

**SPECIAL MEETING  
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**THURSDAY,  
JANUARY 3, 2008**

A Special Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Thursday, January 3, 2008 at the Administration Building, 1110 Main Street, East Hartford, CT. The meeting was called to order at 6:33 P.M. by Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes.

**PRESENT** Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes, Secretary Ram Aberasturia, Hank Pawlowski, Jr., Anita Morrison, Dorese Roberts, Marcus Oladell, IV, Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien, Karen Howe

**ALSO PRESENT** Dr. Marion H. Martinez, Superintendent of Schools  
Paul Mainuli, Director of Business Services

**ABSENT** Robert Damaschi

**SPECIAL MEETING for Budgetary Purposes with Possible Action**

Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes stated the purpose of this meeting is to set the budget for 2008-09.

**MOTION** By Ram Aberasturia  
Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.  
To approve the 2008-09 Board of Education budget of \$83,952,710, as referenced in the Final East Hartford Public School Board of Education document dated January 3, 2008.  
Motion carried. Nay: Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien

The proposed budget is 4.5 percent higher than the current school year budget.

Dr. Martinez noted this represents a fair budget to move forward to the Mayor and Town Council. However, it does not represent everything we need. When asked, she stated she believes this will not result in a negative impact on our students. Half of the budget is allocated to certified staff members, amounting to \$41 million. \$9 million is allocated toward health insurance. Dr. Martinez provided an overview of the Cambridge report. She stated the report has been completed. We have not yet received the final report.

As a result of the Cambridge report, Dr. Martinez noted we will have the opportunity to work with an oversight group from the State Department of Education on a pilot program at two of our schools. The state oversight group will provide staff support and financial resources to our school district. O'Brien School was identified as one of our elementary schools that will receive this support; a coach, facilitator, and additional resources. Silver Lane School will also receive some support through this program. This program will allow the State Department of Education to demonstrate to legislators how additional resources focused in one elementary school can improve student achievement.

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Also, Silver Lane School will receive the benefit of a coach to help staff refine their analysis of student data. Principals will be sharing with other principals the information gained. This is a support concept. The timeframe will be 18 months. The Commissioner of Education has expressed an interest in visiting East Hartford to meet with the Board, Town Council, and Mayor.

Dr. Martinez requested a list of future items.

**MOTION**

By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.

Seconded by Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien

To adjourn the Special Meeting of the Board ( 7:15 P.M.)

Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by:  
Donna Fitzgerald