

**REGULAR MEETING
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY
January 13, 2020**

A Regular Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Monday, January 13, 2020, in the Lecture Hall of the Connecticut IB Academy, 857 Forbes Street, East Hartford, CT.

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by Chairman Bryan R. Hall.

PRESENT Chairman Bryan R. Hall, Secretary Tyron V. Harris, Harry Amadasun, Jr.,
Vanessa Jenkins, Marilyn Pet, Dorese Roberts, Tom Rup
Stephanie Watkins

ABSENT Valerie Scheer

ALSO PRESENT Nathan Quesnel, Superintendent of Schools
Anne Marie Mancini, Deputy Superintendent of Secondary Curriculum
Elsie Torres, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Curriculum
Chris Wethje, Director of Human Resources
Ben Whittaker, Director of Facilities
Paul Mainuli, Director of Business Services
Dr. Sharon Bremner, Director of Pupil Personnel Services
Roberta J. Pratt, Chief Information Officer of Information Technology

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA – Yes, make an amendment to the agenda to create a Consent Calendar under Old Business to Remove from Table and Approve Items 1- 18.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Board of Education Meeting: December 16, 2019 at 6:00 PM
Motion unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Tom Rup
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To approve the following Minutes:
Regular Board of Education Meeting: December 16, 2019 at 7:00 PM
Motion unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Tyron V. Harris
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Board of Education Meeting: December 18, 2019 at 11:30 AM
Motion unanimously carried.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Tom Rup
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Board of Education Meeting: December 18, 2019 at 11:45 AM
Motion unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Tom Rup
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Board of Education Meeting: December 18, 2019 at 12:00 PM
Motion unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Tom Rup
Seconded by Marilyn Pet
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Board of Education Meeting: December 18, 2019 at 12:15 PM
Motion unanimously carried.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board Member Harris shared upcoming Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) workshops referencing the Legislative Breakfasts being held on January 22nd, 29th, 30th and February 20th for various Areas. Registration, locations and times, and additional information can be found online at cabe.org.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Alan Corder, Kyle Janty and Lillian Bertram

-Updates:

- On 11/21/19, EHHS and CIBA inducted 21 new members into the Tucker Blake chapter of the National Honors Society.
- The CIBA Parent Advisory Council (PAC) raised \$2900 selling doughnuts and coffee during our Krispy Kreme fundraiser. The funds will go to benefit student activities.
- On 12/4/19, a group of 24 educators from the Chinese delegation from the Guangdong Province visited CIBA. The delegation was impressed with our educational program and the teaching/learning in our classrooms.
- On 12/5/19, a group of educators from Soochow Foreign Language School, an IB school in China, visited CIBA. We discussed and developed a vision for our partnership, which will involve students from China studying at CIBA.
- A successful winter clothes drive was reported- thank you to those who donated.
- **Athletics Update:** Winter sports are underway, keep up the great work and come out to support EHHS athletic teams.

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-Dates to Remember:

- **1/16/20:** Open House – CIBA
- **1/20/20:** No School - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- **1/21-1/27/20:** Mid-Term Exams
- **1/21-1/23/20:** Cookies, Cocoa and Cram Sessions in the Library
- **1/22-1/23/20:** 8th Grade Visits
- **1/29/20:** Mid-Winter Festival
- **2/14/20:** Unified Dance, 7-9 p.m. - Join the fun, karaoke and activities planned.
Location: 30 Remington Road

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Rachel Hernandez, 86 Williams Street, East Hartford

Ms. Hernandez shared her concerns regarding the High School's policy of not allowing outside food to be dropped off to students for lunch.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Human Resources/No Action Required

Chairman's Report

Bryan R. Hall

Chairman Hall welcomed all attendees to the first Board of Education meeting of 2020. Chairman Hall reviewed the two major agenda points for the evening.

The first point focused on discussing the Legislative Priorities that are developed every year prior to the legislative session. Chairman Hall acknowledged the extremely strong legislative delegation here in East Hartford led by Senator Anwar, and State Representatives Currey, Genga and Rojas. These delegates have been a strong and vocal advocate for our kids and for East Hartford Public Schools and the Board is deeply appreciative of the time they take to understand, listen, and fight for our needs.

The second agenda item focuses on the presentation and review of our annual Capital Improvement Plan that will be sent on to the town for inclusion in their list of potential referendum projects. Acknowledging Ben's expert leadership, the Capital Plan has transformed from being a "wish list" into a "working plan". The Capital Plan is a document that highlights a need for continued urgency to accomplish the work slated within its parameters. Chairman Hall asked that each of the Board members renew their commitment to ensure facilities is prioritized in ongoing discussions. Additionally, Chairman Hall shared his appreciation and thanks to the Facilities Sub-Committee, under the capable leadership of Mr. Rup, for the ongoing effort to continually improve our schools.

Superintendent's Report

Nathan Quesnel

-Updates from the District:

- **Review of four district themes that centered the launch of our school year in September:**
 - **To Do: To Learn-** The district's major teaching focus is on how we can better engage our students in their own learning with a goal of making sure our kids are carrying the cognitive load and engaging with each other rather than sitting as passive receptors of content.
 - **You Get What You Need-** Focuses on this year's commitment to doubling down on Social Emotional Learning through Second Step and School Connect.
 - **Meaningful Professional Development-** The district has launched a comprehensive study of all professional development and is working to improve the relevance, efficiency and meaningfulness of these times.
 - **Hit the Mark- Attendance Matters!** - Emphasis on student and faculty attendance.
- **Strategic Vision Process Update**

Superintendent Quesnel shared that the district has been busy in the data collection stage of building our Strategic Vision Process (SVP) and is looking forward to collating all the information gathered from multiple focus group meetings with parents, students and faculty. While the focus groups have provided a wealth of information, the survey put out to the community has not generated the level of response hoped and Superintendent Quesnel encouraged families to participate by using the link available on the district website. As the data collection phase closes, the team will work to put together a working vision plan that again will be released to the community for feedback.

-Dates to Remember:

- **1/20/20:** District Closed - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- **1/21-1/27/20:** High School Exams - Early Dismissal Grs. 9-12
- **2/6/20:** EHHS Parent Conference Night
- **2/10/20:** Next BOE Meeting
- **6/12/20:** Last Day of School (Pitkin 6/15/20)

Approved By Board of Education

East Hartford Public Schools Legislative Priorities

Nathan Quesnel

The following provides a list summary of EHPS' policy positions that we ask our legislative delegates to consider in their policy development and advocacy work during the 2020 Legislative Session.

- **Funding**
 - Implement the Education Cost Sharing (ECS) Phase in Formula (through 2028)
 - Re- Authorize the 7% Magnet Cap Language
 - Maintain Current Grants
 - School Renovation Grants
- **Policy**
 - Provide Mandate Relief/ Unfunded Mandates
 - Review School Governance/ Long Term Plan for Magnet Schools
 - Teacher Certification Flexibilities/ Parameters

OLD BUSINESS

Create a Consent Calendar under Old Business to Remove from Table and Approve Items 1- 18.

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To create a Consent Calendar under Old Business to Remove from Table and Approve Items 1- 18.
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 1331* (Prohibition Against Smoking)

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 1331* (Prohibition Against Smoking)
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 1900* (Non-Discrimination Community/Board Operation)

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 1900* (Non-Discrimination Community/Board Operation)
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 3100* (Board Budget Procedures and Line Item Transfers)

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 3100* (Board Budget Procedures and Line Item Transfers)
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 3326.3* (Board of Education Credit Card)

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 3326.3* (Board of Education Credit Card)
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 3541* (Transportation)

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 3541* (Transportation)
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 3542.1* (Code of Conduct Governing the Procurement of School Nutrition Program Goods and Services)

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 3542.1* (Code of Conduct Governing the Procurement of School Nutrition Program Goods and Services)
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 4112.5/4212.5* (Employment and Student Teacher Checks)

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 4112.5/4212.5* (Employment and Student Teacher Checks)
Motion unanimously carried.

Approved By Board of Education

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 4118.3/4218.3* (Reports of Suspected Abuse or Neglect of Children or Sexual Assault of Students by School Employees)

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 4118.3/4218.3* (Reports of Suspected Abuse or Neglect of Children or Sexual Assault of Students by School Employees)
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 4118.11/4218.11* (Non- Discrimination – Personnel-Certified/Non-Certified)

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 4118.11/4218.11* (Non-Discrimination – Personnel-Certified/Non-Certified)
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 4118.112/4218.112* (Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment in the Workplace)

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 4118.112/4218.112* (Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment in the Workplace)
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 4118.232/4218.232* (Alcohol, Tobacco and Drug-Free Workplace)

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 4118.232/4218.232* (Alcohol, Tobacco and Drug-Free Workplace)
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 5114* (Student Discipline)

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 5114* (Student Discipline)
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 5118.1* (Homeless Children and Youth)

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 5118.1* (Homeless Children and Youth)
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 5131.911* (Bullying Prevention and Intervention)

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 5131.911* (Bullying Prevention and Intervention)
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 5141.26* (Management Plan and Guidelines for Students with Food Allergies, Glycogen Storage Disease and/or Diabetes)

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 5141.26* (Management Plan and Guidelines for Students with Food Allergies, Glycogen Storage Disease and/or Diabetes)
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 5141.29* (Sunscreen Application in School)

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 5141.29* (Sunscreen Application in School)
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 5144.4* (Physical Activity, Undirected Play and Student Discipline)

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 5144.4* (Physical Activity, Undirected Play and Student Discipline)
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 5145.4* (Non-Discrimination – Students)

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 5145.4* (Non-Discrimination – Students)
Motion unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Review and Approval of FY 2021-2025 Capital Improvement Plan- Districtwide

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Tom Rup
To approve FY 2021-2025 Capital Improvement Plan- Districtwide
Motion unanimously carried.

East Hartford Middle School Roof Replacement Project - Approval of Project Description and Budget, Educational Specifications, and Authorization to Apply for a State School Construction Grant

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Tom Rup
To approve East Hartford Middle School Roof Replacement Project - Approval of Project Description and Budget, Educational Specifications, and Authorization to Apply for a State School Construction Grant.
Motion unanimously carried.

East Hartford High School Roof Replacement Project – Approval of Project Description and Budget, Educational Specifications, and Authorization to Apply for a State School Construction Grant

MOTION By Tom Rup
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To approve East Hartford High School Roof Replacement Project – Approval of Project Description and Budget, Educational Specifications, and Authorization to Apply for a State School Construction Grant.
Motion unanimously carried.

Board Member Representative Reports - None

Public Participation – None

Questions and Concerns by Board Members

Vanessa Jenkins

Board Member Jenkins shared a message to encourage public participation by stressing the importance of rallying together by writing and/or calling our local State Representatives and Senators' offices to share concerns and comments. She also thanked the public for their support.

Marilyn Pet

Board Member Pet shared her concerns regarding food waste in our schools. She referenced the current data study being conducted by UCONN that is following food waste at Sunset Ridge Middle School. Continuing to look at this data and working with Sodexo to offer palatable food options is very important.

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Topics for Future Agendas - None

Adjournment

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Tom Rup
To adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board (8:21 PM)
Motion unanimously carried.

Approved By Board of Education