

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Stamford, Connecticut

September 15, 2008

The Special Meeting of the Board of Education was held on September 15, 2008 at the Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard. The meeting was called to order at 8:25 p.m. by Mr. Freedman, President with the following Board members present: Mr. Freedman, Mr. King, Ms. Lahiri-Hoherchak, Ms. Lorenti, Mr. Mathews, Ms. McManus, Ms. Nabel, Mr. Rubino, and Ms. Wade. Absent: Mayor Malloy. Also in attendance: Dr. Starr.

The Board met with the Superintendent to discuss and create the Superintendent's performance evaluation guidelines.

Dr. Starr discussed items that are currently being done which included redistricting and State accountability work. Also he is continuing the implementation of a core curriculum for math which should be completed by 2009-2010. Another priority is Performance Management & Accountability which entails the designing and development of a system that meets State requirements. Also a priority is the development of the Office of Family & Community Engagement. Another area he would like to address is Middle School Reform and he will discuss this at the next Curriculum Committee meeting.

Dr. Starr indicated that with respect to the Human Capital Development area he is looking to increase efficiencies. He will also, along with Dr. Hamilton, be spending more time in the schools meeting with principals. Dr. Starr stated he will be looking at the budget planning process to be a little bit more clear in estimating how we align resources to the needs of the students and he has been working on this matter with the SAU.

Ms. McManus asked for a big move on literacy with the emphasis being on how to obtain money in order to do this. Mr. Rubino asked for further work on the Health & Wellness program. Ms. Nabel asked about having language developed with respect to the Achievement Gap. Also noted was work on the Achievement Gap, professional development with respect to the Office of Family & Community Engagement, Foreign Language requirements in the high schools, Spanish education in the elementary schools, middle school reform, evaluation process, communication with various City boards, visiting schools.

Mr. Freedman indicated that all goals have to be measurable and that we should hold to no more than four goals.

Ms. McManus moved, seconded by Mr. Mathews, to adjourn the meeting at 9:48 p.m. with the following Board members voting in favor: Mr. Freedman, Mr. King, Ms. Lahiri-Hoherchak, Ms. Lorenti, Mr. Mathews, Ms. McManus, Ms. Nabel, Mr. Rubino, and Ms. Wade.

Joshua P. Starr, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Executive Officer