

**REGULAR MEETING
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,
MARCH 7, 2011**

A Regular Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Monday, March 7, 2011, at the Connecticut IB Academy, 857 Forbes Street, East Hartford, CT. The meeting was called to order at 7:03 P.M. by Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes.

PRESENT Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes, Secretary Jeffrey Currey, Marcus Oladell, IV, Anita Morrison, Tyron Harris, Dorese Roberts, Christopher Gentile

ALSO PRESENT Mark Zito, Superintendent of Schools
Debbie Kaprove, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Paul Mainuli, Director of Finance
Christopher Wethje, Director of Human Resources
Haley Sluboski, Student Representative
Kim Tran, Student Representative

ABSENT Bryan Hall Julie Kieras

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

MOTION By Marcus Oladell, IV
Seconded by Dorese Roberts
To place on this evening's agenda appointment of Christopher Gentile to the Board of Education
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Marcus Oladell, IV
Seconded by Tyron Harris
To place on this evening's agenda appointment of Secretary to the Board of Education
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Jeffrey Currey
Seconded by Dorese Roberts
To place on this evening's agenda consent calendar under New Business, items g through o
Motion unanimously carried.

Discussion with possible action regarding appointment of individual to fill vacant Board of Education position

MOTION By Jeffrey Currey
Seconded by Anita Morrison
To appoint Christopher Gentile to the Board of Education to fill the vacancy left by Ram Aberasturia.
Motion unanimously carried.

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Town Clerk, Sharon Miller, administered the oath of office to Christopher Gentile. Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes, Board members and Superintendent Zito congratulated Mr. Gentile and noted that they are excited about the opportunity to have him join them.

MOTION By Marcus Oladell, IV
Seconded by Tyron Harris
To place in nomination the name of Jeffrey Currey as Secretary of the Board of Education
Motion unanimously carried.

Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes congratulated Mr. Currey and noted she looks forward to working with him as Secretary to the Board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Tyron Harris
To approve the following Minutes:
Regular Meeting of February 7, 2011
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Anita Morrison
Seconded by Jeffrey Currey
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Meeting of February 14, 2011
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Jeffrey Currey
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Meeting of February 22, 2011
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Anita Morrison
Seconded by Tyron Harris
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Meeting of February 23, 2011 (5:40 P.M.)
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Anita Morrison
Seconded by Tyron Harris
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Meeting of February 23, 2011 (6:35 P.M.)
Motion unanimously carried.

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MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Jeffrey Currey
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Meeting of February 28, 2011 (5:35 P.M.)
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Anita Morrison
Seconded by Dorese Roberts
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Meeting of February 28, 2011 (6:34 P.M.)
Motion unanimously carried.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD - None

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

Haley Sluboski, Student Representative

Kim Tran, Student Representative

- All juniors are registered for Kaplan on-line SAT College Prep tools. They have a one-year free membership;
- The school uniform committee has been formed to discuss the design of next year's uniform; there are 25 students, three administrators, five teachers, as well as some parents, who have formed sub-committees to decide on different matters of concern regarding uniforms; i.e., tops, pants, accessories, etc.
- Basketball state tournament is tonight at Fairfield University;
- Jamal Fruster placed third in the state in the 161 weight class for wrestling;
- Swim team members are competing this Saturday in the state trials;
- Spring sports training has begun; tryouts should be held within the next few weeks;
- CAPT testing is this week; 9th graders are doing practice tests; 10th graders are taking exams; 11 and 12th graders are taking seminars, including topics for planning for college and careers or AP class seminars.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION None

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Human Resources/Appointments/No Action Required

Scholarship Presentation in Memory of Pablo Diaz, Jr.

(Ram Aberasturia, Town Council Member)

(Cynthia Corbin Diaz, Pablo Diaz III, Malinda Diaz Amaro, Ryan Paul Diaz)

Town Councilman Ram Aberasturia introduced the family of Pablo Diaz, Jr. and presented them with a portrait of Pablo Diaz, Jr. The Diaz family held a fundraiser which yielded \$1,800 to go towards a four-year scholarship for a deserving student. The check was presented to the Board of Education in memory of Mr. Diaz.

Chairperson/ Superintendent Reports

Superintendent Mark Zito

- Thank you to the Diaz family for their generous donation, and thank you to Ram Aberasturia for having them here for their presentation to the Board;
- Congratulations to Chris Gentile as the newest Board member;
- Congratulations to Jeff Currey as Secretary of the Board;
- To all families with children – we will begin Kindergarten registration on April 1st;
- School Choice letters went out to families for 4-6 graders. They are due back to the Superintendent's office by March 16th;
- First day of annual CMT and CAPT testing began today. Thank you to Debbie Kaprove, Dr. Linda Iverson and the office staff.

Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes

- Parents, please impress upon your children to do well on the CAPT testing;
- Congratulations to the Robotics Team – they won two, \$500 scholarships;
- March is the National Mentoring Month – you may contact the Superintendent's office for additional information;
- We have received strong responses for the STEM program for 4th, 5th and 6th graders; please return your applications.

Special Committee Reports

Policy & Audit – Bryan Hall – meeting scheduled for March 16th , 5:15 P.M.

Curriculum – Dorese Roberts – meeting scheduled for March 14th , 6:00 P.M.

Facilities – Anita Morrison – meeting scheduled for April 4th , 6:00 P.M.

Finance & Audit – Jeffrey Currey - meeting scheduled for April 13th, 5:30 P.M.

PERSONNEL

MOTION

By Anita Morrison

Seconded by Dorese Roberts

To approve **two Retirements:**

1. Eunice Acosta, Custodian 1, effective 2/28/11
2. Germaine B. Guimond, Custodian 1, effective 4/29/11

Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION

By Anita Morrison

Seconded by Dorese Roberts

To approve **six Resignations:**

1. Catherine M. Silagi, Elementary Teacher, effective 6/30/11
2. Jerome M. Williams, Behavior Mgr., effective 2/24/11
3. Laura Discipio, Special Ed Teacher, effective 6/30/11
4. Loretta Trocchi Dacunha, Math Teacher, effective 6/30/11
5. Sandra Vigil, Elementary Teacher, effective 3/1/11
6. Michelle Texidor-Pham, Tutor, effective 3/4/11

Motion unanimously carried.

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OLD AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Change to 2010-11 School Calendar for Norris Elementary School Only
(Mark Zito, Superintendent)

(MOTION

By Anita Morrison

Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV

To approve change to 2010-11 School Calendar for Norris Elementary School only, to split make-up dates between the week of April vacation and the close of the school year in June. The Board of Education will schedule regular school days for Norris Elementary School on April 18 and 19, 2011 and June 21, 2011.

Motion unanimously carried.

Approve the Revised 2010-2011 East Hartford Board of Education Subcommittees
(Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes, Board Chair)

MOTION

By Anita Morrison

Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV

To approve Revised 2010-2011 East Hartford Board of Education Subcommittees as presented

Motion unanimously carried.

Approve Non-Certified Staff Member's Use of Employee Sick Bank – Pitkin
(Christopher Wethje, Director of Human Resources)

MOTION

By Dorese Roberts

Seconded by Anita Morrison

To approve non-certified staff member's use of Employee Sick Bank – Pitkin

Motion unanimously carried.

Approve Non-Certified Staff Member's Use of Employee Sick Bank – EHHS
(Christopher Wethje, Director of Human Resources)

MOTION

By Marcus Oladell, IV

Seconded by Jeffrey Currey

To approve non-certified staff member's use of Employee Sick Bank – EHHS

Motion unanimously carried.

Approve Non-Renewal of Non-Tenured Teacher
(Christopher Wethje, Director of Human Resources)

MOTION

By Dorese Roberts

Seconded by Jeffrey Currey

To approve non-renewal of non-tenured teacher

Motion unanimously carried.

Approve Memorandum of Agreement with East Hartford Education Association – Athletic Coaching Positions

(Christopher Wethje, Director of Human Resources)

MOTION By Marcus Oladell, IV
Seconded by Tyron Harris
To approve Memorandum of Agreement with EHEA – Athletic Coaching Positions
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Anita Morrison
Seconded by Jeffrey Currey
To approve the following items on the Consent Calendar under New Business, items g through o:

Table for First Read Policy 3323 – Soliciting Prices
(Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes, Chair, Policy & Audit Committee)

Table for First Read Policy 5112.4 - Disenrollment
(Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes, Chair, Policy & Audit Committee)

Table for First Read Policy 5114 – Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process/Conduct and Discipline
(Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes, Chair, Policy & Audit Committee)

Table for First Read Policy 5117 – School Attendance Areas
(Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes, Chair, Policy & Audit Committee)

Table for First Read Policy 5131.3 – Student Driving/Parking
(Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes, Chair, Policy & Audit Committee)

Table for First Read Policy 5131.5 - Vandalism
(Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes, Chair, Policy & Audit Committee)

Table for First Read Policy 5131.81 – Electronic Devices
(Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes, Chair, Policy & Audit Committee)

Table for First Read Policy 5131.911- Bullying
(Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes, Chair, Policy & Audit Committee)

Table for First Read Policy 5140 – Student Welfare
(Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes, Chair, Policy & Audit Committee)

Motion unanimously carried.

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REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS -

Anita Morrison – Willowbrook Policy Committee - Willowbrook School Head Start program accreditation has not taken place as of this date. Also, enrollment was down due to weather conditions. The Policy Committee continues to have effective meetings.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

QUESTIONS/CONCERNS BY BOARD MEMBERS

- Orientation meetings for STEM magnet will take place March 8th at O'Brien School. Also, Sunset Ridge will have its orientation March 8th. East Hartford Middle School is holding its orientation on March 10th. All interested parents are invited to attend. This was advertised in the East Hartford Gazette.
- Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes asked: (1) if we sent out letters to parents regarding uniform policies. Superintendent Zito stated a letter will go out this spring regarding the uniform policy and where items can be purchased; (2) are we going to do the math bowl. Superintendent Zito stated we will have it, but we will talk about it after exams.

MOTION

By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Jeffrey Currey
To adjourn to Executive Session (7:40 P.M.)
Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by: Donna Fitzgerald