

**REGULAR MEETING
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,
DECEMBER 3, 2007**

A Regular Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Monday, December 3, 2007, at the Connecticut International Baccalaureate Academy, 857 Forbes Street, East Hartford, CT. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes.

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

ALSO PRESENT Dr. Marion H. Martinez, Superintendent of Schools
Debbie Kaprove, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Chris Wethje, Director of Human Resources
Jody Lefkowitz, Director of Pupil Personnel
Al Costa, Director of Facilities

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
Seconded by Ram Aberasturia
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Meeting, November 13, 2007
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Meeting, November 14, 2007
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Meeting, November 19, 2007
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV
To approve the following Minutes:
Regular Meeting, November 19, 2007, as corrected:
Page 7: To Mr. Costa – from Ram Aberasturia...if we used artificial **turf vs. natural grass.**
Motion unanimously carried.

**REGULAR MEETING
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,
DECEMBER 3, 2007**

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Meeting, November 21, 2007
Motion unanimously carried.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

- E-mail from Jayne Apel to several members of the Board re: holding Board meetings at Town Hall – Mr. Damaschi would like e-mail to be included in the Minutes (e-mail attached).

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT - None
Arianna Larson, Kelly Rivera

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1. Prescille Yamamoto, 235 East River Drive – re: (1) Policy & Audit Committee drafted a statement on October 9th re: Policy 5132 – Student Dress Code – we need to get started on this now; (2) re: not having any Old Business to conduct on the agenda – Policy & Audit did a lot of work – they should be placed on agenda; (3) re: moving meetings to Town Hall – we should remain here; (4) re: Committee assignments – Our CABA contract expires June 30, 2008 – we must have all policies reviewed and updated by this date; (5) re: Board members working for the State and being on the Board – should not occur.
2. Jason Rojas – Town Council member – re: this evening’s agenda – Mr. Rojas noted he will be the Town Council’s liaison to the Board and will be attending budget meetings.
3. Ginny Lynch, 77 Chapel Street – re: (1) welcome to Anita Morrison and Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes; (2) re: student achievement – we are making progress; (3) we must continue to focus on people – students, parents, teachers, administration – should be working in partnership. The Superintendent, Mayor and others formed a task force to reach out to our students.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Human Resources/Appointments/No Action Required

Mr. Wethje reported we have filled two bilingual teaching positions as well as other teaching and tutoring positions.

Introduction of New English Department Head

Monica Giglio

(Dr. Marion H. Martinez, Superintendent)

Dr. Martinez welcomed Monica Giglio to the Board and district in her capacity as the new English Department Head.

**REGULAR MEETING
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,
DECEMBER 3, 2007**

Annual Adult Education Report 2006-07

(Pat Perrone, Coordinator)

Ms. Perrone stated the grant from the State of Connecticut was \$97,529. She also stated over 35 countries were represented in the program; seventeen diplomas were awarded. Regarding the future direction for 2007-08, Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes suggests that the continuing education courses in the new program that are on line be advertised in the Gazette. Dr. Martinez stated we have a variety of programs to meet student's needs.

School Business Partnership Update

(Penny Brice, School Business Partnership)

Ms. Brice gave an overview of the program. The Board funding consists of salary for one part-time position (0.6) at a cost of \$1,738. The Board also supplies office space, telephone and internet services. Ms. Brice requested that the Board consider the position to be full time for their budget planning. She also would like more help with the mentoring program.

Mr. Aberasturia asked why do we give to United Way and not keep the dollars here in our district. Dr. Martinez stated the dollars collected in town are returned to the town. Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes asked what teachers are receiving funds and requested a report be done to follow up on the recipients. Dr. Martinez stated that this is actually done in the fall.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chairperson/Superintendent's Reports

Superintendent Martinez:

- Dr. Martinez thanked everyone for their patience with the delayed opening of schools. An early dismissal was necessary due to power outages in several schools. Parents will see a letter on our website thanking them;
- On November 29th, over 400 educators went to the first reading summit; Dr. Martinez, Dr. Morgan-Thompson, Kathy Bartley and Pat Muggleston attended – topics included achievement gap and reading scores throughout the State. We will continue to follow up with how we are addressing the topics. Dr. Martinez stated she believes we should look at teachers being teachers of reading first and then all content. Stagnant reading scores is a statewide problem.

Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes

- Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes noted our first budget workshop will be held on Thursday, December 6th, 7:00 P.M., Town Council Chambers; 2nd budget workshop will be December 10th; 3rd budget workshop will be December 13th;
- A Public Hearing will be held at CIBA on Monday, December 17th, 6:30 P.M. on the budget, followed by the Board's Regular Meeting at 7:00 P.M.; We hope to set the budget at our Regular Board meeting on January 7, 2008;
- Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes provided the Board with a listing of representatives of the "Adopt A School" Program for 2007-08;

**REGULAR MEETING
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,
DECEMBER 3, 2007**

- Was pleased to see a former student of East Hartford, Andrea Burke, now a successful archeologist.

Special Committee Reports

Finance & Audit – Mr. Damaschi noted the December 5th scheduled meeting has been canceled.

PERSONNEL

MOTION

By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.

Seconded by Ram Aberasturia

To approve two **Retirements**:

1. Raymond Page, PE & Health Teacher, effective 6/30/07;
2. Gustave Liappes, Custodian, effective 12/28/07;

To approve four **Resignations**:

1. Robert T. Arpin, Teacher, effective 11/21/07;
2. Darlene S. May, Playgroup Facilitator, effective 10/31/07;
3. Katharine Dutton, Special Ed Teacher, effective 1/20/08;
4. Eric A. Jurado, Parent Educator, effective 11/21/07

Motion unanimously carried.

OLD AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

**To Approve Change of Location for Regular Board of Education Meetings to
Town Hall Council Chambers**

(Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes, Board Chair)

MOTION

By Ram Aberasturia

Seconded by Dorese Roberts

To approve change of location for Regular Board of Education meetings to Town Hall Town Council Chambers

MOTION

By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.

Seconded by Robert Damaschi

To postpone above Motion until after the New Year, pending review by Mr. Costa regarding acoustics situation at CIBA.

Motion unanimously carried.

Lengthy discussion took place regarding the pros and cons of moving away from CIBA to the Town Council Chambers. Ms. Howe believes meetings should be held in the schools. Mr. Oladell feels we should stay here. Ms. Morrison cannot understand meetings held at CIBA because of poor acoustics.

**REGULAR MEETING
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,
DECEMBER 3, 2007**

Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes stated the audio is difficult to understand at CIBA. Also, stairs are very steep. Town Council Chambers can accommodate many people. There is an elevator. Regarding PowerPoint presentations, they are, however, clearer at CIBA. Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes further noted Special meetings before the Regular meetings can be held in the Majority Office.

**To Approve the 2007-2008 East Hartford Board of Education Subcommittees
(Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes, Board Chair)**

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
Seconded by Dorese Roberts
To approve the 2007-2008 East Hartford Board of Education
Subcommittees
Motion carried. Aye: Ram Aberasturia, Anita Morrison,
Hank Pawlowski, Jr., Marcus Oladell, IV,
Dorese Roberts
Nay: Robert Damaschi, Karen Howe,
Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien

**To approve AP Probability and Statistics Course - Math Department, EHHS
(Debbie Kaprove, Assistant Superintendent)**

MOTION By Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien
Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
To approve AP Probability and Statistics Course Math
Department, EHHS
Motion carried. Nay: Robert Damaschi

**To approve AP Economics Course – Social Studies Department, EHHS
(Debbie Kaprove, Assistant Superintendent)**

MOTION By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV
To approve AP Economics Course – Social Studies
Department, EHHS
Motion carried. Nay: Robert Damaschi

**To approve EHHS Family & Consumer Science: Clothing Construction Course
(Debbie Kaprove, Assistant Superintendent)**

MOTION By Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien
Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
To approve EHHS Family & Consumer Science:
Clothing Construction Course
Motion carried. Nay: Robert Damaschi

**REGULAR MEETING
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,
DECEMBER 3, 2007**

To Approve School Based Health Center Grant Application

(Al Costa, Director of Facilities)

MOTION

By Ram Aberasturia

Seconded by Robert Damaschi

To accept the proposed application for securing State Bond funds for the School Based Health Center Grant.

Motion unanimously carried.

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Ram Aberasturia (1) visited EHHS and Sunset Ridge School; (2) thanked Ben Rubin for writing article re: Andrea Burke;

Dorese Roberts (1) visited Silver Lane and O'Connell schools. While at O'Connell School, she and Dr. Martinez viewed the Target Accelerated Growth Program.

Marcus Oladell, IV – re: Transportation Committee – there is a temporary fix – many more students are now getting to school on time.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ginny Lynch – (1) re: School Based Health Center – re: school dental hygienist – good service for our children; (2) very pleased that Andrea Burke was mentioned this evening.

Precille Yamamoto- re: questioned the Chairperson as to why she would allow discussion on a Motion that had been tabled. However, it was pointed out that the Motion was not tabled, but postponed – a postponed Motion can be discussed.

QUESTIONS/CONCERNS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Dorese Roberts – re: (1) Task Force Coordinator – the Board of Education is taking too long to hire someone. Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes stated the Board of Education has contributed its half – Town Council has not approved their half, she will contact Jason Rojas to spearhead this; (2) re: uniforms – keep this moving along.

Anita Morrison – re: Task Force – who is the liaison – this needs to be implemented.

Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien – re: we must notify Town Hall that we may not be changing location of meetings at this time.

TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

- IDEA – PJ settlement

MOTION

By Ram Aberasturia

Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV

To adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board (9:10 P.M.) .

Motion unanimously carried.