

**SPECIAL MEETING
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,
NOVEMBER 20, 2006**

A Special Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Monday November 20, 2006, at the Connecticut International Baccalaureate Academy, 857 Forbes Street, East Hartford, CT. The Special Meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Chairperson Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien.

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

ALSO PRESENT Dr. Marion H. Martinez, Superintendent of Schools
Christopher Wethje Director of Human Resources
Attorney Linda Yoder of Shipman & Goodwin
Attorney David Monastersky of Howd & Ludorf

MOTION By Prescille Yamamoto
Seconded by Dorese Roberts
To adjourn to Executive Session (6:01 P.M.) to discuss pending claims and litigation.
Motion unanimously carried.

The Special Board meeting reconvened at 7:03 P.M.

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

ALSO PRESENT Dr. Marion H. Martinez, Superintendent of Schools
Debbie Kaprove, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Paul Mainuli, Director of Business Services
Jody Lefkowitz, Director of Pupil Personnel
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

Chairperson Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien called for a moment of silence in memory of the death of a ninth grade student.

SPOTLIGHT AWARD – TEXTRON FINANCIAL – NADINE BARLETTA
(Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien, Board of Education, Chair)

Ms. Nadine Barletta was ill and could not be present to receive this award.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION

By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
Seconded by Robert Damaschi
To approve the following Minutes
Special Meeting, November 1, 2006 (5:20 P.M.)
Special Meeting, November 1, 2006 (6:20 P.M.)
Special Meeting, November 2, 2006
Regular Meeting, November 6, 2006
Special Meeting, November 13, 2006
Motion unanimously carried.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD – None

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

Matthew Larson and Kelly Rivera

- Thoughts are with family and friends in the death of a 9th grade student;
- School Pep Rally as held;
- Spirit Week began last Thursday;
- Chairperson Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien asked the Student Representatives to contact other students to find ways to end violence.

At this time, Ram Aberasturia announced Lavina Washington is missing. Please contact your mother.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1. Debra Gaudette re: (1) salary increase of Director of Facilities – asked for contracts of all Directors; (2) re: Secretary of the Board – no one should be appointed.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Human Resources/Appointments/No Action Required

Mr. Wethje announced we have hired one Spanish teacher.

Approval of Appointment of Karen Howe as Board Secretary

(Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien, Chair)

MOTION

By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
Seconded by Robert Damaschi
To approve the appointment of Karen Howe as
Board Secretary
Motion carried. Abstain: Dorese Roberts
Nay: Ram Aberasturia

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School Based Health Center Proposed Transition Plan

(Dr. Alex Demac, Manchester Memorial Hospital)

(Todd Andrews, Director of Institutional Advancement, Goodwin College)

Mr. Andrews stated discussions are underway to transfer oversight of the School Based Health Center from Manchester Memorial Hospital to Goodwin College. Manchester Memorial Hospital is planning to end its administrative role at the end of the academic school year due to funding.

Mr. Pawlowski asked who would take on liability. Mr. Andrews stated they are working on this issue. Ms. Reik asked that a financial statement be made available to the Board before approving the transfer.

Dr. Demac stated many students do not have a primary care physician and do not have insurance. He assured the Board all questions will be answered and information provided to the Board prior to requesting approval by the Board.

Recognition of Teachers of the Year and East Hartford's 2007 Teacher of the Year – Christopher Mientus

(Dr. Marion H. Martinez, Superintendent)

(Debbie Kaprove, Assistant Superintendent)

The following teachers were selected as Teachers of the Year from their respective schools, as well as Christopher Mientus being selected as Teacher of the Year for the district. Each received a plaque from the Board:

Willowbrook	Melinda Grunert
Goodwin	Ben Upson
Hockanum	Kristen Gianacopolis
Langford	Deborah Houghton
Mayberry	Desi Nesmith
Norris	Laura Hickson
O'Brien	Paula Norton
O'Connell	Anna Cairnduff
Pitkin	Jennifer Bigness
Silver Lane	Jean Ross
Woodland	Paul Horvath
Synergy	Bruce Newman
Connecticut International	
Baccalaureate Academy	Hazel Allen
East Hartford High School	Julia Rowland
East Hartford Middle School	Walter Jennings
Sunset Ridge and District	Christopher Mientus

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Update on Energy Conservation and State Funded Energy Programs

(Al Costa, Director of Facilities)

Mr. Costa gave an in-depth PowerPoint presentation regarding energy conservation projects throughout the district. He noted regarding the district will receive an estimated rebate of \$96,961 due to the Load Response Energy Program.

**Principals' Connecticut Mastery Test Presentation – Norris, Goodwin, Langford
Elementary and Woodland Schools**

(Elaina Brachman-Synder, Principal, Norris)

(Dan Brodeur, Principal, Goodwin)

(Helene Marchese, Principal, Woodland)

(Catherine Ciccomascolo, Principal, Langford – was not present)

Each principal gave in-depth PowerPoint presentations that noted “celebrations” or evidence of what is working at their respective schools. They all noted focus areas relative to the 2006-07 School Improvement Plan. In summary, all schools proudly noted the improvements gained in their CMT scores.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chairperson Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien

- Congratulations to CIBA on being selected as a Blue Ribbon School;
- Regarding CABA – Chairperson Mayranen-O'Brien noted Dr. Martinez, Dorese Roberts, Cynthia Reik and she attended the CABA conference;
- Chairperson Mayranen-O'Brien read the Code of Conduct for the East Hartford Board of Education.

Superintendent Marion H. Martinez

- Dr. Martinez stated the school and community are saddened by the death of one of the students who passed away. She thanked all for working well together;
- Superintendent Marion H. Martinez and Assistant Superintendent Debbie Kaprove attended a banquet for Dave Flanagan last week;
- A Blue Ribbon Schools ceremony was held last week for CIBA – Ms. Yamamoto and Ms. Howe were at the ceremony;
- Chuck Nystrom's Robotic Team won the tournament in Pennsylvania last week;
- Dr. Martinez and Debbie Kaprove attended the Teacher of the District event at the Bushnell with our District's Teacher of the Year Christopher Mientus.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Policy & Audit –Prescille Yamamoto – meeting is scheduled for December 12th, 5:00 P.M.

Curriculum – Cynthia Reik – meeting is scheduled for November 27th, 6:00 P.M.

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

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Finance & Audit – Robert Damaschi – meeting is scheduled December 6th, 6:00 P.M.

Future Planning – Karen Howe – meeting has been scheduled for December 19th.

The Safety Task Force met on November 13th. Discussion took place regarding what we would like to see drafted for a letter of invitation to people we are interested in serving. All will be notified of the Safety Task Force meetings.

PERSONNEL

MOTION

By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.

Seconded by Robert Damaschi

To approve the following two Retirements:

1. Emanuel Masselli, Teacher, effective 2/1/07;
2. Bruce Newman, Teacher, effective 6/29/07;

To approve the following three Resignations:

1. Robert Burdsall, Behavior Manager, effective 11/3/06;
2. Cathy Miceli, Program Analyst, effective 11/2/06;
3. Cynthia Nardi, Para, effective 11/17/06.

Motion unanimously carried.

OLD AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Remove from Table and Approve Policy 5141.21 – Students/Administering Medications
(Prescille Yamamoto, Chair, Policy & Audit Committee)

MOTION

By Robert Damaschi

Seconded by Prescille Yamamoto

To remove from Table and approve Policy 5141.21 – Students/
Administering Medications

Motion unanimously carried.

Remove from Table and Approve Policy 5141.5 – Students/Suicide Prevention and
Intervention

(Prescille Yamamoto, Chair, Policy & Audit Committee)

MOTION

By Robert Damaschi

Seconded by Prescille Yamamoto

To remove from Table and approve Policy 5141.5 –
Students/Suicide Prevention and Intervention

Motion unanimously carried.

Remove from Table and Approve Policy 5145.6 – Students/Student Grievance
Procedures

(Prescille Yamamoto, Chair, Policy & Audit Committee)

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MOTION By Robert Damaschi
Seconded by Prescille Yamamoto
To remove from Table and approve Policy 5145.6 – Students/Student
Grievance Procedures
Motion carried. Nay: Ram Aberasturia

Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6145.2 – Instruction/Intramural Athletics
(Prescille Yamamoto, Chair, Policy & Audit Committee)

MOTION By Robert Damaschi
Seconded by Ram Aberasturia
To remove from Table and approve Policy 6145.2 –
Instruction/Intramural Athletics
Motion unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion with Possible Action regarding Adding a Kindergarten Position to Langford
Elementary School
(Dr. Marion H. Martinez, Superintendent)

MOTION By Robert Damaschi
Seconded by Prescille Yamamoto
To approve adding a Kindergarten position at Langford
Elementary School through the end of June 2006. This position
will be funded from the Title II grant.
Motion unanimously carried.

Approve the 2006-2007 East Hartford Board of Education Subcommittees
(Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien, Board Chair)

MOTION By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
Seconded by Robert Damaschi
To approve the 2006-2007 East Hartford Board of Education
Subcommittees, as corrected:
Re: Willowbrook Policy Committee – Cynthia Reik is
Alternate – Prescille Yamamoto is the Representative
Motion carried. Nay: Ram Aberasturia

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INTERNAL BOARD BUSINESS

Representative Reports:

- **Hank Pawlowski, Jr.** – Members of the East Hartford/Glastonbury Magnet School Building Committee took a trip to New Hampshire to view a planetarium;
- **Cynthia Reik** – Child Plan received a grant from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving;
- **Ram Aberasturia** – thanked Craig Jordan and Maureen Rodgers for providing tickets to the Thanksgiving football game;
- **Prescille Yamamoto** – Both Ms. Yamamoto and Ms. Reik visited Goodwin, Synergy and Sunset Ridge schools; Ms. Yamamoto attended the Willowbrook Policy Committee – they discussed the Policy Committee bylaws;
- **Dorese Roberts** – attended the O’Connell School PTO meeting; Ms. Roberts visited Silver Lane School and met the new principal;

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Dorese Roberts – expressed concerns regarding having a vote on Secretary of Board position.

TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS - None

MOTION

By Prescille Yamamoto
Seconded by Ram Aberasturia
To adjourn the Special Meeting of the Board (9:35 P.M.)
Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by:
Donna Fitzgerald