

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

In the Matter of a Complaint by
John G. Gwiazda,

Report of Hearing Officer

Complainant

against

Docket #FIC80-59

City and Town of New Britain; Board
of Education of the City and Town of
New Britain; and Superintendent of
Schools of the City and Town of New
Britain,

October 22, 1980

Respondents

The above captioned matter was heard as a contested case on October 17, 1980, at which time complainants and respondents appeared and stipulated to certain facts and documents.

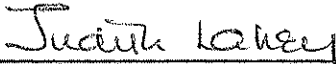
After consideration of the entire record, the following facts are found:

1. The respondent is a public agency as defined by § 1-18a(a), G.S.
2. By letter of complaint filed with this commission dated February 25, 1980, the complainant alleged that the board of education in a meeting held February 13, 1980, acted on certain documents which had been mailed to board members prior to the meeting but which had not been made available to the public prior to the meeting.
3. Respondent board maintains that the documents are made available at the time of the board meeting and prior to that time are preliminary drafts or notes exempted by § 1-19(b)(1).
4. The documents in question consist of payroll data, personnel transactions, purchase orders, special education and staff negotiations.
5. It is found that the document concerning payroll is a completed document calling only for formal board approval. As such it is a public record and should be made available to the public when completed.
6. It is further found that all other documents are preliminary drafts or notes within the meaning of § 1-19(b)(1).

The following order by the commission is hereby recommended on the basis of the record concerning the above captioned complaint:


1. The respondents shall henceforth make available for public inspection the document concerning payroll data when it is prepared.

2. Respondents are encouraged to continue their practice of making all other requested documents available at the beginning of the meeting.



Commissioner Judith Lahey
as Hearing Officer

Approved by order of the Freedom of Information Commission at its regular meeting of November 12, 1980.



Marion D. Sponzo,
Acting Clerk of the Commission