

**REGULAR MEETING
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**TUESDAY,
JANUARY 3, 2006**

A Regular Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Tuesday, January 3, 2006, at the Connecticut International Baccalaureate Academy, 857 Forbes Street, East Hartford, CT. The meeting was called to order at 7:35 P.M. by Chairperson Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien.

PRESENT Chairperson Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien, Secretary Jason Rojas, Robert Damaschi, Karen Howe, Cynthia Reik, Hank Pawlowski, Jr., Prescille Yamamoto, Ram Aberasturia, Marcus Oladell, IV

ALSO PRESENT Dr. Marion Martinez, Superintendent of Schools
Paul Mainuli, Director of Business Services
Jody Lefkowitz, Director of Pupil Personnel
Al Costa, Director of Facilities
Art Arpin, Director of Human Resources

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Robert Damaschi
Seconded by Karen Howe
To approve the following Minutes:
1st Special Meeting, December 12, 2005;
2nd Special Meeting, December 12, 2005;
3rd Special Meeting, December 12, 2005;
1st Special Meeting, December 19, 2005;
2nd Special Meeting, December 19, 2005.
Motion unanimously carried.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

- Invitation received from CABE for a breakfast on February 9, 2006, 8-9:30 A.M.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS - None

Crystal Maldonado and Jennifer Sierra

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Human Resources/Appointments/No Action Required

Mr. Arpin noted we have hired two new employees – Assistant Superintendent and Nursing Supervisor.

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School/Business Partnership

(Penny Brice, Coordinator)

(Karen Desautelle, United Technologies)

Ms. Brice stated the School/Business Partnership has a new Board Chair.

She noted twelve grants totaling \$11,663.49 were awarded to the following schools:

East Hartford High School - \$1,313.95 – for acquisition of software;

O’Connell Elementary School - \$1,311.20 – for service learning program for Grade 3 students;

Goodwin Elementary School - \$1,247.58 – for purchase of a traveling instructional measurement center to include creative manipulatives;

Silver Lane Elementary School - \$1,106.38 – for implementation of a school-wide Second Step Violence Prevention Curriculum;

Mayberry Elementary School - \$1,100.00 – for expansion of exiting Second Step Violence Prevention Curriculum;

Langford Elementary School - \$1,072.50 – for implementation of a school-wide Second Step Violence Prevention Curriculum;

East Hartford High School - \$1,000.00 – for Reading & Writing Strategy Program;

Woodland School - \$929.03 – for Exploring Connecticut’s History K-12 Program;

O’Brien Elementary School - \$800.00 – for purchase of various classic collections for a reading program;

Circle of Life: Arts for All, Inc. – Sunset Ridge School - \$760.00 – for Kids Keep Peggin’ Cribbage Program;

East Hartford Middle School - \$522.85 – for after school Art Club;

Sunset Ridge School - \$500.00 – for Improving Academics through Chess program.

Chairperson Mayranen-O’Brien stated she would like to see the mentoring program expanded. Ms. Desautelle will research how best to do this. Dr. Martinez noted next week the Board of Education will host a School/Business Partnership and Chamber of Commerce meeting.

Reading Language Arts and Math Curricula

(Linda Kauffmann, Supervisor, Elementary Instruction)

(Marianne Cavanaugh, Department Head, Math)

((Pat Muggleston, Literacy Coordinator)

Dr. Martinez noted we continue to revise curricula. She thanked all who are working toward this endeavor. Chairperson Mayranen-O’Brien thanked Dr. Martinez for leading this effort.

Ms. Kauffmann noted she would like to add a handbook of definitions to the curricula. Mr. Pawlowski stated he was very pleased with the curriculum. Dr. Martinez noted we are very pleased that Larry Ainsworth will be meeting at the end of June for the four-day retreat with the Administrative Council to work on identifying power standard.

Ms. Kauffmann thanked Dr. Martinez for her support.

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Board of Education Student Uniform Survey

Dr. Martinez stated the Student Uniform Survey went to the Future Planning Committee for suggestions. Now it is here before the Board. It was the consensus of the Board to change the following:

- Change title to Student Dress Code;
- Rephrase second sentence...throughout our elementary **and high** school;
- Under Preference: Uniform (as worn in private, **parochial schools and magnet schools**);;
- Under Parent's Name: **(optional)**
- Delete **Elementary** and have **School Name** for signature.

It was suggested to send this survey out district-wide for comments. Dr. Martinez noted UPTCC has a meeting January 17 and asked if the Board would also like them to comment. The Student Dress Code Survey form will come before the Board in February for final approval.

Chart of Unions and Benefits

Dr. Martinez disseminated to Board members a very detailed chart of unions and benefits. She noted it is a very good document.

High School Principal Timeline

It was the consensus of the Board to advertise more widely for the High School Principal position. Suggestions were The Hartford Courant, New Haven Register, Springfield newspapers, CAPSS and the web site.

**Summer Language Institute
(Spencer Clapp, CIBA)**

Mr. Clapp reviewed with the Board details of the Summer Language Institute for American Youth grant opportunity. He noted the grant application is targeted public high schools with a diverse student population. Mr. Clapp noted because we have the largest public high school Chinese program in New England. The grant ranges from \$150,000 to \$300,000. It would be used for a program of Chinese and Arabic instruction to run from June 25-August 6, 2006, offered to anyone who has had exposure to Chinese. Notification of the grant award will occur at the end of February.

Mr. Rojas noted he would like to have Chinese offered in our high school also.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chairperson/Superintendent's Reports

Chairperson Mayranen-O'Brien noted there will be a Budget Meeting, Saturday, January 7th, 8:00 A.M.

Superintendent

Dr. Martinez noted we had a snow day today. She wished everyone a Happy New Year.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Policy & Audit – Jason Rojas – meeting scheduled for January 10, 5:30 P.M.; we will be reviewing the 4,000 series and #9132 – Board Committees.

Facilities – Hank Pawlowski, Jr. – no meeting will be scheduled during budget deliberations;

Curriculum – Cynthia Reik – tentative meeting scheduled for January 17, 5:30 P.M.;

Finance & Audit – Robert Damaschi – meeting scheduled for January 4, 6:00 P.M.;

Future Planning – Karen Howe – tentative meeting scheduled for January 26, 6:00 P.M.

PERSONNEL

MOTION

By Robert Damaschi

Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.

To approve the following retirement six retirements:

1. Joanne K. Drumm, Teacher, effective 6/30/06
2. Connie Holmeen, Teacher, effective 6/30/06
3. Peter J. Kenny, Asst. Principal, effective 6/30/06
4. Gerald Lipton, Department Chair, effective 6/30/06
5. Dennis J. Lyon, 1st Asst. Principal, effective 6/30/06
6. Thomas Yacavone, Department Head, effective 2/1/06

Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION

By Robert Damaschi

Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.

To approve the following two resignations:

1. Ann M. Burdick, Nursing Supervisor, effective 1/17/06
2. Anthony T. Lupacchino, Security, effective 1/2/06

Motion unanimously carried.

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OLD AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

**To Approve Radio Frequency Enhancement Agreement with Cingular
(Paul Mainuli, Director of Business Services)**

MOTION By Robert Damaschi
Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
To approve Radio Frequency Enhancement Agreement with
Cingular
Motion unanimously carried

**To Approve Regulation 4306A, B, C and D
(Paul Mainuli, Director of Business Services)**

It was noted that Regulations do not come before the Board for approval. Dr. Martinez stated if anyone has question regarding a Regulation, to bring them to her attention.

**To Approve job Description of Grants Manager
(Art Arpin, Director of Human Resources)**

MOTION By Robert Damaschi
Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV
Approve Job Description of Grants Manager
Motion unanimously carried.

INTERNAL BOARD BUSINESS
Representative Reports: - None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

QUESTIONS ASKED BY BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Yamamoto – re: (1) commented that a policy states Board Minutes of meetings should be available to Board members at the next Regular Board Meeting; (2) re: security report – she hopes that incident boxes are being shared with others.

Mr. Rojas – re: to Mr. Mainuli – where are we in the 3,000 series – Mr. Mainuli stated we have been focusing on three at a time.

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TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS - None

Proposed Executive Session

MOTION By Robert Damaschi
Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV
To recess to Executive Session (9:00 P.M.) to discuss negotiations with non-bargaining unit employees
Motion unanimously carried.

The Regular Board Meeting reconvened at 9:35 P.M.

MOTION By Robert Damaschi
Seconded by Jason Rojas
To approve non-bargaining unit employee raises amended as follows by position: Director of Business Services – change increase from 3.5% to 3%; Director of Security – change increase from 3.5% to 2%; Administrative Assistant to Superintendent – change increase from 3.5% to 3%; ESL Parent Coordinator – change increase from 2% to 3%.
Motion carried. Nay: Robert Damaschi, Jason Rojas

MOTION By Karen Howe
Seconded by Ram Aberasturia
To adjourn the Regular Board Meeting 9:45 P.M.
Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by:
Donna Fitzgerald