

**REGULAR MEETING
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,
JUNE 5, 2006**

A Regular Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Monday, June 5, 2006, at the Connecticut International Baccalaureate Academy, 857 Forbes Street, East Hartford, CT. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Chairperson Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien.

PRESENT Chairperson Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien, Robert Damaschi, Cynthia Reik, Hank Pawlowski, Jr., Ram Aberasturia, Marcus Oladell, IV, Prescille Yamamoto, Dorese Roberts

ALSO PRESENT Dr. Marion Martinez, Superintendent of Schools
Debbie Kaprove, Interim Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Al Costa, Director of Facilities
Paul Mainuli, Director of Business Services
Jody Lefkowitz, Director of Pupil Personnel
Christopher Wethje, Director of Human Resources
Crystal Maldonado, Student Representative to the Board
Jennifer Sierra, Student Representative to the Board

ABSENT Karen Howe

ALSO PRESENT – TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS: Rich Kehoe, Chair, William Horan, Jr., Vice Chair, Mary Alice Dwyer-Hughes, Majority Leader, Pat Harmon, Donald Pitkin, Minority Leader, Stephanie Labanowski, Marc Weinberg, Jason Rojas, Marcia LeClerc

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPOINTMENT OF
INDIVIDUAL TO FILL VACANT BOARD OF EDUCATION POSITION**

MOTION By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV
To accept the recommendation of the Democratic Town Committee to appoint Dorese Roberts to the East Hartford Board of Education.
Motion unanimously carried.

Ms. Sharon Miller, Town Clerk, administered the oath of office to Ms. Dorese Roberts.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

**Recognition of Crystal Maldonado, Student Representative and
Jennifer Sierra, Student Representative**

Chairperson Mayranen-O'Brien recognized the student representatives for their service on the Board of Education and wished them well. The Board presented each a gift in appreciation of their outstanding service on the Board. Ms. Maldonado will be graduating and Ms. Sierra will become President of the Student Council.

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- Taste of PRIDE was a success. Ms. Maldonado noted the American Eagle Credit Union donated money for the program.

RECOGNITION OF RECIPIENTS OF THE TENTH ANNUAL CABE STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Joy Osahon

Jasmine Iredia

(Craig Jordan, EHHS Principal)

(Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien, Chair)

Ms. Joy Osahon and Jasmine Iredia were the recipients of the Tenth Annual CABE Student Leadership Awards. Each was presented with a plaque from CABE and a gift from the Board.

RECOGNITION OF SPOTLIGHT AWARD RECIPIENT

SONIA MANGANELLO

(Dan Brodeur, Goodwin Elementary, Principal)

(Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien, Chair)

Ms. Sonia Manganello, Goodwin Elementary School, was the recipient of the Spotlight Award for her heroic efforts in assisting a child who was choking while having lunch. Ms. Manganello performed the Heimlich maneuver, which saved the child's life. The Board presented Ms. Manganello with a plaque.

RECOGNITION OF "VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR"

The following were recognized as Volunteers of the Year by their respective principals. Each received a plaque from the Board:

Annmarie Brescia

Peter & Sana Hart

Lori Claffey

Jean Bartalotta

Auria Cordova

Carmen Holley

Jennifer Garcia

Terry Kurtzman

Iris Chalerman-Woodberry

Jane Griffin

Patricia Bartold

Sarah Jones

Kathie Stone

Shanique Tyshawn Compton

Sara McEvila

Christian Leadership Class –

East Catholic High School

Jillian Pitura, Representative

CIBA

East Hartford High School

East Hartford Middle School

Goodwin Elementary School

Hockanum Elementary School

Langford Elementary School

Mayberry Elementary School

Norris Elementary School

O'Brien Elementary School

O'Connell Elementary School

Pitkin Elementary School

Silver Lane Elementary School

Sunset Ridge School

Synergy Alternative High School

Willowbrook School

Woodland Elementary School

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Cynthia Reik
Seconded by Ram Aberasturia
To approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting,
May 9, 2006.
Motion carried. Abstain: Prescille Yamamoto

MOTION By Prescille Yamamoto
Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV
To approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting,
May 15, 2006, as corrected:
Page 1: first sentence:...was held on Monday, May 15...
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Prescille Yamamoto
Seconded by Ram Aberasturia
To approve the Minutes of the (1) Special Meeting,
May 22, 2006.
Motion carried. Abstain: Prescille Yamamoto

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
To approve the Minutes of the (2) Special Meeting,
May 22, 2006.
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Prescille Yamamoto
Seconded by Ram Aberasturia
To approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting,
May 25, 2006, as corrected:
Page 3 – statement under first Motion should read:
**Mr. Aberasturia stated he voted against the budget because no
administrative positions were being cut; cuts to the paras,
custodians, elementary school teachers and the hiring of new
teachers without retaining our present staff.**
Motion unanimously carried.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

- Invitation from Child Plan – June 8th – East Hartford Cultural Center;
- Summer Musical Festival to be held June 22nd.

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STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

The Student Representatives were recognized earlier in the agenda and gave a brief report at that time.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1. Ginny Lynch – re: in opposition of eliminating para positions from budget;
2. Robin Zajack, 382 Hills Street – re: Freshmen sports – in opposition of eliminating Freshmen sports;
3. Linda Chamberlain, 128 Ridgewood Road – in opposition of budget cuts – please consider putting programs back into the budget;
4. Ram Aberasturia - Board Member – re(1) disappointed Adult Education graduation was not televised; (2) opposes staff budget cuts – stated staff is our most important and valuable asset – how can staff be eliminated instead of math curriculum.

At this time (8:15 P.M.) Chairman Kehoe reconvened the Town Council Joint Meeting with the Board.

Many Town Council members asked how the Board budget process was handled and questioned if the Board made the decisions or the Superintendent.

Dr. Martinez noted she recommends to the Board district initiatives based upon the District Improvement Plan. She also recommends cuts, but it Board who chooses whether or not to support the recommendations. Dr. Martinez feel strongly that the math curriculum should be put in place; it needs to go forward. This cannot be done effectively without the new materials. Schools have been cited under the NCLB law for failing test scores in mathematics. Dr. Martinez further noted all other cuts were “not made without pain”.

Chairman Kehoe asked that Mr. Mainuli provide the Council with update of accounts and give them gross numbers, as well as revenue that has been offset to gain a clearer understanding of the Board’s budget. Mr. Mainuli will provide this information to the Council. It was stated if anyone from the council has questions they should contact the Superintendent.

Dr. Martinez stated her recommendations to the Board on the budget cuts reflected the district’s need to improve student performance and because of No Child Left Behind. She noted every year there are increased sanctions to the school district. Dr. Martinez further stated she will be glad to plan a program re: NCLB for the Town Council so that they will understand the challenges we are facing.

Regarding custodian and paraprofessional cuts, Dr. Martinez stated we need to face reality of limited funds and difficult choices.

Regarding athletics, Mr. Pitkin asked “when did this stop being an educational process”. Dr. Martinez responded “we had to make difficult decisions”.

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Regarding School Resource Officers, Chairman Kehoe noted the Board should not be paying anything – it is the Town Council’s responsibility.

MOTION By Pat Harmon
Seconded by William Horan, Jr.
To adjourn the Town Council portion of the Joint Meeting with the Board of Education (9:25 P.M.)

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Human Resources/Appointments/No Action Required

The Board welcomed Christopher Wethje to the East Hartford Public Schools in his new position as Director of Human Resources.

Update on National Robotics Championship in Atlanta
(Chuck Nystrom, Robotics Team Leader, EHHS)

Mr. Nystrom gave a brief update on the National Robotics Championship in Atlanta. He noted \$14,000 was raised from fundraising to allow for a successful year. He stated East Hartford did well, and he expects the team will pursue future championships.

New Legislation Regarding National School Lunch Program
(David Flanagan, Department Head, Physical Education)
(John Frattiello, General Manager, Sodexho Food Services)

Mr. Flanagan reviewed the new legislation passed regarding school lunch programs. He is confident East Hartford will adhere to the guidelines established in concert with Sodexho Food Services. Mr. Flanagan thanked all members of the School Health Policy Committee for their efforts. He would like to adopt the school nutrition and physical activity policy.

MOTION By Prescille Yamamoto
Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
To forward to Policy and Audit Committee the School Nutrition and Physical Activity policy for their review and then forward to the full Board for its approval.
Motion unanimously carried.

Ms. Yamamoto noted Sodexho works very well with our school district.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chairperson/Superintendent's Reports

Chairperson Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien

Superintendent Martinez:

Superintendent Martinez noted she recently attended a poetry tea at O'Brien School and enjoyed the experience.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Policy & Audit – no meeting has been scheduled;

Curriculum – Cynthia Reik – meeting scheduled for June 19th, 6:00 PM. Ms. Reik noted she attended a statewide urban gifted program for music, and art; 500 students and parents attended;

Facilities –Hank Pawlowski, Jr. – no meeting has been scheduled;

Finance & Audit – Robert Damaschi – meeting is scheduled for June 7th, 6:00 P.M.;

Future Planning – Karen Howe – meeting scheduled for June 12th, 6:00 P.M.

PERSONNEL

MOTION

By Robert Damaschi

Seconded by Prescille Yamamoto

To approve the following five resignations:

1. Carey M. Kloske, Science Teacher, effective 7/21/06;

2. Andrew Donofrio, Custodian, effective 5/23/06;

3. Nola C. Hogan, Para, effective 6/7/06;

4. Julie Levy, Tutor, effective 5/25/06;

5. Justin J. Magoulas, Behavior Manager, effective 6/12/06

Motion unanimously carried.

OLD AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

Approve the IDEA 611 and 619 Special Education Grant

(Jody Lefkowitz, Director, Pupil Personnel Services)

(Kelly Grant, Supervisor, Special Education)

MOTION

By Prescille Yamamoto

Seconded Robert Damaschi

To approve the IDEA 611 and 619 Special Education Grant

Motion unanimously carried.

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Approve CP#1560-06 Annual Inspection & Testing Fire Sprinkler Systems

(Al Costa, Director of Facilities)

MOTION

By Marcus Oladell, IV

Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.

To approve CP#1560-06 Annual Inspection & Testing Fire Sprinkler Systems and award to Fire Protection Testing, Inc.
Motion unanimously carried.

Approve Bid #1549 Integrated Pest Management Service

(Al Costa, Director of Facilities)

MOTION

By Robert Damaschi

Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.

To approve Bid #1549 for Integrated Pest Management Service and award to Terminix for \$24,768.00 for three years.
Motion unanimously carried.

Approve Bid #1550 Treated Mop Service

(Al Costa, Director of Facilities)

MOTION

By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.

Seconded by Robert Damaschi

To approve Bid #1550 for Treated Mop Service and award to G&K Services for \$8,646.67 per year, for three years, beginning July 2006.

Motion unanimously carried.

Approve Bid #1561-06 Professional Design Services for Window Wall Renovation Project - EHHS

(Al Costa, Director of Facilities)

MOTION

By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.

Seconded by Robert Damaschi

To approve Bid #1561-06 Professional Design Services for Window Wall Renovation Project – EHHS and award to Natale and Stoutenberg Architects for \$16,250.

Motion unanimously carried.

Approve Request for Bid Waiver – Purchase of Utility Van

(Al Costa, Director of Facilities)

MOTION

By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.

Seconded by Robert Damaschi

To approve request for bid waiver - Purchase of Replacement Equipment:

1. State Bid Contract \$15,240 through Interstate Ford, FY 05-06;
2. State Bid Contract \$15,240 through Interstate Ford, FY 06-07.

Motion unanimously carried.

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**Approve Food Service Management Contract
(Paul Mainuli, Director of Business Services)**

MOTION

By Robert Damaschi

Seconded by Prescille Yamamoto

To approve Food Service Management Contract with Sodexo for the second year agreement, from July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007.

Motion unanimously carried.

**Approve Certified Staff Member's Use of Employee Sick Bank
(Dr. Marion Martinez, Superintendent)**

MOTION

By Prescille Yamamoto

Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.

To approve certified staff member's use of employee sick bank

Motion unanimously carried.

**Approve Rescinding the Letters of Non-Renewal of Certain Non-Tenured Teachers
(Dr. Marion Martinez, Superintendent)**

MOTION

By Ram Aberasturia

Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.

To approve rescinding the letters of non-renewal of certain non-tenured teachers as listed below:

1. Melissa B. Aston, Early Childhood Spec Ed;
2. Derek W. Bell, Physical Ed, Grades K-5;
3. Jorge L. Briceno, Grades K-6;
4. Jonathan R. Burdick, Spec Ed, Grades K-12;
5. Stephanie A. DalPra, Art, Grades K-5;
6. Jennifer R. Dintino, Spec Ed, Grades K-5;
7. Brian J. Douglas, Grades K-6;
8. Lisa A. Frederickson, Music, Grades K-5;
9. Kristin M. Gallant, Grades K-6;
10. Jamie M. Gerardi, Art, Grades 7-8;
11. Mindy S. Goldberg, Early Childhood Spec Ed;
12. Rosemarie S. Lonabaugh, Grades K-6;
13. Janice L. May, Art, Grades 9-12;
14. Jeffrey P. Nogas, Grades K-6;
15. Rebecca A. Shemms, Art, Grades K-5;
16. Linda M. Simmons, Grades K-6;
17. Kathleen A. Simoneau, Grades K-6;
18. Renee St. Amour, Grades K-6;
19. Ilana Yustinich, Grades K-6

Motion unanimously carried.

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**Approve School Nutrition and Physical Activity Policy
(David Flanagan, Chair, School Health Policy Team)**

MOTION By Prescille Yamamoto
Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
To approve the School Nutrition and Physical Activity Policy,
as written by the School Health Policy Team and forward to the
Policy & Audit Committee.
Motion unanimously carried.

INTERNAL BOARD BUSINESS

Representative Reports: - None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

QUESTIONS ASKED BY BOARD MEMBERS

Ram Aberasturia – re: (1) re: uniforms – when will this issue be placed on a future agenda?
Dr. Martinez stated the proposed policy has been brought to the principals’ meeting for input.
It will be discussed at the Future Planning Committee, June 12th, 6:00 P.M. (2) requests a
listing of all staff hired by Dr. Martinez since Mr. Aberasturia was on the Board – do they
have proper certification; (3) re: discrepancies on the suspensions report – The
Superintendent offered to meet with Mr. Aberasturia;

Robert Damaschi – re: when does Mr. Kehoe want to meet with the Board regarding the
budget?

TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS - None

PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION By Robert Damaschi
Seconded by Ram Aberasturia
To adjourn to Executive Session (10:00 P.M.)
For discussion with possible action regarding (1) the deployment
of security personnel; (2) update on EHHS Principal search.
Motion unanimously carried.

The Regular Board Meeting reconvened at (TIME)

MOTION By Robert Damaschi
Seconded by Prescille Yamamoto
To adjourn to the Regular Board Meeting (10:43 P.M.)
Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by:
Donna Fitzgerald