

**REGULAR MEETING
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,
NOVEMBER 17, 2008**

A Regular Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Monday, November 17, 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, Anita Morrison, Hank Pawlowski, Jr., Marcus Oladell, IV, Karen Howe

ALSO PRESENT Debbie Kaprove, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Christopher Wethje, Director of Human Resources
Jody Lefkowitz, Director of Pupil Personnel
Frank Vernile, Maintenance Supervisor, Facilities
Kimberly Barrington, Student Representative

ABSENT Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA - None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Anita Morrison
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Meeting, October 30, 2008 (6:05 P.M.)
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Anita Morrison
Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Meeting, October 30, 2008 8:25 P.M.)
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Anita Morrison
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Meeting, November 3, 2008 (4:35 P.M.)
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
Seconded by Ram Aberasturia
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Meeting, November 3, 2008 (5:48 P.M.)
Motion unanimously carried.

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EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,
NOVEMBER 17, 2008**

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
To approve the following Minutes:
Regular Meeting, November 3, 2008, as corrected:
Page 7: comment by Mr. Aberasturia under (4)...students'
needs; **i.e. pacing guides**;
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
Seconded by Anita Morrison
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Meeting, November 5, 2008
Motion unanimously carried.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

- EHHS Boys Soccer Alumni Soccer Game is Saturday, 11/29, 12:00 at EHHS; fee is \$25 - proceeds go toward the Nick Cohen Scholarship Fund as well as the EH Boys Soccer Team; PTO is manning the concession stand.
- Karen Howe was honored by the CT Arts Association for her work with the Summer Youth Festival.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

Kim Barrington

- 11/18 – Financial Seminar will be held at EHHS – interested parents of juniors and seniors are invited to attend;
- 12/4 – 7-9 P.M. at EHHS – offering a program “Exploring Life after High School” geared toward parents and students to help students prepare now for life after high school; parents are encouraged to attend and will be able to speak with college and job force recruiters; light refreshments will be served;
- EHHS Newsletter is going out today;
- Report cards have come out this week and will include grades and attendance;
- 12/4 – Spirit Week – there will be a Pep Rally after school;
- 12/4 – Student of the Month breakfast will be held;
- Connections Class will be doing community service projects for the holidays at various soup kitchens; we will be holding a toy and clothing drive. Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes asked that M. Barrington let the Board know of places where they can donate.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Human Resources/Appointments/No Action Required

Kelly Services Substitute Teacher of the Year

(Anita Morrell, Kelly Services)

(Eileen Candels, Kelly Services)

(Christopher Wethje, Director of Human Resources)

Mr. Kerry O'Connor has been selected the Substitute Teacher of the Year. He was selected from over 23,000 substitute teachers from all over the country. He has provided substitute teacher services to East Hartford. We are very proud of his contributions and on being selected the Substitute Teacher of the Year.

Final Report & Findings on 2008 Summer Connections

(Dr. Lesley Morgan-Thompson, Supervisor, Elementary Instruction)

(John Fote, EHHS)

Mr. Fote gave an in-depth Power Point presentation with results of the 2008 Summer Connections program. Approximately 391 students participated in the program of which 117 had perfect attendance. One component of the program offered focused literacy instruction. Several assessment tools were used to assess overall student growth. All ten elementary schools showed improvement. It was noted that it would be desirable to have the data placed on eSchoolPlus.

Supplemental Education Services and After School Programs

(Debbie Kaprove, Assistant Superintendent)

(Kundari Iannone, EHMS)

Assistant Superintendent Debbie Kaprove noted the Supplemental Educational Services (SES) is offered to students who are in Title I schools that have been identified in "Need of Improvement" by NCLB. Priority is given to the lowest achieving low income students. The program occurs outside of the regular school day. Its mission is to increase academic achievement for the students attending Title I schools. Offerings include remediation, tutoring and intervention. **Title 1 funding is used .**

Mr. Aberasturia stated he would like to have a sign off sheet showing that parents have, in fact, received notification of the Supplemental Educational Services. Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes stated at the time of parent/student conferences we can reiterate what is being offered. Letters are sent out in English and Spanish. Guidelines that are followed are those that have been established by the State.

Other after school programs are offered in the district. A grant has been awarded by the Department of Education – 21st Century Learning Center – in the amount of \$152,166. This grant allowed the creation of community learning centers at Sunset Ridge and East Hartford Middle School. It offers intensive support in literacy and math as well as the promotion of social skills. Parenting programs are also offered.

Principals' Connecticut Mastery Test Presentation –

Goodwin Elementary School, Norris Elementary School

(Dan Brodeur, Principal, Goodwin)

(Pietro Cerone, Principal, Norris)

Principal Dan Brodeur and Principal Pietro Cerone gave Power Point presentations and discussed the CMT results at their respective schools as well as focus areas for the coming school year. Both schools had many celebrations.

Mr. Aberasturia asked Mr. Cerone to provide cohort scores for Board members.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chairperson/Assistant Superintendent’s Reports

Assistant Superintendent Debbie Kaprove

Assistant Superintendent Debbie Kaprove thanked the Board for allowing her to serve as Interim Superintendent.

Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes:

- Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes noted she is happy that we have Debbie Kaprove as Assistant Superintendent;
- Thanked the voters for supporting the Bond Referendum questions;
- Noted we are in the middle of a Superintendent search and stated we are having a community forum tomorrow evening.

Special Committee Reports

Policy & Audit - Hank Pawlowski, Jr. – meeting scheduled for November 19th, 6:30;
Curriculum – Hilde Mayranen-O’Brien - it was noted that a meeting was scheduled for November 18th, but due to Ms. Mayranen-O’Brien being ill this evening, the meeting tomorrow may not occur.

Facilities – Hank Pawlowski, Jr. – meeting scheduled for November 19th, 5:30 P.M.

Finance & Audit – Ram Aberasturia - nothing to report at this time;

Future Planning – Karen Howe – Ms. Howe will be discussing with Assistant Superintendent Debbie Kaprove a meeting schedule for future meetings regarding the dress code issue.

PERSONNEL

MOTION

By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.

Seconded by Anita Morrison

To approve one **Retirement:**

1. Mary Jane Lenihan, Home Economics Teacher,
effective 1/23/09

Motion unanimously carried.

OLD AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Remove from Table and Approve Policy 4117.51/4217.51 – Cash Out Procedures for all Employees Upon Separation of Employment

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

MOTION By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.

Seconded by Ram Aberasturia

To remove from table and approve Policy 4117.51/4217.51 -
Cash Out Procedures for all Employees Upon Separation of
Employment

Motion unanimously carried.

Remove from Table and Approve Policy 4140.1/4240.1 – Compensation for Assistant Superintendent and Directors

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

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia

Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV

To remove from table and approve Policy 4140.1/4240.1 Adoption,
Compensation for Assistant Superintendent and Directors

Motion unanimously carried.

Remove from Table and Approve Bylaw 9312 – Formulation, Adoption, Amendment of Bylaws

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

MOTION By Marcus Oladell, IV

Seconded by Ram Aberasturia

To remove from table and approve Bylaw 9312 – Formulation,
Adoption, Amendment of Bylaws

Motion unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Connecticut State Department of Social Services Block Grant Program

(Brian Reynolds, Director, Student Assistant Center)

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia

Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV

To approve Connecticut State Department of Social Services
Block Grant Program

Motion unanimously carried.

To Approve the 2008-2009 East Hartford Board of Education Subcommittees

(Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes, Board Chair)

MOTION By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.

Seconded by Anita Morrison

To approve the 2008-2009 East Hartford Board of Education
Subcommittees for 2008-09

Amendment By Ram Aberasturia
Seconded by Anita Morrison
To delete the name Dr. Marion H. Martinez where it appears and substitute with name of Assistant Superintendent Debbie Kaprove.
Motion carried as amended.

To Approve Policy 3323 – Soliciting Prices
(Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes, Board Chair)

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV
To approve Policy 3323 – Soliciting Prices
Motion unanimously carried.

To Approve Freezing the 2008-2009 Budget with the exception of emergency appropriations with Board notification
(Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes, Board Chair)

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
To approve freezing the 2008-2009 budget with the exception of emergency appropriations with Board notification.
Motion unanimously carried.

Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes stated we will pay employees and meet its contractual obligations. She also stated we need to save as much money as possible.

To Approve Bid #1618-08 SmartBoard Setups
(Paul Mainuli, Director of Business Services)

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV
To approve Bid #1618-08 SmartBoard Setups for all three bidders, but to utilize the lowest priced vendor
Motion unanimously carried.

To Approve Curriculum/Course Pilot Proposal – Project Lead the Way
(Debbie Kaprove, Assistant Superintendent)

MOTION By Marcus Oladell, IV
Seconded by Dorese Roberts
To approve curriculum/course pilot proposal – Project Lead the Way
Motion unanimously carried.

Assistant Superintendent Debbie Kaprove noted this is the second of a series in the program and is funded through a grant and the Rotary Club.

To Approve Curriculum/Course Pilot Proposal – AP English Course – Language and Composition

(Debbie Kaprove, Assistant Superintendent)

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
Seconded by Hank Pawlowski, Jr.
To approve Curriculum/Course Pilot Proposal – AP English Course – Language and Composition
Motion unanimously carried.

Assistant Superintendent Debbie Kaprove noted we may be able to get partial grant funding for this course.

To Approve Curriculum/Course Pilot Proposal – Senior English, (English IV)

(Debbie Kaprove, Assistant Superintendent)

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Anita Morrison
To approve curriculum/course pilot proposal – Senior English (English IV)
Motion **defeated**. Aye: Dorese Roberts, Hank Pawlowski, Jr., Anita Morrison
Nay: Ram Aberasturia, Robert Damaschi, Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes, Marcus Oladell, IV, Karen Howe

To Approve Non-Certified Staff Member’s Use of Employee Sick Bank

(Chris Wethje, Director of Human Resources)

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV
To approve non-certified staff member’s use of employee Sick Bank
Motion unanimously carried.

To Approve the Memorandum of Agreement for a B-2 Stipend for a major coach at EHMS

(Chris Wethje, Director of Human Resources)

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV
To approve Memorandum of Agreement for a B-2 Stipend for a major coach at EHMS

Roberts, Marcus Oladell, IV, Karen Howe
Nay: Hank Pawlowski, Jr., Robert Damaschi, Mary
Alice Dwyer Hughes

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Dorese Roberts visited Silver Lane School;

Ram Aberasturia went to the Noah Webster K-8 school in Hartford. He thanked Principal Coles for allowing him to visit the school for the purpose of observing the dress code. However, he was also impressed to view the smart boards

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

QUESTIONS/CONCERNS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Robert Damaschi – re: where do we stand on the bus contract . Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes stated there is additional information to be presented to the Finance & Audit Committee .

Dorese Roberts – re: would like to have a workshop offered on decision making.

Ram Aberasturia – (1) eSchoolPlus – hopes we can get an exact date when we will have all in place; (2) would like to have a sign off sheet showing that parents have, in fact, received notification of the NCLB: Supplemental Educational Services

TOPICS FOR FUTURE

- **Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes** would like a report from Johnson Controls. It was noted that the Finance & Audit Committee will make this available very soon;

- **A Request for a Presentation** on the Student Assistance Center at EHHS.

MOTION

By Hank Pawlowski, Jr.

Seconded by Ram Aberasturia

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

Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by: Donna Fitzgerald