

**REGULAR MEETING
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,
OCTOBER 20, 2008**

A Regular Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Monday, October 20, 2008, at the Connecticut International Baccalaureate Academy, 857 Forbes Street, East Hartford, CT. The meeting was called to order at 7:10 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., Marcus Oladell, IV, Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien

ALSO PRESENT Dr. Marion H. Martinez, Superintendent of Schools
Debbie Kaprove, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Christopher Wethje, Director of Human Resources
Al Costa, Director of Facilities
Jody Lefkowitz, Director of Pupil Personnel
Rebecca Lacosse, Student Representative
Kimberly Barrington, Student Representative

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA - None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Robert Damaschi
Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Meeting, September 25, 2008
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Robert Damaschi
Seconded by Anita Morrison
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Meeting, September 29, 2008 (12:10 P.M.)
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Robert Damaschi
Seconded by Karen Howe
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Meeting, September 29, 2008 (1:14 P.M.)
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Meeting, October 2, 2008, as corrected:
- Page 1: Add Karen Howe as being present; remove duplicate
name of Anita Morrison
Motion unanimously carried.

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MOTION By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
Seconded by Ram Aberasturia
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Meeting, October 6, 2008
Motion unanimously carried.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

- Reminder – Parent Forum meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 21st – 5:30 P.M. at CIBA to discuss dress code options.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

Rebecca Lacosse and Kim Barrington

- November 1st – Homecoming – Game: October 30th – will be selling glow sticks; Pep Rally theme is Superheroes;
- Thanksgiving Football Game will be played at Rentschler Field;
- Discussions have been taking place regarding the attendance policy;
- Meeting tomorrow at CIBA at 5:30 P.M. – discussions will take place regarding uniforms for EHHS students. It is open to the public.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1. Karen O’Connell, President, EHEA – re: under New Business on this evening’s agenda: regarding approving a 3-year contract extension with CBS Blooms/Xerox. You must go out to bid for items over \$10,000.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Human Resources/Appointments/No Action Required

Informational Report on “Everybody Wins!” Program

(Jenny Correa, Principal, Mayberry Elementary)

(Nancy Sherman, Interim Executive Director, Everybody Wins)

A presentation was given by Nancy Sherman, Interim Executive Director, Everybody Wins, discussed the reading enrichment program that works with districts to provide in-school programs that pair volunteer readers with young children. The goal is to promote literacy and foster a love of reading. The mentoring program has volunteers read to students during lunch time. Presently, we have volunteers from CIGNA.

Principals’ Connecticut Mastery Test Presentation – O’Brien Elementary School,

O’Connell Elementary School

(Mike Litke, Principal, O’Brien))

(Scott Nozik, Principal, O’Connell)

Mr. Litke and Mr. Nozik provided Powerpoint presentations showing the celebrations experienced at their respective schools.

Mr. Litke noted math and reading scores have increased dramatically.

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Mr. Nozik noted reading has been the focus. He noted the importance of field trips that reinforce what is happening. Rather than having field trips just in May and June, O'Connell prefers to have field trips every marking period.

Mr. Aberasturia asked both principals what they might need from the Board to assist in improving their test scores. Mr. Litke noted they could use an increase in library books as well as additional professional development. Mr. Nozik noted they could use additional support in ELL. He did say they have received additional help but they are still short. Providing support for students with special needs; i.e., instructional para or half-time special ed teacher.

Mr. Aberasturia requested a report showing the breakdown of economically disadvantaged students not making AYP.

Discussion of Board Goals

(Mary Alice Dwyer-Hughes, Chairperson)

Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer-Hughes stated the five Board goals and noted progress is being made in all five areas. She is very pleased. The Board will continue to focus on these goals.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chairperson/Superintendent's Reports

Superintendent Martinez:

- The budgeting process has begun. Last week, Dr. Martinez met with all directors and principals. The budget is due to the Mayor the first week in January;
- October 29th – Dr. Frieberg will present a program regarding bullying and school climate.

Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes:

No additional comments given.

Special Committee Reports

Policy & Audit - Hank Pawlowski, Jr. – Meeting was held last week. We are making great progress. We may not schedule a meeting for November.

Curriculum – Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien - need to have a meeting to address issues of selecting an interim Superintendent;

Facilities – Hank Pawlowski, Jr. – Met last week – Johnson Controls was present to discuss energy savings; no meeting has been scheduled.

Finance & Audit – Ram Aberasturia - Meeting scheduled for November 5th, 5:30 P.M.;

Future Planning – Karen Howe – Meeting scheduled for October 21st, 5:30 at CIBA to address dress code. Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes noted all questions will be posted on the web site.

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PERSONNEL

MOTION

By Hank Pawlowski
Seconded by Robert Damaschi
To approve one **Retirement**:
1. Chester J. Lemrise, effective 9/26/08;
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION

By Robert Damaschi
Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
To approve two **Resignations**:
1. James L. Barrett, Gr. 4 Teacher, effective 10/10/08;
2. Kelly P. Moore, Family Resource Parent Ed, effective 10/16/08
Motion unanimously carried.

OLD AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Remove from Table and Approve Policy 4121 – Substitutes

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

MOTION

By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
Seconded by Robert Damaschi
To remove from table and approve Policy 4121 – Substitutes
Motion unanimously carried.

Remove from Table and Approve Policy 4141 – Salary Guides

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

MOTION

By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
Seconded by Ram Aberasturia
To remove from table and approve Policy 4141- Salary Guides
Motion unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS

To Approve a 3-Year Contract Extension with First Student for Student Transportation

(Paul Mainuli, Director, Business Services)

MOTION

By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
Seconded by Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes
To approve a 3-Year contract extension with First Student for
Student Transportation

Amendment

By Ram Aberasturia
Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
To refer approval of 3-Year contract extension with First Student
for Student Transportation back to Finance & Audit Committee
Motion carried, as amended. Abstain: Marcus Oladell, IV

This will ultimately go out to bid, per Board policy regarding amounts over \$10,000.

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To Approve a 3-Year Contract Extension with Access Transportation

(Paul Mainuli, Director, Business Services)

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
To approve a 3-Year contract extension with Access Transportation Solutions LLC for student transportation

Amendment By Ram Aberasturia
Seconded by Robert Damaschi
To refer approval of a 3-Year contract extension with Access Transportation back to Finance & Audit Committee
Motion carried, as amended. Abstain: Marcus Oladell, IV

This will ultimately go out to bid, per Board policy regarding amounts over \$10,000.

To Approve a 3-Year Contract Extension with CBS Blooms, A XEROX Company

(Paul Mainuli, Director, Business Services)

MOTION By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
Seconded by Anita Morrison
To approve a 3-year contract extension with CBS Blooms, A XEROX Company

Amendment By Ram Aberasturia
Seconded by Anita Morrison
To refer approval of a 3-year contract extension with CBS Blooms, A XEROX Company back to Finance & Audit Committee
Motion unanimously carried, as amended.

This will ultimately go out to bid, per Board policy regarding amounts over \$10,000.

To Table for First Read Policy 4117.51/4217.51 – Cash Out Procedures for all Employees Upon Separation of Employment

(Hank Pawlowski, Chair, Policy & Audit Committee)

MOTION By Robert Damaschi
Seconded by Robert Damaschi
To table for first read Policy 4117.51/4217.51 – Cash Out Procedures for all employees upon separation of employment
Motion unanimously carried.

To Table for First Read Policy 4131.6 –Professional Administrative Dues

(Hank Pawlowski, Chair, Policy & Audit Committee)

MOTION By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
Seconded by Robert Damaschi

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To table for first read Policy 4131.6 – Professional Administrative
Dues

Amendment By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
Seconded by Ram Aberasturia
To refer back to Policy & Audit Committee
Motion as amended unanimously carried.

**To Table for First Read Policy 4140.1/4240.1 – Compensation for Assistant Superintendent
and Directors**

(Hank Pawlowski, Chair, Policy & Audit Committee)

MOTION By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
Seconded by Robert Damaschi
To table for first read Policy 4140.1/4240.1 – Compensation for
Assistant Superintendent and Directors
Motion unanimously carried.

**To Table for First Read Bylaw 9312 – Formulation, Adoption, Amendment of Bylaws
(Hank Pawlowski, Chair, Policy & Audit Committee)**

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
To table for first read Bylaw 9312 – Formulation, Adoption,
Amendment of Bylaws
Motion unanimously carried.

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

CREC – Karen Howe – gave a legislative report on several issues – we are moving away from
Magnet Schools and leaning toward Open Choice.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

QUESTIONS/CONCERNS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Ram Aberasturia – (1) attended Woodland School – asked for a report regarding cohorts. This
will be referred to Dr. Martinez. Dr. Martinez stated this will go out on Thursday; (2)
Requests a district-wide report on disadvantaged students’ scores.

Dorese Roberts – re: tutoring – requests a report on how it is working. Dr. Martinez stated we
will have status report on after school programs and eligibility of supplemental children.

Robert Damaschi – requested a report that places a dollar value on after school programs and
morning programs.

TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Hilde Mayranen-O’Brien – re: status of search for interim superintendent.

- to members of the staff;

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MOTION

By Ram Aberasturia

Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV

To adjourn to Executive Session (8:55 P.M.)

for purposes of discussion regarding leave of absence for
paraprofessional and possible approval for certified staff member.

Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by: Donna Fitzgerald