

**NEW CANAAN BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**GENERAL MEETING**  
**NEW CANAAN HIGH SCHOOL ~WAGNER ROOM**  
**November 16, 2020**  
**7:00 P.M.**

**I. Call to Order**

Ms. Parkhill called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM.

Attendance:

	Carlson	Gardiner	Hayes	Naughton	Parkhill	Rashin	Reeves	Richardson	West
Present	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Absent									

**II. Election of Officers**

Superintendent Dr. Luizzi asked for a nomination for Board Chair:

Mr. Hayes moved to nominate Ms. Parkhill for Chair, seconded by Ms. Reeves.

	Carlson	Gardiner	Hayes	Naughton	Parkhill	Rashin	Reeves	Richardson	West
Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
No									
Abstain									

Dr. Luizzi then asked for a nomination for Board Vice-Chair:

Ms. Parkhill moved to nominate Mr. Hayes for Vice Chair, seconded by Ms. Rashin.

	Carlson	Gardiner	Hayes	Naughton	Parkhill	Rashin	Reeves	Richardson	West
Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
No									
Abstain									

Dr. Luizzi asked for a nomination for Secretary:

Ms. Richardson moved to nominate Ms. Reeves for Secretary, seconded by Ms. Rashin.

	Carlson	Gardiner	Hayes	Naughton	Parkhill	Rashin	Reeves	Richardson	West
Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
No									
Abstain									

**III. Approve Minutes: November 2, 2020**

Ms. Rashin moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Gardiner.

	Carlson	Gardiner	Hayes	Naughton	Parkhill	Rashin	Reeves	Richardson	West
Yes	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓
No									
Abstain				✓				✓	

**IV. Review and approve agenda: November 16, 2020**

Mr. Hayes moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Ms. West.

	Carlson	Gardiner	Hayes	Naughton	Parkhill	Rashin	Reeves	Richardson	West
Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
No									
Abstain									

**V. Comments from the Public:**

None.

**VI. Reports and Recognition**

**1. COVID-19 Update**

**Dr. Luizzi and Cabinet**

The Re-Opening Committee had a meeting last Friday and discussed that COVID cases are currently accelerating and intensifying. Each positive case can create six hours of work and contact tracing is very challenging.

Today, the high school went back to a hybrid schedule. Cohort X students were scheduled to come to school, but due to a power outage, Cohort Y students who did not have power/wifi (and were not under quarantine) were invited to come to school. The hybrid schedule reduces the density in school and increases social distancing, cleanliness and ventilation. There is also flexibility to make different decisions at different schools. At the high school, students have jobs after school, athletics and outside school activities which makes contact tracing more difficult and involved. At the middle school, students are cohorted by team and not traveling throughout the building. Their teachers come to them and the cohorts stay together, even for lunch and recess. At the elementary schools, students are cohorted by classrooms. If there is a COVID issue in a classroom, the whole class goes remote together. The way the hybrid schedule works is being discussed and refined. At the elementary level, they are looking at having first grade students have an AM/PM schedule similar to kindergarten students, given the focus on literacy and numeracy at those grades, and at the high school, they are asking for feedback about the possibility of switching X and Y cohort days after the holidays.

Dr. Luizzi has been working closely with the Department of Public Health which is advising against “date-based” closures. He feels that the district needs to continue to look at the data to drive decisions as well as trends. Staffing may become an issue at schools so the principals and the cabinet are meeting every day to communicate, problem solve and support each other.

The top priorities for the district are to keep schools safe, make sure all students have a world-class education, and to keep schools open. These goals are in order of priority. We should appreciate every day we have together while remaining flexible every day as well.

**2. Statement of Accounts**

**Dr. Keating**

Dr. Keating gave an overview of accounts as of October 31, 2020. Total funds expended to date represent 24.3% of the budget with 64.1% encumbered. Salaries account for 76% of the encumbrances. The unencumbered balance, 11.6%, relates to accounts which cannot be encumbered including

substitute teachers, stipends, overtime and utilities. She also discussed financial statements for Grants, Food Service, Facilities Rental/Donations/Summer School and the Internal Services Fund and explained how COVID has affected each of them. Each fund will be monitored regularly and the Board will be notified if there are any concerns.

**VII. Action Items**

**Budget Assumptions and Related Priorities**

*Move to approve, as a first reading, the 2021-2022 Budget Assumptions and Related Priorities.*

Ms. Rashin moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Hayes.

**VIII. Comments from the public:**

None.

**IX. Announcements and Future Meetings**

Next BOE meeting: December 7, 2020. Proposed agenda items: 2021-2022 District Calendar, first reading; 2021-2022 Budget Assumptions and Related Priorities, second reading.

**X. Adjourn Meeting**

Ms. Rashin moved to adjourn at 8:12 PM, seconded by Ms. Richardson.

	Carlson	Gardiner	Hayes	Naughton	Parkhill	Rashin	Reeves	Richardson	West
Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
No									
Abstain									

Respectfully Submitted,

Ms. Julie Reeves  
Board of Education Secretary