

**REGULAR MEETING  
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**TUESDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 2, 2008**

A Regular Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Tuesday, September 2, 2008, at the Connecticut International Baccalaureate Academy, 857 Forbes Street, East Hartford, CT. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 P.M. by Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes.

**PRESENT** Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes, Secretary Ram Aberasturia, Robert Damaschi, Dorese Roberts, Karen Howe, Anita Morrison, Hank Pawlowski, Jr.

**ALSO PRESENT** Dr. Marion H. Martinez, Superintendent of Schools  
Debbie Kaprove, Assistant Superintendent of Schools  
Christopher Wethje, Director of Human Resources  
Jody Lefkowitz, Director of Pupil Personnel  
Paul Mainuli, Director of Business Services  
Al Costa, Director of Facilities  
Rebecca Lacosse and Kimberly Barrington, Student Representatives  
Jeff Fournier, Principal, East Hartford Middle School

**ABSENT** Marcus Oladell, IV, Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien

**INTRODUCTION AND SWEARING IN OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES TO  
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Rebecca Lacosse and Kimberly Barrington

Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes administered the oath of office to student representatives to the Board: Senior Rebecca Lacosse and Junior Kim Barrington.

**AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA** - None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION** By Robert Damaschi  
Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.  
To approve the following Minutes:  
**Special Meeting, August 4, 2008**  
Motion unanimously carried.

**MOTION** By Robert Damaschi  
Seconded by Ram Aberasturia  
To approve the following Minutes:  
**Regular Meeting, August 4, 2008, as corrected:**  
**Page 4:** re: Policy 4112.2 – Certification – Motion made by  
**Hank Pawlowski, Jr.** and seconded by **Dorese Roberts;**  
Motion unanimously carried.  
**Page 8:** re: Questions by Board Members: **Anita Morrison** –  
how will **forum** groups be advertised.  
Motion unanimously carried.

**REGULAR MEETING  
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**TUESDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 2, 2008**

**WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD**

- 9/26 – EHHS Golf Outing – Long Hill Country Club – donations will be made to EHHS Project: Graduation;
- Communication from Darlene Bryant, PTO President, EHHS – re: would like to advertise the Golf Outing fundraiser to support Project Graduation;
- Mr. Aberasturia thanked the Rotary Club for their donation of school supplies for the district;
- Thank to Al Costa and his staff for the substantial completion of the window Wall Renovation project at EHHS;
- Thank you from Girl Scouts of Connecticut - SBM Charitable Foundation has awarded Girl Scouts of Connecticut a grant o support troops at the following East Hartford schools: Hockanum, Dr. Franklin H. Mayberry, Anna E. Norris and Silver Lane.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT**

**Rebecca Lacosse and Kim Barrington**

- Both representatives noted they are very excited to be back at school and look forward to taking part in the Board of Education meetings as representatives to the Board;
- Happy to report that the first day of school opening went smoothly. Everyone is optimistic about this school year.
- 9/3 – First Student Council meeting will be held – discussion will include upcoming fundraisers, Back to School dance

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** - None

**INFORMATIONAL REPORTS**

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

**Introduction of Jeff Fournier, EHMS, Principal**

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

Dr. Martinez welcomed Jeff Fournier, new EHMS Principal. Mr. Fournier stated they had a very smooth opening. He noted he has met all students in nine separate assemblies. Mr. Fournier also noted the new security system is in place and staff is excited with this news. The EHMS will host an open house on September 10<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 P.M.

**Report on Arrests & Incidents for EHHS and EHMS**

**(Mike Moan, Director of Security)**

**(Anna Smith, Team Leader, EHHS)**

**(David Viera, Team Leader, EHMS)**

Mr. Moan stated arrests and incidents are down 62% at EHHS from previous years. This is in part by taking a proactive approach to inappropriate behavior as well as open lines of

**REGULAR MEETING  
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**TUESDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 2, 2008**

communication with Administration, Security, Behavior Managers, School Resource Officers and staff. EHMS has plans for improved procedures as well as security improvements. Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes stated the children of East Hartford will be safe in East Hartford Schools. We have a zero tolerance policy.

**Annual Review of EHHS Coaches Handbook**

**(David Caruso, EHHS)**

Mr. Caruso presented copies of the EHHS Coaches Handbook to Board members noting there are no recommendations for changes at this time. Mr. Pawlowski suggested it would be helpful, should there be any changes, to clearly identify the changes.

**Fire Marshal's Report – Update**

**Al Costa, Director of Facilities)**

Mr. Costa reported all work cited by the First Marshal has been completed. Mr. Damaschi complimented Mr. Costa on a job well done in a timely manner.

**Status Report on Attendance/Class Size**

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

Dr. Martinez noted there has been a high volume of school registrations. Central Registration has done an excellent job. Also, thank you to Donna Sahlberg and Central Registration personnel.

Dr. Martinez stated on September 10<sup>th</sup> we will be making any additions to staff, if necessary. We are not anticipating any additions but may move people around.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Chairperson/Superintendent's Reports**

**Superintendent Martinez:**

- We have had a very smooth opening in our schools – thanks to all teachers, principals and staff members, as well as Leslie Morgan-Thompson, Marcia Huddy and Debbie Kaprove for their staff development efforts;
- Transportation issues were at a minimum – thank you to the bus drivers;
- Human Resources has hired 49 new teachers and many classified positions;
- Goodwin College has given a \$1,000 donation to our schools;
- Board pictures will be up and hanging very shortly. If an ID Badge is needed, please contact the Board office;
- Congratulations to Paula Norton, Kindergarten teacher at O'Brien School, for working with a production team Working on Kindergarten for Parents.

**Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes:**

- School started off very smoothly. Thank you to students, teacher, staff and Administration;
- Encouraged parents to help their children with reading;

**REGULAR MEETING  
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**TUESDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 2, 2008**

- Noted that Al Costa and Hank Pawlowski, Jr. were on TV regarding our Tri Generation project, reducing energy costs.

**Special Committee Reports**

**Policy & Audit - Hank Pawlowski, Jr.** – Meeting scheduled for 9/17, 6:30 P.M.;  
**Curriculum – Hilde Mayranen-O’Brien** - No meeting has been scheduled;  
**Facilities – Hank Pawlowski, Jr.** – No meeting has been scheduled;  
**Finance & Audit – Ram Aberasturia** - Meeting scheduled for September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5 30 P.M.  
**Future Planning – Karen Howe** – Meeting scheduled for 9/17, 5:00 P.M. and 10/2 5:00 P.M. to discuss format for upcoming forums regarding dress code.

**PERSONNEL**

**MOTION**

By Robert Damaschi

Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.

To approve seventeen **Resignations:**

1. Kimberly Lavado, Instructional Resource teacher, Effective 7/31/08;
2. Julie Schiefferly-Carroll, Sped Teacher, effective 7/31/08;
3. Sebastiani Szilagyi, Media Specialist, effective 8/8/08;
4. Jill Nagel, Nurse, effective 8/4/08;
5. Melisa Monty, Readiness Teacher, effective 8/7/08;
6. Jennifer Rykowski, Title I tutor, effective 8/1/08;
7. Aileen Mahar, Bilingual Tutor, effective 8/5/08;
8. Jill F. Lejeune, English teacher, effective 8/8/08;
9. Gregory Buonome, Math teacher, effective 8/11/08;
10. Kelly Y. Walser, Priority Tutor, effective 8/12/08;
11. Brenna Chapman, Title I Tutor, effective 8/15/08;
12. Jennifer DeGrandi, Sped/Para, effective 8/8/08;
13. Nicole H. Potterton, Sped/Para, effective 9/5/08;
14. Marcy C. Williams, Sped/Para, effective 8/14/08;
15. Ann Marie Stevenson, Title I Tutor, effective 6/18/08;
16. Jennifer Jakiela, Priority Tutor, effective 8/20/08;
17. Patrick Thibodeau, Title I Tutor, effective 6/18/08

Motion unanimously carried.

**OLD AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Remove from Table and Approve Policy 5131.9 – Gang Activity or Association**

**(Hank Pawlowski, Jr., Chair, Policy & Audit)**

**(MOTION**

By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.

Seconded by Robert Damaschi

To remove from table and approve Policy 5131.9 – Gang Activity or Association

Motion unanimously carried

**REGULAR MEETING  
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**TUESDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 2, 2008**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Approve the New Daycare Program at Hockanum School**

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

**(Brian Liss, Executive Director, YMCA)**

**MOTION**

By Ram Aberasturia

Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.

To approve the New Daycare Program at Hockanum School

Motion unanimously carried.

Mr. Aberasturia asked for assurance that children from Silver Lane School would be transported to Hockanum School. Dr. Martinez stated they will be transported.

Ms. Morrison asked for an update as to how many parents take advantage of this service.

It was also noted that Rich Gentile has drafted an agreement. Dr. Martinez thanked George Simons, Coordinator of Transportation, as well as Brian Liss, Executive Director, YMCA, for their cooperative effort.

**Approve the Renewal Request for Service Agreement with New Hope Manor to Provide On-site Counseling Services at EHHS**

**(Brian Reynolds, EHHS)**

**MOTION**

By Robert Damaschi

Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.

To approve the renewal request for service agreement with New Hope Manor to provide on-site counseling services at EHHS

Motion unanimously carried.

It was noted the cost of the counseling services will be paid from the Priority Grant and will not impact the general budget.

**To Approve Appropriation Transfers for the Early Reading Success Program**

**(Paul Mainuli, Director of Business Services)**

**MOTION**

By Robert Damaschi

Seconded by Dorese Roberts

To approve appropriation transfers for the Early Reading Success Program

Motion unanimously carried.

Mr. Mainuli stated the budget process will begin next month. Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes stated we have to begin thinking about how we can garner \$752,500, as she does not believe we will receive this grant again.

Mr. Damaschi has requested a detailed description of what the Grants Administrator has been doing.

**REGULAR MEETING  
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**TUESDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 2, 2008**

**To Approve Revised Food Service Management Contract Renewal with Sodexo Management, Inc.**

**(Paul Mainuli, Director of Business Services)**

**MOTION** By Robert Damaschi  
Seconded by Anita Morrison  
To approve revised food service management contract renewal with Sodexo Management, Inc.  
Motion unanimously carried.

**REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

**Dorese Roberts** – visited Silver Lane School. Noted they had a smooth opening. Integrated health services were discussed;

**Ram Aberasturia** – attended Mayberry, Sunset Ridge and EHHS schools. Nathan Quesnel, First Assistant Principal, gave an outstanding presentation to 10<sup>th</sup> grade students about the importance of connecting to your school;

**Anita Morrison** – attended Norris Open House; security and parking issues were discussed; safety issues were addressed.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** - None

**QUESTIONS/CONCERNS BY BOARD MEMBERS**

**Ram Aberasturia** – (1) requests status report on the scoreboard. Mr. Costa noted the sign company did not get to the Town for approval. The sign will require approval by Planning & Zoning . Planning & Zoning next meeting is scheduled for October 15<sup>th</sup>; (2) asked if there were any people from O’Connell School that did not receive a year book – Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes requested the cost of the yearbooks; (3) thank you to Mark Scheinberg for donating \$1,000 to the district; (4) re: athletic facilities – concerned where the public sits.  
**Anita Morrison** – requests a written and verbal report on e-School Plus. Dr. Martinez stated Guy Collins will be giving a detailed report. She thanked the Board for approving e-School Plus.

**Dorese Roberts** – re: status of “looping” . Dr. Martinez stated no teachers agreed to participate.

**TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

**Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes** suggested a presentation on CMT Scores. Dr. Martinez stated a presentation will begin at our next Board meeting;

**Dr. Martinez** stated a Special Meeting can be held on September 22<sup>nd</sup> to introduce the Board to the District Improvement Plan. Dr. Martinez noted East Hartford will be presenting to the State Board on October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**MOTION** By Robert Damaschi  
Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.  
To adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board (8:40 P.M.)  
Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by: Donna Fitzgerald

