

Monday, March 11, 2019

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BRIDGEPORT BOARD OF EDUCATION, held March 11, 2019, at Bridgeport Regional Aquaculture Science & Technology Education Center, 60 St. Stephens Road, Bridgeport, Connecticut.

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m.

Present were Chair John Weldon, Vice Chair Jessica Martinez, Secretary Joseph Sokolovic, Hernan Illingworth, Sybil Allen, Maria Pereira, and Ben Walker. Chris Taylor arrived at the meeting subsequently as noted. Joseph Lombard was selected as a board member subsequently as noted.

Supt. Dr. Aresta Johnson was present.

Mr. Weldon asked for a moment of silence for the loss of Bridgeport Police Sergeant Michael Belinkie.

Mr. Weldon said Spanish translation services were available.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Maria Pires said she was present to read a statement from the Bassick family written by E. Webb Bassick IV, the oldest survivor of Edgar Webb Bassick. Mr. Bassick said he was writing to refute the comment of Chris Taylor that his ancestors made their fortune by the slave trade. He said there is no suggestion in private or published information that they were involved in the slave trade. He said Edgar

Chase Bassick founded the Bassick Gold Mine in Colorado in 1877, twelve years after the 13th Amendment, which abolished slavery, was adopted. He said Edgar Chase Bassick and Edgar Webb Bassick worked as laborers as young men. He said, among the board members, only Ms. Pereira challenged Mr. Taylor's offensive and slanderous remarks. He said the remarks could lead the board to being liable for slander in court. He asked that Mr. Taylor issue a formal apology and that it be published on the district's website and the local newspaper.

Helen Olga Losak, a lifelong Bridgeport resident and Harding graduate, expressed her opposition to how her tax dollars were spent by Mr. Bradley, Mr. Weldon, Ms. Martinez, Mr. Taylor, Ms. Allen and Mr. Illingworth by passing Mr. Taylor's motion to use board funds to sponsor a trip by the Chargers football team. She noted the board cut \$13 million out of this year's budget, but six members voted to allocate funds to a football team that has nothing to do with the board. She also objected to the abysmal attendance records of board members, citing specific examples.

Ben Walker said in the past fifteen months he has found his rights as a board member to have his opinion heard blocked, stifled and silenced on more and more occasions. He said he was speaking at this time as his act of civil disobedience and to ensure he is not silenced. He said Robert's Rules of Order are designed to carefully balance the rights of persons within an organization, including the majority and minority members. He said the minority voice stimulates the thinking process and points out the fallacy of flock thinking. He said the chair on four different occasions has ruled incorrectly on a motion to call the previous question, ending debate without a deliberative process. He said the most recent use of this motion resulted in the passage of an unvetted, surreptitious

set of bylaws designed to stifle one particular board member. He said a motion to call the question is out of order when another member has the floor.

Maria Pereira congratulated 13-year-old Janelle Newell of Multicultural Magnet School who won the Connecticut Spelling Bee. She objected to the board eliminating student recognitions. She said she was surprised to see student representatives at the meeting because they had been eliminated by the board policy created by six members of the board. She urged board members' attendance be tabulated and put on the district's website to enable members of the public to easily see which members attend the meetings. She also objected to the cancellation of the community conversations, the failure of the superintendent to post two jobs after the board unanimously voted to post them, and Mr. Weldon's declining to place three items on the tonight's agenda.

Marge Hiller said the School Volunteer Association is still working in the schools, with hundreds of volunteers in the classrooms every week. She said one volunteer who is suffering from cancer will swim 150 laps at the YWCA and a private donor will match all contributions towards the effort. She noted she volunteers at Barnum School and teachers can attest to the effectiveness of the school volunteers.

Frank Gyure said he was speaking from the heart. He said he called for a boycott of tonight's meeting because it is illegitimate as a result of the new bylaws. He said he objected to the way the bylaws were passed and the way a board member was cut off by Mr. Taylor with the support of other members. He said he grew up on Pine Street in Bridgeport and has lived in other areas on the West Side of the city.

Mary Tracy, PTSO president at Harding High, said she was upset with what was going on in Harding. She said the energy people put towards each other should be put towards kids. She asked the board to figure out the problem. She said an assistant principal who suspended her son did not contact her.

In response to a question, Mr. Weldon said Crystal Mack was unable to participate in the public comment section because she is not a resident of Bridgeport.

Ms. Pereira moved "*to recess for five minutes.*" The motion was seconded by Mr. Walker and unanimously approved.

The meeting was recessed at 7:00 p.m. and reconvened at 7:05 p.m.

Mr. Taylor was now present.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES:

Mr. Walker moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of February 5, 2019. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pereira and approved by a 6-0 vote.

Voting in favor were members Weldon, Walker, Pereira, Illingworth, Martinez and Allen. Mr. Sokolovic and Mr. Taylor abstained.

Mr. Walker moved approval of the minutes of the Special Meeting of February 11, 2019. The motion was seconded by Ms. Martinez. Corrections were noted.

The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. Voting in favor

were members Walker, Pereira, Sokolovic, Weldon, Martinez, Allen and Illingworth. Mr. Taylor abstained.

Mr. Walker moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 11, 2019. The motion was seconded by Ms. Martinez. Corrections were noted. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

Voting in favor were members Walker, Pereira, Sokolovic, Weldon, Martinez, Allen and Illingworth. Mr. Taylor abstained.

Mr. Walker moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of February 13, 2019. The motion was seconded by Ms. Martinez. A correction was noted. The motion was approved by 7-0 vote.

Voting in favor were members Walker, Pereira, Sokolovic, Weldon, Martinez, Allen and Illingworth. Mr. Taylor abstained.

Mr. Walker moved to approved the minutes of the Special Meeting of February 25, 2019. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pereira. Corrections were noted. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Voting in favor were members Walker, Pereira, Sokolovic, Weldon, Allen and Illingworth. Mr. Taylor and Ms. Martinez abstained.

CHAIR REPORT:

Mr. Weldon said he contacted Berchem Moses to schedule Robert's Rules of Order and FOIA training. They've indicated they are available on the evenings of March 26,

March 27, April 1, April 2, April 3 or April 9. He asked the board members respond to his inquiry about their preference.

The next agenda item was discussion and possible action concerning the board vacancy created by the resignation of Dennis Bradley.

Ms. Allen moved to nominate Joseph Lombard. Mr. Walker moved to nominate LaMar Kennedy. Mr. Sokolovic nominated John Rodriguez.

Ms. Pereira said Mr. Taylor missed every interview of the candidates and asked if he was going to be voting. Mr. Taylor said of course he was going to vote.

Ms. Pereira asked if Mr. Lombard had been in any conversations or in any meetings or in any capacity or a friend or relationship with Mr. Weldon, Ms. Martinez, Mr. Illingworth, Ms. Allen or Mr. Taylor. Mr. Weldon said no. Ms. Allen and Ms. Martinez said they did not know Mr. Lombard. Mr. Taylor said given his relationship with Ms. Pereira he had no comment.

Mr. Sokolovic said he supported Mr. Rodriguez because he is the only candidate who touched on the importance of community and family involvement in his answers.

Mr. Walker said Mr. Kennedy was born and raised in Bridgeport and attended the public schools here. He said Mr. Kennedy has chosen to go into special education, which requires additional education, has ties to the community, has children who have been in the public schools, and as a man of color is someone who should be on the board.

Ms. Pereira said the time limit for the item had been exceeded according to board policy.

Mr. Sokolovic moved *“to suspend the timeline for the remainder of the meeting so we can adequately address.”* The motion was seconded by Ms. Martinez.

The motion was approved by a 6-2 vote. Voting in favor were members Allen, Illingworth, Martinez, Sokolovic, Pereira and Weldon. Mr. Walker and Mr. Taylor were opposed.

Ms. Pereira said there was a very diverse population in Bridgeport; only 13 percent of our students are white, but 63 percent of the board members are white and 50 percent of the board are white males. She said she would consider a white male if there was not a qualified minority candidate. She said there was a lot of discussion that in a broad democracy institutions should reflect the constituents we serve.

Ms. Pereira said there was a candidate who was born and raised here, has experience with special education and is a math teacher. She said the candidate would be a great addition to the Males of Color Ad Hoc Committee. She said we don't need another white male when there's a qualified African-American male seeking the job.

Ballots were distributed to the board members. Ms. Ortiz announced the results: Mr. Illingworth voted for Mr. Lombard; Ms. Pereira voted for Mr. Kennedy; Mr. Walker voted for Mr. Kennedy; Mr. Sokolovic voted for Mr. Kennedy; Mr. Weldon voted for Mr. Lombard; Ms. Martinez voted for Mr. Lombard; Mr. Taylor voted for Mr. Lombard; Ms. Allen voted for Mr. Lombard.

Mr. Weldon said Mr. Lombard had been voted the new member and asked him to come to the podium. Atty. Mark Anastasi administered the oath to Mr. Lombard.

The next agenda item was on the endorsement of the superintendent's participation in local budgetary forums.

Mr. Weldon said in response to some displeasure from the public after the community conversations were cancelled, he had a discussion with Dr. Johnson and the superintendent reached out to some entities to partner with.

Dr. Johnson said she had been invited by four organizations to have a conversation about the budget and how they can help advocate for resources for the district, with the focus on the 2019-20 budget. Fraternities and sororities will host a joint session next week, pending board endorsement. The NAACP and Caribe Youth League have also indicated their willingness to host Dr. Johnson.

Ms. Pereira asked how these events would help reach the 30,000 district parents. Dr. Johnson said the website, flyers and social media would be used to invite parents and community members to the events. Mr. Sokolovic asked if public comment would be allowed at the events. Dr. Johnson said she would present the budget request for 2019-20 and provide a question-and-answer period.

In response to a question, Dr. Johnson said she reached out to the organizations in order to continue conversations about the budget. She added she would she would invite City Council members as well, if not perhaps in the same fashion as during the community conversations.

Mr. Illingworth said he heard loud and clear that the

community wanted to be heard on these issues, and he urged extra time be allowed for the public and parents to participate.

Mr. Sokolovic moved *“to endorse the superintendent’s participation in local budgetary forums as described.”* The motion was seconded by Ms. Allen and approved by a 7-1 vote.

Voting in favor were members Walker, Martinez, Sokolovic, Weldon, Martinez, Illingworth and Taylor. Ms. Pereira was opposed. Mr. Lombard abstained.

Mr. Taylor left the meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS/REFERRALS:

Mr. Illingworth reported on the Facilities Committee.

Mr. Illingworth moved *“to suspend new construction naming of facility Policy 7550, regarding Central High School court being named after Coach Barry McLeod.”* The motion was seconded by Ms. Pereira.

Mr. Sokolovic said the reason for the policy is to allow community input on naming. Mr. Illingworth said the committee heard from Central High and the assistant superintendent and there was an intent to follow every step of the policy. He said the board gave its approval on the assumption that the project would be at no cost to the board.

Mr. Weldon said he understood the school did all the things that the board would ask them to do and they followed the spirit of the policy, engaging the public, and hearing from parents, students and teachers.

The motion was approved by a 7-1 vote. Voting in favor were members Pereira, Walker, Martinez, Allen, Weldon, Martinez, and Illingworth. Mr. Sokolovic was opposed. Mr. Lombard abstained

Mr. Illingworth moved *“to approve the naming of the Central High School court after Coach Barry McLeod.”* The motion was seconded by Ms. Pereira.

Mr. Illingworth said the Central High community followed the policy in spirit, including holding forums. He said the committee noted the board said in April 2018 to go forward if there was no cost to the board. He added the board policy applied to new facilities and this led to confusion. He asked his colleagues to support the motion.

Ms. Pereira said Mr. Kavey, the former athletic director, came to the board and asked for the naming. She said she could understand where there was confusion and she did not believe there was an intention to disrespect board policy. She said Coach McLeod had been an amazing coach for 25 years, with three state championships.

Mr. Sokolovic said he always abstained on naming policy issues because it is a waste of energy. He said accidental or not, the policy was violated and he would abstain.

Principal Eric Graf of Central High said he put together a committee to make sure the naming was supported by the community and to work on funding. Two community forums were held at the school. He said many former players praised the coach for things he did behind the scenes for the team. He said he understood from Mr. Kavey that the board had approved the naming as long as the money was raised.

The senior class president at Central said Coach McLeod was his former gym teacher and supported the naming of the court.

The motion was approved by an 6-0 vote. Voting in favor were members Walker, Martinez, Weldon, Martinez, Illingworth and Allen. Mr. Sokolovic and Mr. Lombard abstained.

Ms. Pereira referred to the committee a discussion of bullying data. She said she previously referred the naming committee for the music suite at Harding High.

Ms. Martinez reported on the Finance Committee. She said the next meeting will be this Wednesday. She added that along with other parents and other leaders in the city she went to Hartford last week to testify in front of the Budget & Appropriations Committee requesting more funding.

Ms. Martinez said she would address the MREF issue at the meeting, along with the SRO issue.

Mr. Weldon said the last Governance Committee meeting was cancelled due to a conflict. Ms. Pereira said she referred an item seven months ago about a defined process for the superintendent's evaluation. She added Mr. Sokolovic referred the entire 9000 series to the committee. She said the policies include violations of state statute.

Ms. Pereira noted the absence of Mr. Taylor from the meeting.

Mr. Walker reported on the Teaching & Learning Committee. He moved that we suspend board Policy 9310, especially bullet 8. He said the policy had been worked on in the

committee at great length since the beginning of the year and has been sent back for revision seven or eight different times.

Mr. Walker moved “*to suspend Rule 9310.*” The motion was seconded by Mr. Sokolovic.

The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote. Voting in favor were members Weldon, Martinez, Illingworth, Allen, Sokolovic and Walker. Ms. Pereira and Mr. Lombard abstained.

Mr. Walker said the policy was designed to set up a hierarchy for membership into the early learning center at Harding High. There are currently 24 slots through the vendor, ABCD. He said school-aged parents of young children had first choice on the slots and always come first. He said vendor wanted all the available spaces filled in order to fund the center.

Mr. Walker said the committee wanted two slots to be reserved for staff members at Harding. He said Ms. Pereira urged slots be made available to community members in the neighborhood. He said there was some disagreement on the allocation of slots, but believed the compromise achieved was a good result.

Mr. Walker moved that “*the board approve Policy 5116(h), Warren G. Harding High School Early Learning Center Policy, to become effective immediately.*” The motion was seconded by Mr. Sokolovic.

In response to a question, Mr. Walker said Bassick and Central students would get slots in the programs and receive a controlled transfer into Harding. He said the two slots for

staff members was the result of a compromise. He added the goal is to keep school-aged parents in school. He said there was a provision for infants transitioning out of the Harding program into another facility.

Ms. Pereira said Harding had an early learning center in the late 1980s, with the same premise, to keep parents in school. She said the main purpose of the program was to keep parents from dropping out of school because they don't have daycare. She said Mr. Chester and Ms. Colon from human resources said they've never heard of a staff member who left a job or came to work for the district because of daycare issues. She objected to providing slots to staff members at the expense of the local community.

The motion was approved by a 4-1 vote. Voting in favor were members Weldon, Walker, Sokolovic and Allen. Mr. Illingworth was opposed. Ms. Pereira, Mr. Lombard and Ms. Martinez abstained.

Mr. Walker said the committee met on February 25th. The special education report indicated there were no outstanding complaints and he commended the special education department for its work.

Mr. Walker said there was a discussion on homebound students and how they affect the budget.

Mr. Walker said the RFP for expelled students was also discussed. Atty. Anastasi has brought back some tremendous work and he has been given a little more direction for follow-up at the March 18th meeting.

Mr. Walker said there was a discussion on reverse suspensions. Ms. Pereira described reverse suspensions

where parents have the option of attending school with their child in exchange for a reduction of the period of suspension. She said this has been successfully implemented elsewhere in the country due to the embarrassment students feel about such suspensions. She said the policy would have no extra costs to the district.

In response to a question, Ms. Pereira said Mr. DiDonato would report back to the committee on the concept. She said it would not be used for major infractions.

Mr. Walker said the next meeting would be on March 19th.

In response to an inquiry, Mr. Lombard said he would be agreeable to Mr. Weldon appointing him to the Finance Committee and Teaching & Learning Committee.

Ms. Pereira noted there was a referral to the committee on science programming. She said there was a discussion in October about translation services going out to bid. She urged the matter be addressed since it is required on contracts over \$25,000. Mr. DiDonato said he believed there is a draft RFQ in process under the responsibility of Ms. Sousa-Martins.

Mr. Weldon said the Personnel Committee met on February 27th and 28th and conducted interviews for principal of Bassick High School, Thomas Hooker School and Batalla School, as well as the director of speech and language, and recommendations were referred to the superintendent.

Mr. Weldon said the next committee meeting would be on March 20th.

Ms. Pereira noted the Freedom of Information Commission

has ruled that non-committee members may not go into executive sessions of committee. She urged future interviews be held at Special Meetings, otherwise the effect is only three board members will have the right to make a referral to the superintendent, but under state statute the board makes decisions together.

Ms. Pereira said there was a massive exodus of teachers in the district and she requested the committee examine a three-year report on teacher turnover. She urged the committee also address the hiring policy as requested by Dr. Johnson.

In response to a question, Mr. Weldon said the candidates for employment have the right to require the interviews be held in public session.

Mr. Sokolovic said the Students & Families Committee met on February 21st. There was a lengthy discussion of school-level PAC spending. He said most schools were in a better position than last year. Some schools of concern will be looked at more closely. He added some PAC spending seemed to be done without consultation from the PAC presidents, which is being investigated.

Mr. Sokolovic said the Parent Convention committee has met. He said the next committee meeting would be on March 21st.

Mt. Sokolovic reported on the Ad Hoc Committee Great Cities School/Males of Color.

Mr. Sokolovic moved *“to approve the programming for Males of Color/Council of Great City Schools as presented in the material you’ve gotten in your board packets.”* The motion

was seconded by Ms. Martinez.

Mr. Illingworth said Mr. Lombard could use his materials. Mr. Lombard said he was abstaining from all votes tonight.

Mr. Sokolovic said there was programming for the comprehensive high schools and Grade 5 to 8 students. He said the funding was coming from Title IV. He said some of the programs were already existing programs with added value coming at the end with tee shirts, books and an event. He said the programs are all mentoring programs, which are needed in our schools.

Mr. Sokolovic said the problem the committee is trying to solve is older than the country itself. He said dedicated volunteers had worked for five years on the issue without being paid. He objected to the committee's work being talked down, which he described as hurtful to the members. He said racism and bias was real in the city and in this country. He said members of the board had spoken about Hispanics' broken English, which he described as racist.

Ms. Pereira said her frustration has been that the committee has been established for five years and not one action item has ever been sent to the board. She added it was not a reflection on Mr. Sokolovic because he only joined the committee recently. She said five years is an outrageous time for nothing to come forward.

Ms. Pereira said the \$5,000 for Harding would serve 35 juniors and seniors while there are 544 black and Hispanic males at the school. She said \$4,000 would be spent at Central for only 42 students, who are all freshmen and sophomores. At Bassick, \$4,379 would be allocated for 40 students out of 437 black and Hispanic males at the school.

She said nothing would be done at Bridgeport Military Academy or Fairchild Wheeler. She also objected to spending \$1,000 on tee shirts. She said the middle school program seemed impressive, but it was not clear how many students would be served. She questioned the expenditure of \$2,320 for team-building with parents.

Dr. Johnson said she believed it was equitable in terms of a starting point. She said prior to this year, there not been any type of initiative to this level. She said it was planned to expand after this year into all the high schools, but the concentration was on the three comprehensive schools for the rollout.

Dr. Johnson said the expenditure of \$20,000 in Title IV funds falls under the safe and healthy school initiative. She said this allowed us to do something out of the box in collaboration with the committee.

Ms. Martinez commended Mr. Sokolovic for his hard work on the committee. She said she was in support of the motion. She said getting a tee shirt was important to her when she was in the DARE program. She said programs such as that and GearUp added value to her life.

Mr. Walker said the people he saw at the Males of Color Committee were educated people who care about the school district, but they had a difficult time getting traction. He said the forum put on by the committee about two years ago included an inspirational speech by Dr. Ed Joyner. He said he has seen traction with the committee since Mr. Sokolovic took it over.

Mr. Sokolovic said he agreed with Ms. Pereira that it needs to be equitable and he would love to have a lot more funds

to expand the effort and make it equitable. He thanked the smart people on the Males of Color Committee for being so easy to work with.

Dr. Melissa Jenkins, director of literacy and a member of the Males of Color Committee, said she would ask Mr. Brockenberry why only 25 out of the 40 students at Bassick are participating in a field trip.

Ms. Pereira said males of color was a big issue and she found it frustrating that the committee had not brought things forward to the board. She said Ms. Baraka promised the board a white paper over two years ago.

Mr. Sokolovic said the white paper was in progress and he did not want to commit to a date because it should be done right and it includes the work of volunteers, who are not being paid.

In response to a question, Mr. Sokolovic said the committee had not yet worked on policies for the board to adopt that would be transformational. Dr. Johnson said the committee is collecting quantitative and qualitative data that will help with decision-making and drive policy moving forward. She recognized the work of the entire committee, and Dr. Carmen McPherson of Central High and John Ramos at Harding High.

The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote. Voting in favor were members Weldon, Illingworth, Allen, Walker, Sokolovic and Martinez. Ms. Pereira and Mr. Lombard abstained.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS/AGENDA:

The next agenda item was on the Fairchild Wheeler out-of-

country trip to Spain.

In response to a question, Dr. Johnson said she did want the trip to come to the Teaching & Learning Committee, but the trip had to be approved by the board thirty days before it begins.

Principal Jay Lipp said the board had information on the trip and photographs from last year's trip to Costa Rica. The trip will start on April 11th and go from Paris to Madrid and Seville. He said Dr. Morales, a former teacher at the school, was able to get a grant of \$25,000 to offset the cost and make it more affordable for students. He said three teachers and three parents will chaperone, giving a 3 to 1 ratio of students to chaperones.

In response to a question, Mr. Lipp said he now understands there is a procedure to bring such trips to the Teaching & Learning Committee, but he had not seen a board policy to that effect. He said planning had been going on for about a year and the funding was arranged more recently.

Ms. Martinez moved *"to approve this trip."* The motion was seconded by Mr. Sokolovic.

Ms. Allen noted there was only one 10th grader who committed to going on the trip. Dr. Morales said students from all three schools at Fairchild Wheeler were invited to participate. He added he was a graduate of Harding High and was inspired to participate in such trips by the educators he had while a student.

Mr. Walker said when the trips come to the committee there is usually an hour-long discussion around safety and cost issues. He said he had been on many overseas school trips.

In response to Mr. Walker's questions, Mr. Lipp said thirteen current students and one student who graduated in January would be going on the trip. Mr. Lipp said no drinking would have be allowed on the trip. Dr. Morales said no smoking would be allowed. Dr. Morales said the cost varies, depending on when the students signed up, and will be between \$3,600 and \$4,400; for every six students there is one free chaperone and the price is discounted for the third chaperone.

Dr. Morales said the cost includes airfare, hotel, three meals a day, and admission prices. Mr. Lipp said the tour company provides medical support during the trip.

Ms. Martinez said the board approved last year's trip and suggested Mr. Walker move to revise the policy to require the trips go to the Teaching & Learning Committee.

Mr. Walker said on a school trip he participated in there were complications regarding visa requirements that required teachers to visit students in custody. Dr. Morales said the passports and visas had been issued. Mr. Walker suggested that copies of the passports be made and carried by the chaperones.

Mr. Walker suggested students get a card at each hotel with the name and address of the hotel.

In response to a question, Dr. Morales said on last year's trip the boys were on one floor of the hotel and the girls were on another.

In response to a question, Dr. Morales said the trip insurance would cover the child or chaperone becoming ill

and having to be transported.

The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. Voting in favor were members Pereira, Weldon, Illingworth, Martinez, Allen, Sokolovic and Walker. Mr. Lombard abstained.

In response to a question, Mr. Weldon said the approval of the consent agenda was not on the agenda. Ms. Pereira said it was required under C.G.S. 10-151. Mr. Weldon said we can seek an opinion on that.

Ms. Pereira moved to add to the agenda the approval of new hires that is required under 10-151.

Mr. Weldon said he disagreed and announced the next agenda item on the Ad Hoc Committee on Great City Schools.

Ms. Pereira said Mr. Weldon was outrageous.

Ms. Martinez moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Ms. Allen. The motion failed by a 4-3 vote.

Voting in favor were members Allen, Martinez and Weldon. Voting in opposition were members Illingworth, Sokolovic, Walker, and Pereira. Mr. Lombard abstained.

Ms. Pereira moved *"to add to the agenda approval of the hirees, the retirees, which under state statute is required to do under 10-151."* The motion was seconded by Mr. Walker.

The motion was defeated by a 4 to 3 vote. Voting favor were members Pereira, Walker, and Sokolovic. Voting in opposition were members Illingworth, Weldon, Martinez, and Allen. Mr. Lombard abstained.

Mr. Weldon asked for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Pereira said there was another agenda item, adding that Mr. Weldon was a toddler.

Mr. Sokolovic moved "*to postpone Old Business, A, till the first meeting in December.*" The motion was seconded by Mr. Walker.

The motion was approved by a 6-1 vote. Voting in favor were members Illingworth, Martinez, Weldon, Walker, Sokolovic, and Allen. Ms. Pereira was opposed. Mr. Lombard abstained.

Ms. Allen moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Weldon.

The motion was approved by a 6-1 vote. Voting in favor were members Illingworth, Martinez, Weldon, Walker, Sokolovic, and Allen. Ms. Pereira was opposed. Mr. Lombard abstained.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John McLeod