

**MINUTES OF THE WORKING MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Stamford, Connecticut  
April 14, 2009**

The Working Meeting of the Board of Education was held on April 14, 2009 at the Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Ms. Nabel, President, with the following Board members present: Ms. Heftman, Ms. Lahiri-Hoherchak, Ms. Lorenti, Mr. Mathews, Ms. Nabel, Mr. Polo (arrived at 7:28 pm), Mr. Rubino, and Ms. Wade. Absent: Mr. King and Mayor Malloy. Also in attendance: Dr. Starr, Dr. Hamilton, Dr. Nicholson, Ms. Swerdlick, Ms. Gagne, Ms. Karwan, Ms. Arnold, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Barbarotta, Mr. Casolo, Mr. Tramontozzi, representative from the Advocate, and approximately 35 guests.

Salute to the flag.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

Mr. Mathews presented the mission statement of the Board of Education.

**STUDENT SHOWCASE**

Rippowam Middle School students shared a preview of their upcoming performance of "The Music Man" which will take place on May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Mr. Knapp presented the Board Members with a signed picture from the All School Musical "Oliver" cast.

**REPORTS/DISCUSSIONS/RESOLUTIONS**

Ms. Nabel reviewed the format of the meeting for this evening.

**LABOR RELATIONS**

Ms. Gagne indicated that there was nothing new to report under Negotiations. Under Staffing there were two items to discuss which were the job descriptions that were requested by Board members for Transportation Coordinator and Transportation Manager. There was discussion on both positions and recommendations and changes were made.

Ms. Nabel suggested that once the revisions are made that the final descriptions be placed in the Board package one final time.

Mr. Polo arrived at 7:28 pm.

Ms. Gagne indicated that she did ask for the final copies of the Director of Security to be in the Board package and requested that any recommendations be forwarded to her. She did receive some recommendations and they were all included into the final description.

Ms. Gagne asked under Grievance/Arbitration for the Board's availability to hear one, possibly two, Level III grievances. The date of Tuesday, April 28, 2009 at 4:30 pm was decided upon.

Ms. Gagne reported under the SAU Contract that the April 5, 2009 award did come through from the Arbitration Office, but the copy was incomplete. She is in the process of trying to obtain a complete copy. Dr. Starr noted that this will be taken up by the Board of Representatives at their May 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Ms. Gagne reported that the Educational Assistants union had submitted a proposal to the Superintendent which was followed up with a meeting to discuss their thoughts on quite a few areas such as updating job descriptions, professional development needs, compliance areas, and general work and communication. She thought that this proposal was well received between the two parties and is looking forward to working with them. However, based on the current work flow and the type of activities that occur during the last quarter of the school year, we are pretty much in agreement that this needs to wait until July. She noted that she appreciates both the union president and vice president's willingness to work with her over the summer. We hope to have a plan in place before the new school year. Dr. Starr noted that he believes that there will be opportunities with the AARA money (Federal Stimulus) to fund some things. Ms. Heftman asked if this could be on the Committee agenda for the Working Meeting in August. Ms. Lahiri-Hoherchak noted that she heard some concerns that there were changes at the State level in requirements for Educational Assistants in their educational requirements. Ms. Gagne indicated that she did not know if there were any proposed changes forthcoming, but there were changes that were actually requirements and related to NCLB that were put in place June 30, 2006.

Ms. Gagne reported on staffing for the new Rogers School and indicated that the Board's position is that the move to the new Rogers School is being treated simply as a vacancy of one building. We expect to have our full staff move along to the new building with the exception of new positions that will be posted for example Grade 6 which will be treated as appropriate vacancies and posted for various staff members to have the opportunity to apply for.

**Resolution 04-28-09:98**

Ms. Lahiri-Hoherchak moved, seconded by Ms. Lorenti:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve a childcare leave for the remainder of the 2008-2009 school year for the following administrators: Jane Anderson and Elizabeth Aviles.

Ms. Lahiri-Hoherchak noted a Scribner's error and asked that the resolution be amended to read "following staff" instead of "following administrators."

The amended resolution was passed with the following Committee members voting in favor: Ms. Lahiri-Hoherchak, Ms. Heftman, Ms. Lorenti, Ms. Nabel, and Mr. Rubino.

**Resolution 04-28-09:99**

Ms. Lahiri-Hoherchak moved, seconded by Ms. Lorenti:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve personal leave(s) for the 2009-2010 school year for the following teacher(s): Tealecia Fletcher, Lauren Ferraris, and Carlie Noelle Meyer.

The resolution was passed with the following Committee members voting in favor: Ms. Heftman, Ms. Lahiri-Hoherchak, Ms. Lorenti, Ms. Nabel, and Mr. Rubino.

**Resolution 04-28-09:100**

Ms. Lahiri-Hoherchak moved, seconded by Ms. Lorenti:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the filling of 1 Special Education Assistant at Roxbury Elementary School effective April 29, 2009.

The resolution was passed with the following Committee members voting in favor: Ms. Heftman, Ms. Lahiri-Hoherchak, Ms. Lorenti, Ms. Nabel, and Mr. Rubino.

**Resolution 04-28-09:101**

Ms. Lahiri-Hoherchak moved, seconded by Ms. Lorenti:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the appointment of \_\_\_\_\_ to the position of Elementary School Principal(s) effective July 1, 2009.

Ms. Lahiri-Hoherchak moved, seconded by Mr. Rubino to table Resolutions 04-28-09:101, 04-28-09:102, and 04-28-09:103.

Ms. Gagne described the process for filling administrative vacancies. We have quite a few and once the posting closes for these positions we do have an executive team that meets to perform the initial paper screening to determine who is to be invited to interview with us. Once the invitees are determined we put together a much larger search committee that is comprised of stakeholders from various units in the district such as parent representatives, teacher representatives, administrators from central office, building administrators, and educational assistants. We then move to multiple levels of interviews with the first being the large search committee and, depending on the number of invitees that are interviewed, we very often short list to the second round of interviews which is conducted typically by Dr. Starr and a smaller committee of central office administrators. From there we anticipate with certain positions, not with all administrative vacancies, but with principal spots, directors and certainly cabinet member positions we also ask that the Board of Education members to interview in executive session for the final round before we submit a recommendation on behalf of the Superintendent.

Ms. Nabel proposed a Special Board meeting on Monday, April 27, 2009 at which point we will be introduced to and have the opportunity to interview candidates for these positions. We put these resolutions on the agenda in order to observe our new process of alerting the Committee and the Board to what actions would be necessary, but because these are essentially confidential discussions and interviews at this point and because we were not able to schedule the interviews we would like the Committee to know that these resolutions are here, for the full Board to know that they are here and then the full Board will be able, once the Special Board meeting has taken place, to vote at the Regular Board meeting on April 28, 2009.

The motion to table Resolutions 04-28-09:101, 04-28-09:102, and 04-28-09:103 was passed with the following Committee members voting in favor: Ms. Heftman, Ms. Lahiri-Hoherchak, Ms. Lorenti, Ms. Nabel, and Mr. Rubino.

**Resolution 04-28-09:102**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the appointment of \_\_\_\_\_ to the position of Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction effective July 1, 2009.

**Resolution 04-28-09:103**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the appointment of \_\_\_\_\_ to the position of Administrator for Adult and Continuing Instruction effective July 1, 2009.

A date was set for a Special Board meeting which will be held on Monday, April 27, 2009 at 6:00 pm and will be held in Executive Session.

**Resolution 04-28-09:104**

Ms. Lahiri-Hoherchak moved, seconded by Ms. Lorenti:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the revised job description for the position of Director of Safety & Security and to authorize the Executive Director of Human Capital Development to execute an individual contract for the 2008-2009 school year.

Board members asked various questions regarding the Position Description regarding major responsibilities for hiring, specificity regarding incident reporting, and interface with the Stamford Police Department. After that discussion, Board members reviewed the contract and made recommendations for changes.

Dr. Starr asked to table the contract to the next meeting. There is significant Board interest in the detail of the changes they are seeking and it would be better to table it and put a revised job description in to give the Board another opportunity to review. He asked that if there are additional questions, concerns, modifications, edits, revisions, requests, or anything else that they be submitted to the Committee chairperson so we can account for it accordingly when presented at the next meeting.

Ms. Nabel noted that there was a consensus of approval of the position description. She suggested we amend the resolution to end at "The Board approved the revised job description for the position of Director of Safety & Security" and leave the rest of the resolution out.

Ms. Lahiri-Hoherchak moved, seconded by Ms. Lorenti to amend the resolution to end at after the Director of Safety & Security.

The motion was passed with the following Committee members voting in favor: Ms. Heftman, Ms. Lahiri-Hoherchak, Ms. Lorenti, Ms. Nabel, and Mr. Rubino.

The amended resolution was passed with the following Committee members voting in favor: Ms. Heftman, Ms. Lahiri-Hoherchak, Ms. Lorenti, Ms. Nabel, and Mr. Rubino.

Ms. Nabel asked for a motion to take the Facilities Committee out of order.

Mr. Rubino moved, seconded by Mr. Mathews to take the Facilities Committee out of order.

The motion was passed with the following Board members voting in favor: Ms. Heftman, Ms. Lahiri-Hoherchak, Ms. Lorenti, Mr. Mathews, Ms. Nabel, Mr. Polo, Mr. Rubino, and Ms. Wade.

## **FACILITIES**

Mr. Barbarotta gave a status update and noted that the Architect and the City Engineers will present Phase 4 of 4 of the new magnet school playground. Mr. Casolo, City Engineer, indicated that they were here tonight to give a brief presentation in order to obtain approval from the Board, which is required in order to present this phase to the State of Connecticut for their approval in May. Randall Luther, Tai Soo Kim Partners, gave an overview of the playground area and the equipment that would be installed.

Ms. Nabel asked who the Board of Education representative on the School Building Committee is. Mr. Casolo replied that he would check with his office and have this matter corrected. Ms. Nabel asked that the Board of Education be notified of future meetings.

Mr. Casolo gave an update on other projects. He indicated that we are in the process of designing a place for the Rippowam modulars which are being relocated to Rogers. There was a public informational meeting held 3 weeks ago. Mr. Barbarotta spoke with the principal at Rippowam and there will be site work that was approved to begin on that campus to restore the site. The move out of Rogers is important to the next phase of whatever life Rogers will have which will be occupancy with some other programs. When the building is vacated it should be emptied as well. The other project we have going now is the design for masonry repairs at Boyle Stadium and that project will start very shortly. He is hoping that work will be completed prior to graduation. If it is not we will be sure that the stadium will be made available for graduation. There will be two roof projects this summer which will be for Stark and Springdale and this will be going out to bid shortly. The study of the Facilities Need Study by EMG – 3 of the reports (Northeast, Rogers, and Davenport) are completed. Who should

be receiving copies of those documents. Dr. Starr noted they should come to him in a final document. Mr. Barbarotta reported that the Turn of River windows and doors replacement project will be completed this summer, HVAC work at Cloonan, oil tank replacement at Rippowam, Stark, Hart, and Stillmeadow, and, based on funding, Dolan window and door replacements is sort of a design project only until the project is fully funded.

Mr. Casolo reported that with respect to the pedestrian access that we have been talking about for the new Rogers School, the lease agreement with the State of Connecticut has been drawn up and approved by the State of Connecticut. It was then passed on to the Federal Highway Administration for their approval. It is moving towards a final approval.

Ms. Lahiri-Hoherchak asked what would happen if the new environmental magnet school was not ready for September what kind of fall back would we have and we are waiting for a letter of agreement from the City. Mr. Barbarotta stated that he thought that once Board members tour the new building on Thursday that they would get a level of confidence on the schedule. Mr. Barbarotta noted that there would be very little work going on inside the existing Rogers building and if we had to stay he thought we could stay. Ms. Lahiri-Hoherchak asked if the City could enter into a formal agreement to use that space before we vacate. Ms. Nabel that could not happen until we sign the letter that relinquishes the building to the City.

Mr. Polo asked if we were on track with the EMG reports. Mr. Casolo noted that 17 schools have been inspected and we have received 3 final reports in draft form. Mr. Polo asked when the reports would all be ready and Mr. Casolo indicated it would be June 1, 2009. Dr. Starr asked if there would be a summary report of the 20 locations or would it be 20 individual reports. Mr. Casolo responded that it would be 20 separate reports.

#### **Resolution 04-28-09:94**

Mr. Mathews moved, seconded by Ms. Lorenti:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the Educational Specifications for the roofing project at Stark and Springdale Elementary Schools and authorize the Superintendent to file the ED-49 Applications as required by the State Bureau of Facilities.

The resolution was passed with the following Committee members voting in favor: Mr. King, Ms. Lorenti, Mr. Mathews, Ms. Nabel, and Mr. Polo.

## **Resolution 04-28-09:95**

Mr. Mathews moved, seconded by Ms. Lorenti:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the final Plans & Specifications for Phase 4 of 4 Playground Equipment for the Rogers International School, formally known as the Environmental Magnet School, to meet the State requirements for reimbursement at 95% of the total cost.

The resolution was passed with the following Committee members voting in favor: Mr. King, Ms. Lorenti, Mr. Mathews, Ms. Nabel, and Mr. Polo.

## **CURRICULUM**

Dr. Nicholson distributed a “draft” document on the Algebra I and Algebra IA status and gave an update noting that a lot of analysis of the test results and looked at various correlations and who exactly were the failing students. They looked at issues pertaining to attendance, if students were Special Education, or ELL students. She suggested looking at the current Attendance policy as it does not seem to be in line with some of our belief that students deserve extra chances. She noted that CMT’s results were looked at and noted that there were two particular strands (pattern and Algebraic concept) that seemed very predictive of success or failure in Algebra. We are looking at between now and the end of the year that those two Algebra strands 8<sup>th</sup> grade are really hammered in and will be part of the review part of Algebra I at the beginning of the year. These are some of the catch up types of things that we have to be sure of and those are two very specific things that we may be able to make some difference with. How we will address the number of failures in the mid-term in both Algebra and Algebra IA and there will be some changes in the format of the exams and will reduce the number of multiple choice questions. There will be a consistent grading practice with no curving or standard adjustment across all high schools and middle schools teaching Algebra.

Dr. Nicholson gave an update on the Literacy Audit and described what has been going on throughout this year for grades K-5. Two of the innovations that have been going on has been the implementation and training that went into the DRA2 which is a State mandated change in assessment which required us to purchase kits for teachers K-3, ELL, and Special Education along with professional development. The Wright Skills Phonics K-2 implementation required professional development for all K-2 teachers with follow up in each school by grade level. There was prep work done for the auditors for K-5. There was also support given to all 12 schools in phonics, developing their school improvement plans, and guided reading and other support. The Literacy Team worked very closely with the SET Teams, Summer School student identification and curriculum revision. There were monthly meetings with the 35 reading teachers which have become the major connection to the schools and central office in carrying out some of the practices. With response to the audit, there is a

process of the development of a 3 year action plan for Dr. Starr for the formation of a Literacy Planning Committee, hired an external consultant, and have identified the schools in the greatest need of resources at this moment. The planning team will consider what can be done in September. The most important thing will be to convene a Curriculum Development Committee that will begin work in the summer of 2009, budget permitting. Under Grades 6-12 the curriculum revision will be continued into the summer and inventories of the books have been amazingly enhanced and we hope to have course syllabi and parent brochures.

Under Summer School, Dr. Nicholson reported that Louisa Calka has informed her that everything is going according to plan and the budget is under control. Dr. Nicholson distributed a copy of the Summer School brochure along with additional information pertaining to dates, times, site, number of eligible students, etc. The curriculum has been revised to address the clientele in special education and ELL. Also, the jobs have been posted and interviews have been conducted. The search will be reopened for the teachers to make sure that we fill the summer school positions with elementary teachers to whatever extent possible because this is the clientele that we have. The changes are the selection of teachers to be more in line with the primary grades and with the change of the curriculum which has been discussed in prior meetings. We have also tried to strengthen the evaluation process so that when you receive the evaluation that you won't have to wait until the middle of next fall. Ms. Heftman asked about the possibility of using stimulus funds. Dr. Starr responded that he is not anticipating that there will be an opportunity to use stimulus money in 2009-2009, but for 2009-2010, depending on the rules, the summer program may be a great opportunity to use these stimulus funds.

Ms. Swerdlick presented the MSRA Update along with the ALTA Update. She began by stating that there is a tremendous amount of significant work that is going on in this school district and the two programs, Middle School Readiness Academy and the Aspiring Leadership Through Action, are two significant programs for a district of our kind and these models serve any school district where you are trying to accelerate the accomplishments academically as well as socially of children and their parents. The MSRA program has been operating for 3 years and the ALTA program for 2-1/2 years. Over the last 3 years we have served 500 students and parents in MSRA. The combination number is purposely placed there because the program does not work well unless parents are present in this process. Combined you will see for the ALTA program right now students and parents are approximately 320.

The recommendation for both is to continue the program.

Ms. Swerdlick reported on the I-Mentor is an online mentoring program. We built a partnership with UBS this year who are very active and highly engaged community vice president who has encouraged us to have our students work with their executives and workers. All of our ALTA students are now online once a week communicating a UBS employee

Dr. Starr noted that MSRA is funded by Priority School District money, which is flexible, and we want to be able to continue it. We do have to see how it plays into this year's budget discussion. The other piece is that both of these programs are really good models for us to build on when we apply for ARRA money. The ALTA program is a separate and distinct grant that we received from the State.

Mr. Rubino asked Dr. Starr for a run down on the status of what we know on the rules of the Federal stimulus money for our next meeting.

## **FISCAL**

Mr. Murphy reported under the 2008-2009 budget that the month of March is almost closed. The initial read on is that we are close to our predictions, which was \$21.4M and we actually came in at \$21.6M. We are very much on track for what we predicted. Our last report that was sent out we predicted a year end variance of \$250,000 and we are still on or close to this number. A couple of areas that we might do a little bit better on is in the areas of Special Education reimbursement and the trend on health insurance over the last several months has been lower than what we anticipated. He will provide the Board with a written report next week.

Under the 2009-2010 budget, Mr. Murphy indicated that the Board had approved a budget that represented a 3.75% increase. The Board of Finance cut the budget by \$5,820,000 to reduce that number to 1.09%. The Superintendent and staff are currently working on some recommendations and we will have some information available on April 21, 2009. Dr. Starr noted that he would be meeting with the Board of Representatives Fiscal Committee on April 15, 2009.

Under Information Items, Dr. Starr indicated that he would be receiving a report on Alternatives for Reducing Transportation Costs this Friday and would have information available next week.

### **Resolution 04-28-09:96**

Ms. Heftman moved, seconded by Mr. Mathews:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education accept the "Slim Gyms" Middle School Wellness Grant, in the amount of \$25,000.

Dr. Starr noted that this is another effort by Dr. Ed Schuster and the Stamford Hospital Foundation.

The resolution was passed with the following Committee members voting in favor: Ms. Heftman, Mr. King, Mr. Mathews, Ms. Nabel, and Mr. Rubino.

### **Resolution 04-28-09:97**

Ms. Heftman moved, seconded by Mr. Rubino:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education accept the 2008-09 budget transfers per the document dated April 28, 2009.

Mr. Murphy explained that these funds were not used as quickly as we thought it would be which leaves additional money that will be for used for middle schools and high schools. Ms. Nabel inquired if any of this money could have been used for the high school AP exam for students who could not afford the costs. Dr. Starr responded did notify the school principals that if there was any issue with not being able to pay for AP exams to let us know and we will figure something out. Dr. Starr replied that they had not received any requests.

Mr. Murphy also reported that there were four vendors that submitted bids for the food service and should have a recommendation soon. There will also be a copier contract that will have to go out to bid.

The resolution was passed with the following Committee members voting in favor: Ms. Heftman, Mr. King, Mr. Mathews, Ms. Nabel, and Mr. Rubino.

Ms. Wade thanked Sodexo who submitted a bid for the food, which was incredibly low and staff at no charge. At the end of the day we were not charged for anything.

### **AD HOC PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**

Ms. Wade indicated that there was nothing to report on the survey. A request was made to have all surveys included in the Board package.

Ms. Wade reported that at an earlier meeting this evening, Board members met with students and advisors from the Editorial Boards of the high school newspapers and it was a great meeting. It was decided to put together a group of young people with Board members and have it be a more regularly scheduled meeting. She will poll all the Board members first and then try to set up a meeting.

### **POLICY**

Ms. Nabel reported that for our Status on Policy work, Ms. Lorenti distributed CAGE policies from different districts in Connecticut. We were not able to retrieve from Montgomery and Alabama like we were hoping to, but it gives us a starting point. Our Literacy Audit references our policies and what we don't have. The question now becomes what are the next steps. Dr. Starr

indicated that we have to look at the next few months as learning and data gathering opportunities. At the June retreat we should focus on the document that Dr. Nicholson has created which is the "Curriculum Management Process." Also, after our Middle School Reform meeting on Thursday night, we will have some direction on anything specific in that area. This will set us up for additional research in May around the broad curriculum management – what is curriculum, what is assessment, what does it look like in the Stamford Public Schools and if the policies are correct. Around middle schools if there a policy implication outside the curriculum and assessment policy we want to do.

Ms. Lorenti noted that the Board is anxious to move forward and you have laid out a time frame. Once we get to our June Retreat how quickly do you think we are going to move the process? Dr. Starr responded that the summer is always difficult. The Board goals were set in November 2005 and is the kind of language that is more policy oriented directional language that we want to be engaged in because the policies are going to stand for a long time and there is nothing that we do that is not aligned to the goals which is very different than a policy that spells out specific practices. First the Board is going to need to understand the difference and agree on it. It may be that this Board wants to be involved in the detailed policy work that is encapsulated in our current policy manual that spells out every single action or doesn't at all. Or the Board wants to be involved in the directional oversight work which he thinks is captured by the Board goals. You can easily turn that into policy language and then we have to put the monitoring practice in place.

Ms. Nabel asked if a Board member who would like to assume the responsibility of checking the websites of a couple of districts that Dr. Starr can point us to that might have exemplary policies that would be a fabulous research project. Dr. Starr suggested Montgomery County, Maryland, Atlanta, Georgia, Austin, Texas, Long Beach, California, Cross Creek, Texas, and Brownville, Texas. Ms Nabel chose Austin, Texas, Ms. Heftman chose Montgomery, Atlanta, and Long Beach. Ms. Lorenti noted that Mr. Leverett recommended Greenwich, but it is not on their website. Ms. Nabel asked that this information be put in the package on May 8<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Heftman indicated that after this project is done she would like to go back through out Policy Manual and get rid of policy that we don't monitor. Dr. Starr encouraged all to read John Carver's book, Boards That Make a Difference.

Ms. Nabel announced that on Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm there will be a Tutorial Training session to initiate each of us into the process of receiving our Board package materials online. This will be held in the 9<sup>th</sup> floor training room. Board members should bring their laptops.

Mr. Mathews noted that there was no notation on the calendar regarding a safety meeting on Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. What we received in the package was very brief and made no reference to who was on the panel. Ms. Swerdlick reported on a safety meeting that was held as a result of discussion in the district on how we best answer many questions that have arisen from the community

around incidences that have come up over the last couple of months, the principals have been working together and have decided that they wanted to be pro-active in accomplishing two things. One, is assuring the community of how schools are maintained for security and for keeping the learning environment healthy, active, and safe for all students as well as teachers. She has been impressed with the dialogue that they have had around how to organize this so that the community gets a good handle on what actually happens at the site level and what structures are in place throughout the district to support safe schools. They decided on a panel format and wanted it to be primarily local. There will be one individual, Nicholas Cotto, who will be on the panel who is an individual that she has heard and was impressed with because of his ability to communicate and also connect not only with what the school is doing, but what parents should be aware of around high school student safety. The panel consists of the high school principals, Paul Gross will be the moderator, Camille Figluizzi will represent on the panel, Mike Meyer, and John Perrotta. The format for the evening is to share information that is local and then get some statewide and national trends on high school safety and then to give the parents and audience an opportunity to ask questions. An invitation was extended to the Police Department and they decided that John Perrotta would be the individual to represent both worlds. This information for the meeting is posted on the website and a Parentlink call went out from all of the high schools.

Ms. Heftman moved, seconded by Ms. Lahiri-Hoherchak to adjourn the meeting at 10:38 p.m. with the following Board members voting in favor: Ms. Heftman, Ms. Lahiri-Hoherchak, Ms. Lorenti, Mr. Mathews, Ms. Nabel, Mr. Polo (arrived at 7:28 pm), Mr. Rubino, and Ms. Wade.

Dr. Joshua P. Starr  
Superintendent of Schools  
Executive Office