Staff development programs will be scheduled in conjunction with contracted food service providers and shall include appropriate certification and/or training programs...”
- **Item 16 – Foods Brought Into School**: Strike “The district shall develop guidelines to help ensure that food brought from home to be shared with other students is appropriate.”
- **Item 16 – Foods Brought Into School**: Change “Classroom snacks shall feature healthy choices...” to “Classroom snacks that are provided by the district shall feature healthy choices...”
- **Item 17 – Sharing of Foods**: Add sentence “Food shall not be brought in from home to be shared with other students.”
- Reformat Items 8-20 assigning them as letters A-M under School Food Category
- Renumber Health Services as Item 8
- Reformat Items 22-24 assigning them as letters A-C under Health Services Category
- Renumber Family Engagement as Item 9
- Renumber Community Involvement as Item 10

Mr. Mercier motioned to approve the revision of Policy 6142.101 – District Wellness, seconded by Ms. Sanders-Connolly. Motion carried unanimously.
Consent Agenda

(There were no objections to pull the following items off the Consent Agenda. Therefore, these items were approved):

**Operations: Approve minutes from the Regular Board of Education Meeting on October 8, 2019**
Submitted by Ms. Kristin Salerni I No Subcommittee Review

**Operations: Approve minutes from the Special Board of Education Meeting on October 23, 2019**
Submitted by Ms. Kristin Salerni I No Subcommittee Review

**Operations: Accept Enrollment Report**
Submitted by Mr. Jeff Prokop I No Subcommittee Review

Submitted by Dr. Shuana Tucker I No Subcommittee Review

**Operations: Accept Donation from New England Dairy and Food Council ($7,970)**

The purpose of the donation is to improve the access to and consumption of low-fat and fat-free dairy products. The donated funds will be utilized to purchase an insulated cambro cart and blenders which will help to increase participation in the breakfast program by facilitating the production of more appealing nutritional options such as smoothies and yogurt bars.

The total is $7,970.00 and the funding source is New England Dairy & Food Council.

**Partnerships: Accept Donation from Paige and Ava Marchione ($1,000)**
Submitted by Ms. Andrea Foligno I Reviewed by the Finance Subcommittee on October 28, 2019 I Funding Source: Paige & Ava Marchione

Paige & Ava Marchione, two students from New Hartford School district, planned a community event and raised $1,000.00 for New Britain students. The girls would like to speak to explain their school project and how they would like this money to be used to support students.

The total is $1,000.00 and the funding source is Paige & Ava Marchione.

**Operations: Approve Bid Waiver/Purchase Order/Addendum to Contract between Studer Education and Consolidated School District of New Britain ($23,500)**
Submitted by Ms. Keeva Mancini I Reviewed by the Finance Subcommittee on October 28, 2019 I Funding Source: Alliance 234196910001-53320

This agreement with Studer Education is to administer a District Services Survey to Administrators. Feedback from department leaders will allow the Superintendent to continuously improve service to schools, and the students and families of each school.

The following departments will be rated:
Superintendent’s Office
Academics
Partnership
Facilities & Maintenance
Finance
Talent
Pupil Services
Transportation
MIS
Food Services
The total is $23,500 and the funding source is Alliance 234196910001-53320.

Academics: Approve Bid Waiver and Purchase Order for Professional Development and Job-Embedded Coaching provided by Math Solutions ($23,328)
Submitted by Ms. Karen Falvey I Reviewed by the Finance Subcommittee on October 28, 2019 I Funding Source: SIG Grant Professional Development

Smith analyzed its data both SBAC and NWEA over the course of three years. The data suggests that there is deficits in grade 2 and 4 math instruction. Smith's problem of practice is to improve the fractions standard. Math Solutions will work with these grade level teams to increase their instructional practices in mathematics while supporting our problem of practice. Grade 2 will focus on the geometry standard which directly relates to the fraction standard in grade 2 and 3. Grade 4 team will focus on the fraction standard. Math Solutions professional development and coaching directly relate to the profile of the graduate. Teachers will improve instruction for supporting analysis and constructing meaning and using critical and creative problem solving in the classroom while maintaining a student centered classroom.

The total is $23,328.00 and the funding source is SIG Grant Professional Development.

Personnel: Approve Bid Waiver and Purchase Order for Culturally Responsive Workshop Series provided by Dr. Rebecca Good ($27,000)
Submitted by Dr. Shuana Tucker I Reviewed by the Finance Subcommittee on October 28, 2019 I Funding Source: Alliance 23419691000153320

2019 - 2020 Culturally Responsive Workshop Series for CSDNB Administrators

Goal: CSDNB school leaders will spend the year their cultural competency with relevant research in the field of cultural responsiveness, unpacking implicit bias and the ways it impacts their decision making and learning to facilitate critical conversations about cultural diversity within their schools.

Time Commitment: Each school leader will participate in nine 3-hour workshops starting in September and ending in June.

The total is $27,000.00 and the funding source is Alliance 23419691000153320.

Academics: Approve Bid Waiver for STEM/STEAM Enrichment Program for NBTC Students ($13,910)
Submitted by Ms. Susan Girolomoni I Reviewed by the Finance Subcommittee on October 28, 2019 I Funding Source: Title IV Grant

This activity will provide STEAM enrichment to NBTC students, in grades K-12, who at this time are not involved in NBU.

The total is $13,910.00 and the funding source is Title IV Grant.

Finance: Approve Purchase Order and Contract between Consolidated School District of New Britain and Soliant Health, Inc. for a Speech/Language Pathologist Assistant ($25,200)
Submitted by Ms. Donna Clark I Reviewed by the Finance Subcommittee on October 28, 2019 I Funding Source: 3rd Party Billing 25819741000153402

In partnership with community early childhood agencies, preschool students who require Speech & Language services are able to receive those services within their community program through an itinerant service delivery model. Presently two SLPs are assigned as itinerant service providers to serve preschool students within the community. These two practitioners are also responsible for servicing preschool students within the classrooms at RELC. An increase in the Speech & Language caseload, both in the community and at RELC, has warranted additional staffing to meet the immediate service delivery needs. An SLP Assistant has been contracted through Soliant Health Agency to support these two SLPs in meeting the mandated service hours on their caseload.

In addition, there has been an increase in the Speech & Language caseload in the Gaffney KEY program, which serves students who have Autism. This contracted SLP Assistant will also provide support at Gaffney to meet the mandated service hours at that building.

The total is $25,200.00 and the funding source is 3rd Party Billing 25819741000153402.
Finance: Approve Purchase Order and Contract between Consolidated School District of New Britain and CT EARS, LLC ($35,840)
Submitted by Ms. Donna Clark | Reviewed by the Finance Subcommittee on October 28, 2019 | Funding Source: IDEA Grant 20209691200253401

Audiology services are defined under several sections of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Audiologists in the schools are uniquely qualified to provide students with hearing impairments and listening problems access to auditory information by maximizing their auditory capabilities. The goal is to provide access to the curriculum and learning environment so that these children and youth have the opportunity to achieve the expected one year academic progress in one year.

CT EARS, LLC was the only vendor to submit a proposal. The owner/Audiologist, Dr. Diana Gonzalez, has a long history of service provision to CSDNB and has cultivated positive relationships with staff, students and families over the years.

The total is $35,840.00 and the funding source is IDEA Grant 20209691200253401.

Partnerships: Approve Bid Waiver and Purchase Order for Machinery for Tech Ed Rooms at Slade and Pulaski Middle Schools ($184,776)
Submitted by Ms. Sondra Sanford | Reviewed by the Finance Subcommittee on October 28, 2019 | Funding Source: Local Funds

This purchase order is to request the purchase of items that will allow middle schools to vertically align with the MET Academy and to provide skills that are competitive in the current environment/industry. In doing so, providing opportunities so to students have access to Manufacturing in lower grades. The MET academy was designed with a K-12 vertical approach. STEAM in K-5, 6-8 CTE Manufacturing and 9-12 MET. These machines require specific skills and comprehension for teaching and learning. These machines will be placed in the new updated Tech Ed room at Slade Middle School and Pulaski Middle School. $56,000 (per school) is for the lathes and stands. $36,388 (per school) is from Paxton Patterson for grinders, drills, etc. Please see attached quotes.

The total is $92,388.00 ($56,000 + $36,388) = $184,776.00 and the funding source is Local Per Kevin.

Finance: Approve Bid Waiver/Purchase Order/Contract between New Britain Public Schools and Capitol Region Education Council (CREC) for Math Concepts Technical Assistance ($40,000)
Submitted by Mr. Alejandro Ortiz | Reviewed by the Finance Subcommittee on October 28, 2019 | Funding Source: School Improvement Grant (SIG) line 300

Professional development for teachers and administrative staff to help deepen their understanding of math concepts and instruction and to develop for our students a deeper understanding of math concepts. PD will entail Instructional Leadership training, walkthrough audit, calibration, & collection of evidence-based data of student learning, and opportunities for adult learners to check for understanding. Consultant will prepare teachers in establishing a culture of math excellence that emphasizes deep understanding and application of mathematical concepts over rote memorization of facts and algorithms.

The total is $40,000.00 and the funding source is School Improvement Grant (SIG) line 300.

Operations: Approve Close-Outs of School Building Construction Projects ($10,000)
Submitted by Ms. Helen Talalaj | Reviewed by the Finance Subcommittee on October 28, 2019 | Funding Source: Local Board of Ed Funds n/a


The total is $10,000 and the funding source is Local Board of Ed Funds n/a.

New Britain Board of Education
Nicole Rodriguez - President | Nicholas Mercier – Vice President | Gayle Sanders-Connolly - Secretary
Catherine Cheney | Merrill Gay | Annie S. Parker | Diana Reyes | Nancy Rodriguez | James Sanders Jr. | Violet Jiménez Sims
Submitted by Mr. Kevin Kane I Reviewed by the Finance Subcommittee on October 28, 2019

This is a new report that is required pursuant to a new statute/law that went into effect as of July 1, 2019 as shown below: (§) 290 – Boards of Education Expense and Revenue Disclosure
Requires boards of education to quarterly post online current and projected expenses and revenues and submit this information to the municipal legislative body or board of selectmen.

Operations: Approve Finance Report – September 30, 2019
Submitted by Mr. Kevin Kane I Reviewed by the Finance Subcommittee on October 28, 2019

The Financial Report ending September 30, 2019 was presented.

New Business

Personnel: Approve Administrative Appointment
Submitted by Ms. Nancy Sarra I No subcommittee Review

- Ms. Andrea Foligno, Elementary School Principal at Smalley Elementary School, effective November 5, 2019. Currently Interim Elementary School Principal at Smalley Elementary School. The salary is $135,601 and the funding source is local funding.

Ms. Sanders-Connolly motioned to approve the administrative appointment of Ms. Andrea Foligno to Elementary School Principal at Smalley Elementary School, seconded by Ms. Cheney. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Operations: Approve 2018-2019 Per Pupil Expenditure Comparisons
Submitted by Mr. Kevin Kane I Reviewed by the Finance Subcommittee on October 28, 2019

The Consolidated School District of New Britain Per Pupil Expenditure Update was presented by Mr. Kane (Chief Financial Officer).

Mr. Mercier motioned to approve the 2018-2019 Per Pupil Expenditure Comparisons, seconded by Ms. Cheney. Motion carried unanimously.

Operations: Approve 2020 Board of Education Meeting Calendar
No Subcommittee Review

Mr. Mercier motioned to approve the 2020 Board of Education Meeting Calendar, seconded by Ms. Cheney. Mr. Mercier motioned to postpone approval of the 2020 Board of Education Meeting Calendar until the next regular board meeting in December, seconded by Mr. Sanders, Jr. All were in favor with the exception of Mr. Gay, Ms. Parker and Dr. Jimenez Sims. Motion carried.

Personnel: Approve New Position Request: 1.0 FTE Kindergarten Teacher for Gaffney Elementary School
Submitted by Ms. Nancy Sarra I Reviewed by the Personnel Subcommittee on October 28, 2019

This position is needed to ease the large class sizes in Kindergarten at Gaffney Elementary School. This is a full-time, 10 month position. The estimated cost is $65,000 and the funding source is local.

Ms. Cheney motioned to approve the new position request for (1.0) Kindergarten Teacher for Gaffney Elementary School, seconded by Ms. Sanders-Connolly. Motion carried unanimously.
Personnel: Approve New Position Request: 1.0 FTE Adult Education Retention Specialist for Adult Education
Submitted by Mr. Mark Fernandes | Reviewed by the Personnel Subcommittee on October 28, 2019

The Credit Diploma Program requires that students are not more than ten minutes late or they are marked absent and cannot be absent more than twice or they are dropped from the course. A student must be 27 hours in the classroom to get credit for the class. This person will work with students to help them get to class on time and attend all classes. This will include phone calls, counseling sessions and home visits. This is a part-time, 10 month position. The estimated cost is $14,000 and the funding source is the Adult Education Grant.

*Ms. Cheney motioned to approve the new position request for (1.0) Adult Education Retention Specialist for Adult Education, seconded by Dr. Jimenez Sims. Motion carried unanimously.*

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*Mr. Mercier motioned to approve the following new position requests for the KEY Program, seconded by Mr. Sanders, Jr.:*

**Personnel: Approve New Position Request: 1.0 FTE Special Education Teacher for KEY Program (Districtwide)**
Submitted by Ms. Danielle Singleton | Reviewed by the Personnel Subcommittee on October 28, 2019

KEY Class sizes are currently too high, resulting in learning environments that are not conducive to meeting the student’s needs. Additionally, there continues to be a need for a program in district for students with autism that are high functioning yet struggling in their current classes. This new position and class will address both district needs.

This is a full-time, 10 month position. The estimated cost is $65,000-$75,000 and the funding source is local.

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**Personnel: Approve New Position Request: 1.0 FTE Registered Behavioral Technician for KEY Program (Districtwide)**
Submitted by Ms. Danielle Singleton | Reviewed by the Personnel Subcommittee on October 28, 2019

KEY Class sizes are currently too high, resulting in learning environments that are not conducive to meeting the student’s needs. Additionally, there continues to be a need for a program in district for students with autism that are high functioning yet struggling in their current classes. This new position and class will address both district needs.

This is a full-time, 10 month position. The estimated cost is $50,000 and the funding source is local.

**Personnel: Approve New Position Request: 2.0 FTE Paraeducators for KEY Program (Districtwide)**
Submitted by Ms. Danielle Singleton | Reviewed by the Personnel Subcommittee on October 28, 2019

KEY Class sizes are currently too high, resulting in learning environments that are not conducive to meeting the student’s needs. Additionally, there continues to be a need for a program in district for students with autism that are high functioning yet struggling in their current classes. This new position and class will address both district needs.

This is a full-time, 10 month position. The estimated cost is $46,000 x 2 and the funding source is local.

*Motion carried unanimously.*

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**Personnel: Approve New Position Request: 1.0 FTE Special Education Teacher for Slade and Pulaski Middle Schools**
Submitted by Mr. Mark Spalding | Reviewed by the Personnel Subcommittee on October 28, 2019

Given current increased case load numbers, scheduling constraints, and in support of the provision of the Wilson Reading System at the middle schools, one additional Special Education Teacher (1.0 FTE) is needed to support both buildings. This is a full-time, 10 month position. The estimated cost is $66,388 and the funding source is local.

*Ms. Cheney motioned to approve the new position request for (1.0) Special Education Teacher for Slade and Pulaski Middle Schools, seconded by Ms. Sanders-Connolly. Motion carried unanimously.*
Personnel: Approve New Position Request: 1.0 FTE Behavior Support Assistant for New Britain High School
Submitted by Mr. Mark Spalding | Reviewed by the Personnel Subcommittee on October 28, 2019

Given the number of students who require time in the Focus Room to process referrals coupled with the frequency and duration to process with students, the Focus Room at NBHS Bridges requires an additional BSA in order to support fidelity of implementation. This is a full-time, 10 month position. The estimated cost is $58,687 and the funding source is local.

*Ms. Cheney motioned to approve the new position request for (1.0) Behavior Support Assistant for New Britain High School, seconded by Ms. Sanders-Connolly. Motion carried unanimously.*

Policy: Approve Revised Policy: 6162.40 - Volunteers
Reviewed by the Policy Subcommittee on October 21, 2019

The Policy Subcommittee recommended striking the current policy and replacing it with:

“It is the policy of the New Britain Board of Education that anyone who volunteers will be subject to adequate security and safety procedures to help ensure the safety of all children.

Volunteers who are working alongside certified staff who will not have any unsupervised contact with students will be subject to checks against the registered sex offender database utilizing the school Raptorware system.

Volunteers who will have unsupervised contact with students will complete a volunteer application packet, undergo a criminal background screening, and then be approved for selection as a volunteer by the Talent Development Office in accordance with administrative procedures.”

*Mr. Mercier motioned to approve the revision of Policy 6162.40 - Volunteers, seconded by Dr. Jimenez Sims. Motion carried unanimously.*

Policy: Approve Revised Policy: 4111/4211 – Hiring of Staff
Reviewed by the Policy Subcommittee on October 21, 2019

The Policy Subcommittee made the following recommendations with regard to the policy:

- Strike the phrase “or special interest in” from the last sentence
- Add the following sentence onto the end of the policy: “All appointments of Administrative staff (such as, but not limited to, Directors, Building Administrators, etc) shall require approval of the full board.”

*Mr. Mercier motioned to approve the revision of Policy 4111/4211 – Hiring of Staff, seconded by Ms. Sanders-Connolly. Motion carried unanimously.*

Policy: Approve Revised Policy 6164.11 – Drug Education
Reviewed by the Policy Subcommittee on October 21, 2019

The Policy Subcommittee recommended that the suggested policy from CABE replace the current district policy.

*Mr. Mercier motioned to approve the revision of Policy 6164.11 – Drug Education, seconded by Mr. Sanders, Jr. Motion carried unanimously.*

Policy: Strike Policy 5145.52 – Equalized Physical Education and Athletics for Boys and Girls
Reviewed by the Policy Subcommittee on October 21, 2019

The Policy Subcommittee recommended that the entire policy be struck from the books as it falls under Title IX and other non-discrimination policies.
Mr. Mercier motioned to strike Policy 5145.52 – Equalized Physical Education and Athletics for Boys and Girls, seconded by Ms. Sanders-Connolly. Motion carried unanimously.

Policy: Approve/Re-affirm Revised Policy: 0523.10 – Multi-Cultural Education
Reviewed by the Policy Subcommittee on October 21, 2019

The Policy Subcommittee recommended that the appropriate state legal citation be added onto this policy in light of recent revisions made to the Administrative Procedures. This legislation requires inclusion of African American, Puerto Rican, and Latino studies in public school curriculum.

Mr. Mercier motioned to approve the revision of Policy 0523.10 – Multi-Cultural Education, seconded by Ms. Sanders-Connolly. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session

Mr. Mercier motioned to go into executive session at 8:10 PM to discuss Items 6P (Discussion of Superintendent’s Year-End Evaluation) and 6Q (Discussion of Superintendent’s Contract Extension), seconded by Ms. Sanders-Connolly. Motion carried unanimously.

Continuation of Meeting

The meeting resumed in open session at 8:54 PM.

New Business

Mr. Mercier motioned to authorize the Board of Education President Nicole Rodriguez, Vice-President Nicholas Mercier, and Secretary Gayle Sanders-Connolly to negotiate and execute a contract extension with Superintendent Sarra, seconded by Mr. James Sanders, Jr. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Mercier motioned to approve a bid waiver, purchase order, and contract between the Consolidated School District of New Britain and Arts for Learning CT in the amount of $18,400 for an arts enrichment program for Gaffney Elementary KEY students, seconded by Ms. Annie Parker. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Sarra presented board members with gifts of appreciation.

Mr. Sanders, Jr. addressed the board stating that it had been a pleasure and honor to work with his fellow board members.

Ms. Nicole Rodriguez stated that she originally joined the Board of Education to do good for her children so that they could enjoy New Britain as she did as a child. She thanked the board members for their collaboration and efforts during her tenure.

Ms. Cheney wished Mr. Gay and Ms. Sanders-Connolly good luck in the upcoming elections.

Closing and Adjournment

Ms. Sanders-Connolly motioned to adjourn at 9:04 PM, seconded by Ms. Cheney. Motion carried unanimously.