

April 4, 2025

Tyisha Walker-Myers President, Board of Aldermen City of New Haven 165 Church St, 2nd Floor New Haven, CT 06520

Re: Request for Support on School Construction Project and Application for State Funding for New Board of Education Offices

Dear President Walker-Myers,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to respectfully request the support of the Board of Alders for an important school construction project: the relocation and renovation of the Board of Education office from its current location at 54 Meadow Street to 424 Chapel Street in New Haven. In conjunction with this request, I seek your approval to support the application for school construction dollars from the State of Connecticut to build out the new office space at 424 Chapel Street.

As you may know, the current Board of Education office space at 54 Meadow Street is no longer adequate for the operational needs of the district. The space is outdated, inefficient, and costly to maintain. After extensive review and planning, it has been determined that relocating the office to the City owned building at 424 Chapel Street will allow for a more functional, public accessible, and cost-effective environment for the Board's administrative operations. The new office location offers enhanced accessibility for staff, parents, and community members, and will provide the necessary space for the continued growth and improvement of our educational system.

We have worked with the relevant stakeholders to prepare a plan for the necessary renovations and build-out of the new office space. The total estimated cost of this project is \$8,812,913, and we anticipate that the State of Connecticut will provide a substantial grant through the Department of Administrative Services/Office of School Construction Grant Review (CT DAS/OSCGR), with a local match of 31.14% amounting to just over \$ \$2,832,470. The remaining balance will be funded through the Board of Education's capital budget and City General Funds.

In order to proceed with the project, we request the following actions:

1. Resolution Authorizing the Superintendent to Apply for School Construction Dollars from CT DAS/OSCGR

This resolution will grant the Superintendent the authority to apply for the necessary funding to support the build-out of the new Board of Education office at 424 Chapel Street.

- 2. **Resolution to Establish a Building Committee for the Renovation of the Board of Education Offices** This resolution will establish a committee to oversee the planning, design, and execution of the renovation project, ensuring that all aspects of the project are completed efficiently and effectively.
- 3. Resolution for Preparation of Schematic Drawings and Specifications for the Renovation of the Board of Education Offices

This resolution will authorize the preparation of the necessary architectural and engineering drawings to ensure the successful renovation of the new office space.

Madeline Negrón, Ph.D. *Superintendent*



We are confident that this move will allow for better service to our school's families and community and enhance the operational efficiency of the Board of Education. I kindly ask for your support in facilitating the approval of these resolutions and in moving this project forward.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to your prompt approval and support.

Very truly yours,

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Madeline Negron, Ph.D. Superintendent of Schools