

**REGULAR MEETING
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 17, 2012**

A Regular Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Monday, September 17, 2012, at the Connecticut IB Academy, 857 Forbes Street, East Hartford, CT. The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM by Chairman Jeffrey Currey.

PRESENT Chairman Jeffrey Currey, Marilyn Pet, Tom Rup, Dorese Roberts, Marcus Oladell, IV, Christopher Gentile, Stephanie Watkins, Tyron Harris

ABSENT Bryan Hall

ALSO PRESENT Nathan Quesnel, Superintendent of Schools
Al Costa, Director of Facilities
Christopher Wethje, Director of Human Resources
Dr. Sharon Bremner, Director of Pupil Personnel Services
Paul Mainuli, Director of Finance
Cindy Tran, Student Representative
Aleysa Negron, Student Representative

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA - None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Tyron Harris
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Board of Education Meeting, August 30, 2012
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Tyron Harris
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Board of Education Meeting of August 30, 2012
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Tyron Harris
To approve the following Minutes:
Regular Board of Education Meeting of September 4, 2012
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Stephanie Watkins
Seconded by Marilyn Pet
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Board of Education Meeting of September 11, 2012
Motion unanimously carried.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD - None

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

Cindy Tran

Aleysa Negron

9/14 – Girls Volleyball won over East Catholic;

9/14 – Girls Swimming won over Haddam/Killingworth;

9/14 – Girls Soccer won over Weaver;

9/21 – Boys Soccer is having a home game at 7:00 P.M. against Manchester;

9/20 – EHHS Back-to-School Night – (1) Optional dinner 5:30 P.M.; 6:30 Training for Home Access Center available to parents in the Library – you can pick up a copy of your child's schedule at this time and follow the student's schedule; Principal Ryan encourages parents to become more involved;

10/4 – Spirit Week – Denim Day; 10/5 Black & Gold Day;

10/5 – Pep Rally;

10/6 – Homecoming – 6:30-10:30 P.M. – tickets are being sold all this week – package includes ticket to dance, ticket to game and class T-shirt;

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Human Resources/No Action Required

Chairman's Report

- Re: the missing "H" at the Glastonbury/East Hartford Magnet School, Chairman Currey stated it will be added;
- Town Council has the Teachers Contract on its agenda for its Wednesday meeting;
- Thank you to parents for their patience regarding bussing issues that have occurred; the Superintendent has met with the bus company to resolve any existing problems; Due to the construction project on Maple St., students have been arriving late for school;
- The monthly news article from the Chairman and Superintendent that was to appear in the East Hartford Gazette has been delayed. However, each school has copies of the news article.
- Re: the EHMS Assistant Principal position – 144 candidates applied for the position.
- Welcome to parents to the IB Academy.

Superintendent's Report

- Thank you to Karen O'Connell regarding the teacher's union contract;
- We have submitted a draft to the State Department of Education and are awaiting approval for a \$1.7 million grant to be used for improving student achievement. It also focuses on teacher evaluation, accountability, and pre-K literacy;
- A new Family Resource Center at Mayberry School will hopefully open in December;
- Thank you to the families regarding any bussing issues that have arisen. If parents have questions regarding a bussing problem, please direct them to George Simons at (860)622-5139 or e-mail him at simons.gk@easthartford.org.

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- Open Houses – parents, please contact the school principal to meet with your child’s teacher.

Year-End Financial Report FY 2011-12

Paul Mainuli, Director of Finance

Mr. Mainuli noted we were able to achieve most of the Board approved year-end spending projects. We also used funds of \$500,000 set aside in a capital Reserve account for projects at O’Connell School, Barnes School, EHMS and EHHS. Mr. Mainuli stated the Facilities Department did an outstanding job.

Mr. Mainuli thanked the Finance Department staff for all the work they accomplished with year-end closeouts. Revenues from Woodland School amounted to \$4.8 million, which allowed us to accomplish many of the things we set out to do at our schools.

It was brought to Mr. Mainuli’s attention that computers are being left on in the evening at some of our schools. Mr. Mainuli replied he will issue a memo to all schools reminding them to turn off computers at the end of the work day.

OLD BUSINESS

Bid #1684-12 - EHHS Gym Bathroom Renovations

Al Costa, Director of Facilities

MOTION

By Christopher Gentile

Seconded by Tom Rup

To approve Bid #1684-12 EHHS Gym Lavatory Renovations and award to Warren Brothers LLC, Stafford Springs, CT in the amount of \$54,943.

Motion unanimously carried.

Mr. Costa noted this was forwarded to the Facilities Committee for its review and approval. Funding of this project is from the 2012 Capital Reserve Funds. Mr. Costa stated he expects this project to be completed in approximately 45 days. It will be done before the start of the basketball season.

NEW BUSINESS

Appropriation Transfers – First Quarter FY 2012-2-13

MOTION

By Christopher Gentile

Seconded by Tyron Harris

To approve appropriation transfers to balance the general budget program accounts for the First Quarter Financial Report. The total transfer amount is \$1,618,000.

Motion unanimously carried

Mr. Mainuli noted this will not affect our bottom line.

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Chairman Currey noted at this time he received a call from Parks & Recreation regarding closing buildings at 6:00 P.M. or 6:30 P.M. This will be discussed at a future meeting.

Request for Overnight Travel to Woodstock, CT

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Tyron Harris
To approve request for overnight travel to Woodstock, CT Discovery Center October 1-5, 2012 for five Langford School fifth graders.
Motion unanimously carried.

Principal Sharon Epple noted the cost per student is only \$35.00. Grant funds and donations to the Discovery Center will cover all other expenses, including transportation.

Head Start Grant Renewal

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Tyron Harris
To approve the 2013 Federal Head Start Grant.
Motion unanimously carried.

Joanne LeBeau, Principal, Willowbrook School, stated this is the year-two renewal of the three-year grant cycle for the Head Start Grant.

Resignations:

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV
To approve the following (three) **Resignations:**
1. Mary Verrastro, Teacher, effective 8/26/2012;
2. Lou Frasca, Teacher, effective 10/4/2012;
3. Tamara Brierley, Para/Sped, effective 9/7/2012
Motion unanimously carried.

Board Member Representative Reports

Tyron Harris – attended Woodland School Open House. He noted parent participation was evident.

Marcus Oladell, IV – attended EHMS Open House.

Stephanie Watkins – will attend Mayberry School Open House tomorrow.

Christopher Gentile – attended Willowbrook and Goodwin schools Open House.

Tom Rup – attend Pitkin School Open House.

Marilyn Pet – re: Child Plan – she visited the community garden and attended the harvest fair.

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Public Participation - None

Questions and Concerns by Board Member

Chairman Currey acknowledged Esther Clarke and thanked her for coming to the Board meeting.

Topics for Future Agendas

MOTION By Tyron Harris
 Seconded by Dorese Roberts
 To adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board (7:55 P.M.)
 Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by: Donna Fitzgerald

APPROVED BY BOARD OF EDUCATION