Hartford Board of Education
Special Meeting – Tuesday, April 7, 2015
Sarah J. Rawson Elementary School,
260 Holcomb Street, Hartford, CT 06112

AGENDA

I. Call to Order (5:30 p.m.)

II. Roll Call

III. Business Agenda

1. Second Reading and Adoption: School Calendar for 2015-2016 (Supt et al.)

   That the Hartford Board of Education accepts the second reading and adopts
   the proposed 2015-2016 School Calendar.

2. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding: Our Piece of the Pie, Inc. (Supt et a..)

   That the Hartford Board of Education approves the Memorandum of
   Understanding (MOU) with Our Piece of the Pie to allow over-age under-
   credited students to enroll in the Opportunity Academy. The MOU has a five
   year term, with tuition of $8,800 per student for a minimum of 150 students
   for FY 15-16. Tuition in future years shall be $8,800 per student or the SBB
   rate, whichever is greater.

IV. Workshop Session

   3. Presentation and Review of the 2015-16 Superintendent’s Recommended Budge:

V. Adjournment

Upcoming Board of Education Meetings

- BOE Public Hearing: 2015-16 Budget – April 21, 2015 at M.D. Fox Elementary School,
  470 Maple Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106

- BOE Workshop – May 5, 2015 at Dr. James H Naylor/CCSU Leadership Academy,
  639 Franklin Avenue, Hartford, CT 06114
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AGENDA

ITEM # 1

NEW BUSINESS

SECOND READING AND ADOPTION:
PROPOSED SCHOOL CALENDAR 2014-2015

APRIL 7, 2016

DR. SCHIAVINO-NARVAEZ
DR. NGOUNOU

BACKGROUND

The 2015-2016 School Calendar recommended by the Superintendent continues to reflect the following elements, related to improving the District’s capacity to improve student achievement:

1. Elementary Early Start – July and August
2. One Early Release Day or full PD Day per month during school year (except the month of April) – professional development

Additionally,

- Our school calendar was created to be in alignment with the uniform regional calendar
- The uniform regional calendar is a state initiative based on legislation: Sec 322 of PA 12-247
- The legislation created a State Task Force that facilitated a process to allow school districts and other representatives in the Greater Hartford Area to come to an agreement around the adoption of a regional calendar
- As the recommendations for the regional calendar do not become legally binding until SY 16-17, for the 2015-16 school year, Veteran’s Day will be reflected as a district holiday
- The Board and district officials will pursue options and actions to maintain Veteran’s Day as a holiday in future years

RECOMMENDATION

That the Hartford Board of Education accepts the second reading and adopts the proposed 2015-2016 School Calendar.
AGENDA

ITEM # 2

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING: OUR PIECE OF THE PIE, INC.

APRIL 7, 2015

DR. SCHIAVINO-NARVAEZ

MR. SWAN

BACKGROUND

Our Piece of the Pie, Inc. (OPP) is a leading youth development agency that helps urban young people become successful adults, by effectively collaborating and partnering with schools. OPP has been Hartford Public Schools’ partner in the operation and implementation of a recuperative strategy, based on the Good Shepherd Service model implemented in New York City since 2008.

The new five year MOU establishes the Opportunity Academy, operated by OPP, providing a specialized school for over-age under-credited students, including providing wraparound services to address the needs of this unique population and charging the HBOE tuition ($8,800 per student per 204 day school year). The Opportunity Academy will provide academic and support services for 9th through 12th grade repeaters. The program will include youth development, workforce development, and college/post-secondary awareness/readiness services that will help to keep students engaged in high school through the attainment of their high school diploma and enrollment in a post-secondary institution. Every student will participate in at least one cycle of youth business and/or youth employment; placement will be determined by OPP staff and is contingent on the age, interests, etc. of individual youth. OPP shall design and implement an individual development plan for each student customized to that student’s specific needs.

Further, as part of its obligations under the MOU, OPP shall provide quarterly performance reports for all students enrolled in the Opportunity Academy to the Superintendent.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Hartford Board of Education approves the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Our Piece of the Pie to allow over-age under-credited students to enroll in the Opportunity Academy. The MOU has a five year term, with tuition of $8,800 per student for a minimum of 150 students for FY 15-16. Tuition in future years shall be $8,800 per student or the SBB rate, whichever is greater.
Attachment 1

Our Piece of the Pie® (OPP®) shall provide a fully educational experience for students enrolled, through the HBOE, in the Opportunity Academy that meet or exceed HPS Board and State standards, which programs shall be specially geared to over-age and under-credited 9th (r) through 12th grade students. OPP shall provide all youth development staff, including appropriately State of CT certified principal and certified staff to deliver specialized technical, trade, and vocational workforce development programs at OPP location 20-28 Sargeant Street, Hartford, CT 06105 plus transportation to/from these services.

Students enrolled in Opportunity High will become eligible to enroll in the Opportunity Academy, thereby enabling them to receive services through and beyond their high school years into their post-secondary education and employment careers.

OPP shall provide:

➢ High quality educational program that meets or exceeds State of CT and HPS standards, including programming for ELL and special education services as appropriate and/or as required by law;

➢ With regard to special education services or related services as specified in an Individual Educational Plan, once a student’s special education needs have been identified using the HBOE’s Planning and Placement Team process, the Board shall financially compensate OPP for the actual cost of the services provided. OPP
shall then provide those services at a level of quality and in a
manner acceptable to the HBOE.

➢ A two hundred four (204) day school year for students at
Opportunity Academy.

➢ Provision of education through certified staff.

➢ Educational program for designated 9th through 12th graders. The
program will include youth development, workforce development,
and college/post-secondary awareness/readiness services that will
help to keep students engaged in high school through their
obtainment of their high school diploma and enrollment in a post-
secondary institution.

➢ Every student will participate in at least one cycle of youth
business and/or youth employment; placement will be determined
by OPP staff and is contingent on the age, interests, etc. of
individual youth.

➢ Opportunity Academy will follow the HBOE school calendar,
school delay, and school closures.

➢ Opportunity Academy will follow or exceed the HBOE Graduation
Policy requirements and any students who meets those
requirements shall be eligible for a HPS diploma.

➢ OPP shall provide quarterly performance reports for all students
enrolled in the Opportunity Academy to the Superintendent for
HBOE. The HBOE and OPP shall sign a FERPA agreement that
shall be incorporated by reference to this Agreement.
An Individual Development Plan for each student, that will contain services based on the individual student’s needs such as:

- One-on-one student mentoring;
- Monitoring of student benchmark assessments (SBAC preparation, unit assessments, progress reports, report cards);
- Small group sessions;
- Student outreach and attendance support;
- Enrichment programming;
- Linking to OPP’s Pathway’s programs and services;
- Collaboration by trained staff on crisis intervention and conflict mediation;
- Assistance with post-graduate plans;
- Developing and monitoring Individual Development Plans with students;
- Working with parents/caring adults to promote involvement in the student’s education/life;
- Systematic data collections and documentation of students’ progress toward their goals;
- Development and administration of the job readiness program;
- Development and facilitation of workshops to prepare students for internship placements and seminars for students after placement;
- Cultivation of internship placements;
- Monitoring and tracking internship progress;
- Facilitation of college readiness training seminars and college fairs;
○ Working with the academic staff to ensure students' compliance with graduation requirements;
○ Assisting each student with a viable post-graduation plan;
○ Coordinating college/post-secondary partnerships, tours and scholarship resources;
○ Coordinating financial aid and SAT preparation workshops, college essays and applications;
○ Collaborating in the development of a Student Advisory Council;
○ Assisting in providing experiential learning opportunities within the school;
○ Collaborating with external agencies to provide students with services not provided by OPP
○ OPP shall offer the administrator at Opportunity High and at least five teachers currently working at Opportunity High positions at the Opportunity Academy, upon proper application, effective July 1, 2015.