

**SPECIAL MEETING
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 8, 2010**

A Special Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Wednesday, December 8, 2010 at the Board of Education Administrative Offices, 1110 Main Street, East Hartford, CT. The meeting was called to order at 5:45 P.M. by Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes.

PRESENT Chairperson Mary Alice Dwyer Hughes, Ram Aberasturia,
Anita Morrison, Dorese Roberts, Tyron Harris, Jeffrey Currey,
Marcus Oladell, IV, Julie Kieras, Bryan Hall

ALSO PRESENT Mark Zito, Superintendent of Schools
Paul Mainuli, Director of Business Services
Al Costa, Director of Facilities
Dr. Sharon Bremner, Director of Pupil Personnel
Christopher Wethje, Director of Human Resources

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

Mr. Mainuli had good news to share with the Board – this is the seventh consecutive year that the Board of Education has received a clean audit during the annual independent audit process. The independent audit will be going to the Town Council in January.

Budget Meeting No. 2 – Pupil Services/Facilities

The following programs were reviewed with the Board – the Superintendent’s Proposed Budget amounts are listed next to the program:

1. IDEA Regular Grant Funds (Special Education) Mr. Mainuli noted the AARRA will be going away – we have until September 30, 2011 to use the funds.

2. Pupil Services

226 – External Placements - \$1,434,149.00 – reflects current services for FY 2011-12; under accounts 5630 – Tuition Private and 8950 – Special Ed Tuition accounts represent the district’s net cost for out-placed students. Cashbook credits from Woodland School tuition revenues will be used to offset this expense; there are no staffing changes;

227 – Home Instruction - \$53,702.00 – reflects current services for FY 2011-12;

230 – Special Education - \$8,249,741.00 – includes increase in transportation account to support in district and out placed students; also includes transfer of a portion of the legal services account to this program. Certified salaries account represents net cost of teacher salaries for Pupil Services. We will be using \$1.5 million from Woodland School tuition revenues to support special education teachers working in this program; Mr. Wethje responded to a question regarding what the turnover is for paraprofessionals in the district – he stated 15-20 yearly; Anita Morrison requested a breakdown of Line 6109 – Supplies General and Line 6110 Supplies Instructional for all schools in the district.

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At this point, the Board requested information is provided in the proposed budget for the 2009-10 fiscal year. Mr. Mainuli stated due to a reporting problem in the Phoenix financial program used to produce the budget book, this could not be done. We will, however, provide this information and include it when the budget book is redone for the Board.

313 – Social Work Services - \$548,372.00 reflects current services budget for FY 2011-12;

320 – Guidance/Career Education - \$1,183,503.00 – reflects current services budget for FY 2011-12;

330 - Health Services - \$1,036,869.00 – reflects current services budget for FY 2011-12;

340 – Psychological Services - \$1,064,057.00 – reflects current services budget for FY 2011-12;

350 – Speech/Language/Hearing - \$885,394.00 – reflects current services budget for FY 2011-12.

3. Facilities Programs

551 – Plant Operations - \$3,734,604.00 – reflects current services budget for FY 2011-12;

552 – Plant Maintenance - \$3,767,800.00 – reflects current services budget for FY 2011-12;

Mr. Mainuli stated we are working with the Town to extend our agreement with TransCanada for generation of electricity; re: receiving a rebate from Johnson Controls, Mr. Mainuli noted we are working with the Town on this. This could amount to over \$500,000. It was requested that Mr. Costa provide an estimate regarding future savings from Johnson Controls. Mr. Costa noted we have had a benchmark cost for utilities since we began our relationship with Johnson Controls. We have already realized savings and expect to save more over the next 5-10 years.

800 – Capital Improvements - \$220,000.00 – reflects current services budget for FY 2011-12; it was requested that the Superintendent provide a cost analysis for keeping a few more elementary schools open after 6:30 pm. Superintendent Zito stated he will take direction from the Board as to which school would close at 6:30 P.M. We expect to save \$110,000 by closing school buildings earlier.

910 – Debt Service - \$679,637.00 – reflects current services budget for FY 2011-12.

MOTION

By Ram Aberasturia

Seconded by Anita Morrison

To institute a hiring freeze for the district, except for essential personnel, as determined by Administration.

Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION

By Jeffrey Currey

Seconded by Ram Aberasturia

To adjourn the Special Meeting of the Board (7:30 P.M.)

Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by Donna Fitzgerald