

**REGULAR MEETING
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,
AUGUST 7, 2006**

A Regular Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Monday, August 7, 2006, at the Connecticut International Baccalaureate Academy, 857 Forbes Street, East Hartford, CT. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. by Chairperson Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien.

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

ABSENT Marcus Oladell, IV

ALSO PRESENT Al Costa, Director of Facilities
Christopher Wethje, Director of Human Resources
Guy Collins, Supervisor, Information Technology Services

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Robert Damaschi
Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
To approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting,
July 10, 2006
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Robert Damaschi
Seconded by Prescille Yamamoto
To approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting,
July 17, 2006, as corrected:
Page 1: first sentence - ...was held on Monday,
July 17, 2006...
Motion unanimously carried.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD - None

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT - None

Matthew Larson
Kelly Rivera

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Human Resources/Appointments/No Action Required
Mr. Wethje reported we have hired two additional teachers.

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**East Hartford High School Coaches Handbook
(Maureen Rodgers, Athletic Director)**

Ms. Rodgers presented to the Board a draft of the EHHS Coaches Handbook. Several Board members had comments:

- Chairperson Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien – re: believes we should be evaluating volunteer coaches-
- Ram Aberasturia – re: requirement of physicals – Ms. Rodgers stated we are not mandated to provide physicals; however, no child will participate in sports without physicals. Mr. Aberasturia stated if any child cannot afford physicals, he would like assurance that physicals will be done. It was suggested that the school-based health center could provide physicals or the community health center could provide physicals; Ms. Reik stated the community health center also does blood work.
- Bob Damaschi – re: is the school- based health center obliged to do drug testing.

Ms. Rodgers will make necessary typographical changes and other suggested changes and then forward to the coaches for their review. Ms. Yamamoto suggested that the coaches handbook be reviewed on a more frequent basis.

MOTION

By Prescille Yamamoto

Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.

To add to this evening's agenda under New Business, item (f), coaches handbook.

Motion carried. Nay: Robert Damaschi.

Pandemic Flu Preparedness

(Joe Sikora, Director of Security)

Mr. Sikora presented materials to the Board on the Pandemic Flu. He noted the vaccine is not readily available. He specifically called attention to responsibilities of the Board in case the need arises. The brochure prepared by the East Hartford Health & Social Services Department outlines the emergency operations plan and provides tips for creating a disaster kit. Mr. Damaschi asked for the distribution of the brochure. Mr. Sikora believes the brochure was sent to all East Hartford residents. Mr. Sikora stated all principals have this literature and will pass it out to their staffs.

Status of Tri-Generation Plant (UTC Power)

(Al Costa, Director of Facilities)

Mr. Costa stated the Tri Generation Plant was officially commissioned on July 1, 2006. He noted he is pleased with the turn-key installation provided by UTC. He noted the chiller serves the perimeter of the building and office areas. A formal reception held by UCS Power will be held on September 18th. Invitations will be forthcoming.

Mr. Pawlowski thanked Mr. Costa for his hard work which now enables East Hartford High School to operate once again as an emergency shelter and also reduces energy consumption. He also thanked the Town of East Hartford for their assistance in the procurement of equipment. Mr. Aberasturia also thanked Mr. Costa and his staff.

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Status of Woodland School Roof

(Al Costa, Director of Facilities)

Mr. Costa noted the contractor has agreed to perform all corrective work that has been identified. Problems discovered were related to the new attic space. There is no safety concern for the structures.

Status of Stevens School Roof

(Al Costa, Director of Facilities)

The project is on schedule and will be substantially completed by August 31, 2006. Some work will be completed by the beginning of September and will not impact the school. The project is under budget. Final cost figures will be provided to the Board.

Status of Summer Technology Projects

(Guy Collins, Supervisor, Information Services)

Mr. Collins noted during the summer months he has been able to do many upgrades and rewiring and cleaning of equipment. Regarding the Kindergarten computers, the cost will be approximately \$300,000 and we will need the infrastructure. We are still awaiting the \$150,000 in grant dollars.

Para Pro Test/NCLB

(Christopher Wethje, Human Resources Director)

Mr. Wethje gave an update on the requirements needed by the State Department of Education for paraprofessionals .

Mr. Aberasturia commented he is not pleased that up to 2 percent of teachers are considered not highly qualified per NCLB. Mr. Wethje stated he and the administration will keep the Board apprised of what is happening with NCLB.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chairperson Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien

- Summer Youth Festival was wonderful. The entire Board received an award. Ms. Howe stated the Executive board wanted to thank the Board and presented them with a clock.
- One of our music teachers volunteered at the Blue Grass Festival yesterday – that event was outstanding.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Policy & Audit – Prescille Yamamoto - meeting scheduled for August 9th, 5:30 P.M.

Curriculum – Cynthia Reik – meetings will begin in September;

Facilities –Hank Pawlowski, Jr. – no meeting has been scheduled; we will begin to review materials to place on the outside of EHHS;

Finance & Audit – Robert Damaschi – next meeting scheduled for September 6th.

Future Planning – Karen Howe – no meeting has been scheduled.

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PERSONNEL

MOTION

By Robert Damaschi

Seconded by Prescille Yamamoto

To approve the following **retirement**:

1. Eleanor C. Ashe, Secretary, effective 6/30/2006

To approve the following **resignations**:

1. Jennifer Formato, Tutor, effective 6/30/06
2. Clifford Jones, Custodian, effective 7/21/06
3. Sandra Zielinski, Tutor, effective 6/21/06
4. Jocelyn Boislard, Teacher, effective 6/30/06
5. Catherine Carbone, Principal, effective 8/18/06
6. Hilarie Donnelly, Teacher, effective 6/30/06
7. Michele Dunbar, Teacher, effective 7/25/06
8. Maria Mangiarelli, Psychologist, effective 7/17/06
9. Victor Setaro, Teacher, effective 7/27/06
10. Naomi Shamash, Teacher, effective 8/24/06
11. Dana Sullivan-Pallotta, Teacher, effective 7/24/06
12. Casandra Thomas, Teacher, effective 6/30/06

Motion unanimously carried.

OLD AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Consultant Agreement for Medical Advisor

(Jennifer Daley, Nursing Supervisor)

MOTION

By Prescille Yamamoto

Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.

To approve consultant agreement for medical advisor and contract with CCMC/Faculty Practice Plan for provision of services from Dr. Ann Milanese.

Motion carried. Nay: Robert Damaschi, Dorese Roberts

Mr. Damaschi and Ms. Roberts expressed concerns regarding blood work and physicals. If a child is unable to afford a physical, what are the alternatives. Ms. Daley stated all children will have physicals. The child will be referred to the community health center or school-based health center.

Waive One Month Tabling of and Approve Policy 5114 – Students/Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

(Prescille Yamamoto, Chair, Policy & Audit Committee)

MOTION

By Prescille Yamamoto

Seconded by Robert Damaschi

To waive one month tabling of and approve Policy 5114 – Students/Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Motion carried. Nay: Ram Aberasturia

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**To Table for First Read Policy 5112 – Students/Ages of Attendance
(Prescille Yamamoto, Chair, Policy & Audit Committee)**

MOTION By Cynthia Reik
Seconded by Prescille Yamamoto
To table for first read Policy 5112 – Students/Ages of Attendance
Motion unanimously carried.

**To Table for First Read Policy 5113.2 – Students/Truancy
(Prescille Yamamoto, Chair, Policy & Audit Committee)**

MOTION By Prescille Yamamoto
Seconded by Robert Damaschi
To table for first read Policy 5113.2 – Students/Truancy
Motion unanimously carried.

**To Table for First Read Policy 5118.1 – Students/Homeless Students
(Prescille Yamamoto, Chair, Policy & Audit Committee)**

MOTION By Prescille Yamamoto
Seconded by Ram Aberasturia
To table for first read Policy 5118.1 – Students/Homeless Students
Motion unanimously carried.

**Coaches Handbook - EHHS
(Paul Mainuli, Director of Business Services)**

MOTION By Prescille Yamamoto
Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
To require yearly evaluations and report back to the Board at the last June Board meeting
Motion carried. Nay: Robert Damaschi

INTERNAL BOARD BUSINESS

Representative Reports:

Willowbrook Policy Committee – Prescille Yamamoto – the Committee met once over the summer. Regularly scheduled meetings will begin in September.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

QUESTIONS ASKED BY BOARD MEMBERS

Ram Aberasturia – re: has a concern regarding waiving tabling of policies.

TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS - None

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PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION

By Robert Damaschi

Seconded by Prescille Yamamoto

To adjourn to Executive Session (9:10 P.M.) to discuss the following:

1. Discussion regarding settlement agreements concerning three Board of Education employees;
2. Discussion regarding strategy concerning pending claims and litigation.

Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by:
Donna Fitzgerald

The Regular Board Meeting reconvened at (9:32 P.M.)

MOTION

By Prescille Yamamoto

Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.

To adjourn the Regular Board Meeting (9:38 P.M.)

Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by:
Christopher Wethje