

**REGULAR MEETING  
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,  
DECEMBER 4, 2006**

A Regular Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Monday, December 4, 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, Prescille Yamamoto, 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

**ABSENT** Dorese Roberts

**RECOGNITION OF CAPSS AWARD RECIPIENTS**

**(Craig Jordan, EHHS)**

**(Helene Marchese, Woodland)**

**(Pietro Cerone, EHMS)**

**(John Karzar, Synergy)**

Chairperson Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien and Superintendent Marion H. Martinez congratulated the following CAPSS Award recipients:

**East Hartford High School**

Stephanie Gonzalez	Grade 12
Anila Bakullari	Grade 11
Vanessa Ortiz	Grade 10
Andrew Castillo	Grade 9

**East Hartford Middle School**

Stephanie Ortiz	Grade 8
Montana Kirol	Grade 7

**Woodland School**

Omar Thomas	Grade 12
Billy Cosme	Grade 11
Elias Guzman	Grade 10
Calvin Sanchez	Grade 9

**Stevens School**

Samantha Dukes	Grade 12
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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION**

By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.  
Seconded by Robert Damaschi  
To approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting,  
November 20, 2006  
Motion unanimously carried.

**WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD**

- Thank you note from Michelle Marion for flowers sent by the Board for being appointed Assistant Principal;
- Thank you note from Donna Fitzgerald for flowers sent by the Board for the recent death of her husband;
- Board members received a revised notice regarding budget workshops:
  - Saturday, December 2 – 8:30-noon – Admn. Bldg.
  - Thursday, December 7 – 5-8 P.M. – Langford School
  - Monday, December 11 – 5-8 P.M. – Sunset Ridge School
  - Tuesday, December 12 – 6:30-8 P.M. – Hockanum School
  - Monday, December 18 – 6-7 P.M. – Public Hearing @ CIBA

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT**

**Matthew Larson**

**Kelly Rivera**

- Representatives thanked the Board for allowing them to have the football game at Rentschler Field;
- Pep Rally was held on November 22<sup>nd</sup> – it was amazing and exciting;
- L.E.A.D. – student leadership conference will be held in Baltimore, MD the first weekend in March;
- Christmas caroling will take place December 20<sup>th</sup>, 6-8:30 P.M.;
- Seniors won Spirit Week this year;
- Youth Violence – representatives stated they will continue to generate ideas to stop youth violence – some suggestions were to have pins, shirts – they will continue to speak with the Student Council for additional input;
- Choral and Orchestra Concert December 5<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 P.M. at EHHS;
- EHHS Band was selected by the Governor to play in the gubernatorial parade.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

1. Paula Rucker – re: Task Force on Youth Violence – believes there is a lack of communication; sent letters to the Board that have not been addressed – requested response to her letter; noted lack of respect for each other amongst Board members.

**INFORMATIONAL REPORTS**

**Human Resources/Appointments/No Action Required**

Mr. Wethje noted we have hired two additional paraprofessionals and one tutor.

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**Principals' CMT Presentations**

**(Lisa Beauchamp, Principal, Hockanum)**

**(Greg Fox, Assistant Principal, Sunset)**

**(Andrea Einhorn, Principal, Silver Lane)**

**(Pietro Cerone, Interim Principal, EHMS)**

Each principal shared their CMT results with the Board. All are diligently working toward attaining Safe Harbor provision as established by NCLB. Overall, CMT scores have increased district-wide.

**Annual Adult Education Report 2005-2006**

**(Pat Perrone, Coordinator)**

Ms. Perrone noted the Adult Education program enjoyed a very favorable year. There were 119 enrollments 2005 during and 153 during 2006. The East Hartford Adult Education held three morning ESL programs for 24 weeks. Classes were conducted three days per week each for two hours per day. She further noted the ESL day program will be moving to the Cultural Center.

The program also offers a part-time Career Counselor available for evening students two evenings per week. Ms. Perrone noted the Adult Education program enjoys a close working relationship with Literacy Volunteers. They have assisted in the evening ESL program.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Chairperson Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien**

- Congratulated Mr. Jordan and the East Hartford High School students for raising \$5,000;
- East Hartford Art Department for contributing to the Festival of Trees;
- Thanked Cynthia Reik for the article "Still Left Behind" that was shared with members of the Board.

**Superintendent Marion H. Martinez**

- Re: Greater Hartford Chapter of Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation - congratulated CIBA for receiving two awards: design of a t-shirt and for fundraising, which amounted to \$4,000. A plaque was given to CIBA;
- Dr. Martinez congratulated the EHHS Band for being selected by the Governor to participate in the gubernatorial parade;
- Letters were sent out regarding the Task Force on Youth Violence; a meeting will be held on December 19<sup>th</sup>;
- Thanked Cynthia Reik for rescheduling the Curriculum Subcommittee meeting to allow for a budget meeting;
- The Board will be meeting with the Town Council Budget Committee on December 20<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 P.M.;
- Thanked Mr. Mainuli and the entire Business Department for their outstanding performance throughout the year; it was noted the Board was not cited in any area mentioned by Scully & Wolff in the annual report prepared by them in overseeing business practices for the Town of East Hartford.

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**SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Policy & Audit – Prescille Yamamoto** – meeting scheduled for December 12<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 P.M. at Hockanum School;

**Curriculum – Cynthia Reik** – meeting will be rescheduled due to budget workshop;

**Facilities – Hank Pawlowski, Jr.** – no meeting has been scheduled; Ms. Howe attended the School Board’s Facilities Department meeting at the Aqua Turf;

**Finance & Audit – Robert Damaschi** – meeting scheduled for December 6<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 P.M.

**Future Planning – Karen Howe** – Task Force on Youth Violence meeting scheduled for December 19<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 P.M. at EHHS Media Center.

**PERSONNEL**

**MOTION**

By Prescille Yamamoto

Seconded by Karen Howe

To approve the following **Retirement:**

Kenneth Alger, teacher, effective 6/29/07

To approve the following two **Resignations:**

Keith Morgan, behavior manager, effective 11/17/06

Gerald Blige, Custodian, effective 11/22/06.

Motion unanimously carried.

**OLD AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS** - None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Approve Request for Overnight Travel to Agganis Arena, Boston, MA**  
(Chuck Nystrom, Robotics Team Leader, EHHS)

**Approve Request for Overnight Travel to Georgia Dome, Atlanta, GA**  
(Chuck Nystrom, Robotics Team Leader, EHHS)

**MOTION**

By Prescille Yamamoto

Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.

To approve request for overnight travel to Agganis Arena, Boston, MA, 3/22-3/24/07 and to Georgia Dome, Atlanta, GA 4/11-4/15/07

Motion unanimously carried.

Mr. Nystrom noted the Robotics Team has 41 active students from five different towns. The program is successful due in part from parental support. We have received grants from UTC.

**Discussion with Possible Action Regarding Adding a Sixth Grade Teaching Position at Sunset Ridge School**

**(Dr. Marion H. Martinez, Superintendent)**

**MOTION**

By Prescille Yamamoto

Seconded by Robert Damaschi

To add a sixth grade teaching position at Sunset Ridge School

Motion unanimously carried.

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Dr. Martinez noted we had to cut staff from Sunset Ridge this past year, which has increased the size of classrooms anywhere from 24-29 students. Adding a staff member to Sunset Ridge School would decrease the number of students in each classroom to 23 or 24 students. Mr. Mainuli stated we do have dollars in the budget for this position.

**Approve Kelly Services, Inc. Contract  
(Christopher Wethje, Director of Human Services)  
(Paul Mainuli, Director of Business Services)**

**MOTION** By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.  
Seconded by Robert Damaschi  
To approve Kelly Services, Inc. contract agreement with Kelly Services, Inc. to provide substitute teachers on a daily basis throughout the school district.  
Motion carried. Nay: Ram Aberasturia

Representatives from Kelly Services were present. They noted they currently support 66 schools in 18 districts.

Mr. Mainuli noted would begin after the February winter vacation on February 26, 2007. It would begin as a pilot program in the elementary schools and if successful will expand to the secondary levels. The cost this year is \$182,440 to be taken from the Substitute Teachers account.

**INTERNAL BOARD BUSINESS**

**Representative Reports:**

**East Hartford/Glastonbury Magnet School Building Committee – Hank Pawlowski** – Committee will meet on December 19<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 P.M.;

**Prescille Yamamoto** attended a statewide Head Start conference at the Sheraton, East Hartford – the speaker spoke about, “Yes, Boys are Different”;

**Two Rivers Middle Magnet School – Robert Damaschi** – increase in tuition will be discussed at next meeting scheduled for December 6<sup>th</sup>;

**Cynthia Reik** attended a CAFE conference where Title 1X was discussed. Ms. Reik asked for information on how funds are matched for Title 1X.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – None

**QUESTIONS/COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS**

**Ram Aberasturia** – re: questions being asked during Public Participation should be answered.

**TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS** – None

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**PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION** By Prescille Yamamoto  
Seconded by Ram Aberasturia  
To adjourn to Executive Session (9:14 P.M.) to discuss the following:  
Negotiations with Non-Bargaining Unit Member  
Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by:  
Donna Fitzgerald

The Regular Board meeting reconvened at 9:26 P.M.

**MOTION** By Cynthia Reik  
Seconded by Robert Damaschi  
To approve 3% increase for Non-Bargaining Unit Member  
Motion carried. Nay: Ram Aberasturia

**MOTION** By Cynthia Reik  
Seconded by Robert Damaschi  
To adjourn the Regular Board meeting at 9:42 P.M.  
Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by:  
Marion Martinez