



Town of Greenwich
BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES MINUTES
Special Meeting of the Board, August 1, 2017

ATTENDING

Board Attendees: Alan Gunzburg, Abbott Jones, Annalisa Fernandez, Natalie Queen, Winston Robinson, Jeffrey Medina

Staff Attendees: Alan Barry

CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the GDHS Board was called to order by Vice-Chairman Abbott Jones at 7:00pm. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Achievement Gap Task Force Report and for the group to decide on report approval and propose an action plan for the report.

**ACHIEVEMENT GAP
DISCUSSION**

Board members discussed the changing demographics of the Town and the impact that it is having on academic achievement in the public school system. The widening income gap is reflected in lower state academic testing scores for students in the Title 1 schools. Children from lower income families are not prepared for pre-school and kindergarten and do not catch up. Their language skills and vocabulary are not as advanced as children from higher income families. Group agreed that emphasis needs to be on Task Force recommendation supporting infant/children ages 0-3 and their families through community support in-home services. GDHS Board will encourage Greenwich BOE to increase funding and resources to Town pre-school programs and kindergarten and to improve coordination with community after-school programs.

MOTION

Alan Gunzburg made a motion to approve the Achievement Gap Task Force Report. Motion was seconded by Annalisa Fernandez. Task Force report was approved unanimously.

Board members agreed that the Task Force report needs to be presented to and discussed with the 1st Selectman and the School Superintendent. Copies of the report will be sent to the community leaders that were interviewed as part of the information gathering effort for the report. A follow up meeting will be scheduled with the Achievement Gap Task Force Report group to develop an action plan.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm