

**REGULAR MEETING
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY
OCTOBER 19, 2020**

A Regular Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Monday, October 19, 2020, via Zoom Meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by Chairman Brian R. Hall.

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

ABSENT Dorese Roberts, Board Member

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, Chief Operations Officer
Roberta J. Pratt, Chief Information Officer of Information Technology
Dr. Sharon Bremner, Director of Pupil Personnel Services

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA – None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Tyron Harris
Seconded by Tom Rup
To approve the following Minutes:
Regular Board of Education Meeting: September 21, 2020 at 7:00 PM
Motion unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Tyron Harris
Seconded by Tom Rup
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Board of Education Meeting: September 30, 2020 at 4:30 PM
Motion unanimously carried.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION – None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Human Resources/No Action Required

Christopher Wethje

Mr. Wethje noted a change in the Board of Education Human Resources Agenda given to the Board. Yesenia Torres-Rivera rescinded her resignation and it was accepted.

Chairman's Report

Bryan R. Hall

Chairman Hall greeted Board members, administration and audience and began his comments by thanking the parents and guardians who attended EHPS virtual Parent Teacher conferences.

He shared the agenda for the meeting which included an update from the Chief Operations officer, Ben Whittaker on the Facilities work that continues to be a major part of EHPS' steady objective; making our schools the "Pride of OUR community." Chairman Hall thanked Mr. Whittaker for the great work that is done and for all the effort put into getting our buildings ready. Additionally, the meeting included a presentation of the Alliance Grant Submission for improvements to District School Buildings. This forward thinking and detailed capital plan allows us to quickly execute projects as funding becomes available.

Chairman Hall closed his opening comments by thanking the faculty for their incredible efforts that have been made to move through Phases 1-4 in our ReOpening Plan. East Hartford has been a model for the state to follow and a real example of how working together works.

Superintendent's Report

Nathan Quesnel

-Superintendent's Message

- Secondary Reduced Enrollment Model Update
- Modification of Closure Response
- Technology Distribution Updates
- Self-Screening Reminder

-Updates from the District:

- **11/03/2020:** Election Day – No school for Students - Professional Development for Staff
- **11/11/2020:** Veteran's Day – School and District Closed
- **11/16/2020:** Next BoE Meeting
- **06/18/2021:** Last Day of School

Facilities Report/ Summer Work

Benjamin Whittaker, Chief Operating Officer

Mr. Whittaker shared an in-depth presentation on the completed and ongoing facilities projects in the district. In line with the mission to continually improve the facilities in district and to maximize value, Mr. Whittaker's presentation outlined specific site renovations with before and after pictures of completed work along with the corresponding budget.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

Review and Approval of Alliance District Grant Application for General Improvements to Alliance Districts' School Buildings

MOTION By Tyron Harris
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To approve the Alliance District Grant Application for General Improvements to Alliance Districts' School Buildings
Motion unanimously carried.

Review and Approval of Revised Federal Head Start Grant

MOTION By Stephanie Watkins
Seconded by Tom Rup
To approve the Revised Federal Head Start Grant
Motion unanimously carried.

BOARD MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Questions and Concerns by Board Members

Board Member Marilyn Pet commended the Adult Education Program for their continued efforts. She mentioned that all inquiries regarding EH Adult Ed should go the Director, Anthony Mangiafico. Board Member Pet also provided an update on the Garden Committee and the successful bounty that has been harvested and distributed to date at Goodwin, Mayberry and ECLC. The committee is also working with Food Share to distribute the food harvested. She reminded the public that the garden is pick your own.

Board Member Valerie Scheer positively commented on the virtual conference week experience. Board Member Scheer also inquired about volunteer hours and an update on the status of the program. Deputy Superintendent Mancini shared that a meeting is scheduled with High School Leadership and upon review of the proposal, an update will be shared with the Board.

Topics for Future Agendas - None

Adjournment

MOTION By Vanessa Jenkins
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board (8:15 PM)
Motion unanimously carried.