

**REGULAR MEETING
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,
OCTOBER 2, 2006**

A Regular Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Monday, October 2, 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, Hank Pawlowski, Jr., Ram Aberasturia, Karen Howe, Dorese Roberts, Prescille Yamamoto, Marcus Oladell, IV

ABSENT Cynthia Reik

ALSO PRESENT Dr. Marion H. Martinez, Superintendent of Schools
Paul Mainuli, Director of Business Services
Al Costa, Director of Facilities
Christopher Wethje, Director of Human Resources
Kelly Rivera, Student Representative to the Board
Matthew Larson, Student Representative to the Board

RECOGNITION OF WOODLAND SCHOOL STAFF – HELENE MARCHESE, PRINCIPAL, TEACHERS, BEHAVIORAL MANAGERS, STAFF, DEBBIE KAPROVE, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT, JOSEPH SIKORA, DIRECTOR OF SECURITY, MIKE MOAN, SECURITY (Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien)

Forty members of the Woodland School staff attended the Board meeting and were recognized for their heroic efforts in averting a possible tragedy at the school on September 22nd. Particularly recognized was Dwayne Faust, Behavior Manager, who confiscated the weapon. Both Chairperson Mayranen-O'Brien and Dr. Marion Martinez commended all staff for their efforts.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Robert Damaschi
Seconded by Ram Aberasturia
To approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting,
September 18, 2006
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Robert Damaschi
Seconded by Prescille Yamamoto
To approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting,
September 18, 2006
Motion unanimously carried.

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MOTION

By Ram Aberasturia
Seconded by Robert Damaschi
To approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting
September 25, 2006

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

- Exchange Club of East Hartford invitation to attend the annual Martin A. Burnham and Rockville Division 6 Richard Bundy Child Abuse Prevention Awards benefit dinner on October 10th at the Vernon Senior Center; cost is \$25.00. The 2006 recipient of this award is Commander Robert Kenary, EHPD. RSVP to Nancy Fitzgerald at 568-2607;
- Connecticut Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance is honoring David J. Flanagan at an awards banquet on November 16th at the Crowne Plaza Hartford-Cromwell, Cromwell, CT

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

Matthew Larson

Kelly Rivera

- There was a great parent turnout at the Back to School Night;
- September 30th – Student Council induction took place; due to the huge interest and attendance, another induction ceremony may be held in the Spring;
- October 21st – Homecoming Dance will be held from 7:00-10:30 P.M. at EHHS;
- October 11th - next Student Council meeting will be held; we have 180 members. Chairperson Mayranen-O'Brien asked the student representatives to discuss the issue of violence at their next Student Council meeting to gather feedback from members.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1. Senior drum majors participated in competition in Rocky Hill this past Saturday; East Hartford took second place.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Human Resources/Appointments/No Action Required

Mr. Wethje noted we have hired two additional tutors and four certified staff. Mr. Aberasturia thanked Mr. Wethje for providing him with requested information.

Update on East Hartford Community HealthCare, Inc.

School-Linked Dental Program

(Sandeep P. Mammen, DMD, Director, EHCHC)

Dr. Mammen was present to give an update on the East Hartford Community HealthCare, Inc. School-Linked Dental Program. He stated Jen Daley, RN, Supervisor of Nursing, has been instrumental in having this be a successful program for the East Hartford community.

Dr. Martinez stated all nurses now have computers (thank you to the Board for making computers available), and thank you to Jen Daley for doing an extraordinary job.

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Mr. Pawlowski asked that the form sent to parents be made available to the Board. In response to Mr. Pawlowski's question regarding payment, Dr. Mammen stated they accept most insurance plans. It is open to everyone. There is a \$30 flat fee if not insured by any insurance program.

Dr. Mammen noted recommendations are sent home to parents with every visit.

Update on Healthy Food Certification Statement

(Caitlin Moresco, Sodexo)

(John White, Sodexo)

(David Flanagan, Department Head, Physical Education)

Mr. Mainuli noted Sodexo presented an update on the healthy food certification statement to principals last week. Ms. Yamamoto expressed concern that the band uses pies for fundraisers. Mr. Mainuli stated we will make the adults aware of how they can continue to do this fundraising.

Update on CAFE Membership

(Nick Caruso, CAFE)

Mr. Caruso gave an update of what CAFE membership offers. He noted they monitor every bill in the legislature, they provide salary information for bargaining units; provide policy services. Ms. Yamamoto questioned if we do not join CAFE, can we go to the workshops that are offered. Mr. Caruso stated yes, but the fees would be tripled.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chairperson Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien

- Chairperson Mayranen-O'Brien noted she attended the Child Plan Meeting. She has made a brochure available to the Board stating the accomplishments and future goals of the East Hartford Child Plan, Inc.;
- Visited Sunset Ridge School.

Chairperson Mayranen-O'Brien stated we value all of our staff for what they contribute and accomplish on a daily basis.

Superintendent Marion H. Martinez

- Thanked the SBM Charitable Foundation for their check for \$30,000 in support of the East Hartford Public Schools/Goodspeed Musicals Partnership.

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- At this time, Dr. Martinez read a prepared statement in response to defamatory comments made by Board member Dorese Roberts. Dr. Martinez stated she is prepared to take legal action to protect her reputation if attacks continue.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Policy & Audit – Prescille Yamamoto – meeting scheduled October 10th, 5:00 P.M.

Curriculum – Cynthia Reik – meeting not scheduled;

Facilities–Hank Pawlowski, Jr. – meeting held September 28th with PBC to discuss window walls at EHHS; Mr. Pawlowski suggested that Mr. Costa bring pictures of the materials being considered to the next Board meeting;

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

Future Planning – Karen Howe – Chairperson Mayranen-O’Brien stated she would like Future Planning to begin to address non-violence in schools, then to involve parents, community, Public Safety complex, and, ultimately the full Board. Chairman Howe, Future Planning Committee, stated she will figure out how best we can address this important issue and in which direction we should proceed, with the intent of bringing information back to the Town and full Board.

PERSONNEL

MOTION

By Prescille Yamamoto

Seconded by Robert Damaschi

To approve the following four Resignations:

1. Kora Kapij, Special Ed Para, effective 9/22/06;
2. Linda Richardson, Tutor, effective 8/31/06;
3. Stephanie Facchini, Teacher, effective 9/29/06;
4. Damon Holmes, Behavior Manager, effective 9/29/06

To approve one Termination:

1. Angel Colon, Behavior Manager, effective 9/15/06

Motion unanimously carried.

OLD AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

Approve CABE Membership

(Nick Caruso, CABE)

MOTION

By Prescille Yamamoto

Seconded by Ram Aberasturia

To approve CABE Membership and update service

Motion carried. Abstain: Dorese Roberts, Ram Aberasturia

Mr. Pawlowski asked if we should wait one month to approve membership with CABE until we get the current budget printout from Mr. Mainuli. Dr. Martinez stated she had a conversation with Mr. Mainuli and felt comfortable that we have the dollars to approve the membership dues at this time.

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**Approve Healthy Food Certification Statement, SDE
(Paul Mainuli, Director, Business Services)**

MOTION

By Prescille Yamamoto

Seconded by Robert Damaschi

That the East Hartford Board of Education is authorized to exclude from such certification the sale to students of food items as detailed in Section 3 (b), provided (1) such sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend, (2) such sale is at the location of the event, and (3) such food is not sold from a vending machine or school store.

Motion carried. Nay: Dorese Roberts, Ram Aberasturia

**Approve Part-Time Grant Coordinator Position
(Paul Mainuli, Director, Business Services)**

MOTION

By Prescille Yamamoto

Seconded by Ram Aberasturia

To approve part-time Grant Coordinator position at an annual salary of \$36,000 without benefits. The position will be a 12-month, three day per week position.

Motion unanimously carried.

**Approve 2006-2007 Immigrant Children and Youth Grant
(Linda Kauffmann, Supervisor of Elementary Instruction)**

MOTION

By Robert Damaschi

Seconded by Prescille Yamamoto

To approve 2006-2007 Immigrant Children and Youth Grant

Motion unanimously carried.

Mr. Damaschi asked that the Superintendent provide figures for what the Board should expect to give for in-kind services. Mr. Aberasturia asked how many ELL teachers we have.

**Approve 2006-2007 Bilingual Education Program Grant
(Linda Kauffmann, Supervisor of Elementary Instruction)**

MOTION

By Ram Aberasturia

Seconded by Robert Damaschi

To approve 2006-2007 Bilingual Education Program Grant

Motion unanimously carried.

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INTERNAL BOARD BUSINESS

Representative Reports:

Willowbrook Policy Committee – Prescille Yamamoto – meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 3rd; Ms. Yamamoto also stated the Fine Arts Commission awarded a grant for the Fine & Performing Arts in conjunction with SBM;

No Child Left Behind – Dr. Martinez – Dr. Martinez noted the principals will be presenting reports at the next Board of Education meeting.

Dorese Roberts stated she visited Silver Lane School.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Prescille Yamamoto – re: thanked Dr. Martinez for getting tickets for Board members for the 2006-07 sporting events;

Dorese Roberts – re: would like to acknowledge the accomplishments of a former student, Preston Bradley, a 2006 graduate of the Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts, in the field of ballet;

Ram Aberasturia – re: ESL – asked August 7th for information regarding the ESL program. He requests that this information be provided by the next Board meeting.

TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS - None

PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION

By Robert Damaschi

Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV

To adjourn to Executive Session (8:33 P.M.) to discuss the following:

1. Update on EHMS Principal Search
2. Update on EHHS Principal Search
3. Discussion with possible action regarding request for leave of absence for a para.

Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by:
Donna Fitzgerald

The Regular Board meeting reconvened at 9:21 P.M.

MOTION

By Prescille Yamamoto

Seconded by Ram Aberasturia

To approve reinstatement and leave of absence request for Cindy Tougas

Motion unanimously carried.

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MOTION

By Prescille Yamamoto
Seconded by Ram Aberastuira
To adjourn the Regular Board meeting (9:22 P.M.)
Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by:
Christopher Wethje