

**REGULAR MEETING  
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,  
MAY 7, 2012**

A Regular Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Monday, May 7, 2012, at the Connecticut IB Academy, 857 Forbes Street, East Hartford, CT. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 P.M. by Chairman Jeffrey Currey.

**PRESENT** Chairman Jeffrey Currey, Tyron Harris, Christopher Gentile, Dorese Roberts, Stephanie Watkins, Tom Rup, Marilyn Pet, Marcus Oladell, IV

**ALSO PRESENT** Dr. Mark Zito, Superintendent of Schools  
Debbie Kaprove, Assistant Superintendent of Schools  
Paul Mainuli, Director of Finance  
Al Costa, Director of Facilities  
Christopher Wethje, Director of Human Resources  
Dr. Sharon Bremner, Director of Pupil Personnel Services  
Joshua Dillon, Student Representative to the Board  
Cindy Tran, Student Representative to the Board

**ABSENT** Bryan Hall

**AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA** - None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION** By Dorese Roberts  
Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV  
To approve the following Minutes,  
Regular Meeting of April 16, 2012, as corrected:  
Page 6: Comments by Dorese Roberts: re: Silver Lane Readiness  
Program:  
Parent complaint: parents are not allowed to enter building until **8:30  
A.M.** ...  
Motion unanimously carried.

**MOTION** By Christopher Gentile  
Seconded by Dorese Roberts  
To approve the following Minutes  
Special Meeting of April 30, 2012  
Motion unanimously carried.

**WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD**

- Reminder: Kindergarten Registration for school year 2012-2013 begins April 2<sup>nd</sup> for East Hartford Public Schools at the Administration Building, 1110 Main Street, East Hartford, from 8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M. daily in Central Registration. Central Registration is open year-round. For further information, please call (860) 622-5080, or visit the East Hartford Public School's website;
- Chairman Currey congratulated Joshua Dillon on his acceptance to Columbia University.

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**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT**

**(Joshua Dillon and Cindy Tran)**

- May 2<sup>nd</sup> – Honors & Awards program;
- May 3<sup>rd</sup> – Band and Orchestra Spring Concert was held;
- May 4<sup>th</sup> – Junior Prom was held at Maneely’s from 6-11 P.M.;
- May 5<sup>th</sup> – SATs were held at 8:00 A.M. as well as AP Math at 8:00 A.M.;
- May 7<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> – AP Psychology and Chemistry testing will take place;
- Baseball team ranked fifth in the area with a total of ten wins.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The following individuals spoke in favor of retaining the positions of all paraprofessionals' positions in the district:

1. Margaret Kishimoto, 22 Matthew Road, East Hartford;
2. Shelly Nearing, 377 School Street, East Hartford;
3. Debi Pratt, 330 Hills Street, East Hartford;
4. Edie Lacey, One Marjorie Lane, Manchester;
5. Gayle Dallas, 1820 South Street, Coventry;
6. Mary Symkewicz, 805 Tolland Street, East Hartford;
7. Mary St. Clair, President of Paraprofessionals Union.

**INFORMATIONAL REPORTS**

**Chairman’s Report**

- May 19<sup>th</sup> – East Hartford Clean –Up Day;
- May 30<sup>th</sup> – “Walk Down Main Street” Healthy Initiatives, sponsored by the Town and YMCA to make East Hartford a healthy and more walkable community.
- East Hartford will be participating in a grant funded program Gearing Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Program (GEAR UP) to prepare low income students for college, beginning in the sixth and seven grades. East Hartford Middle School will partner with Manchester Community College to provide services to students, teachers and parents. Students will have the opportunity to gain college credit for courses;
- The East Hartford Board of Education approved the resignation of Dr. Zito, effective June 30<sup>th</sup>. CABE will conduct a regional search, surveying students, and staff. Parents are invited to assist.

**Superintendent’s Report**

- Frank Staples, Uyi Osunde and Falguni Patel participated in the National Office for School Counselor Advocacy 2012 Conference relating to college;
- June 4<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 P.M. – Employee Recognition Reception – special thanks to those employees who are retiring and have given 25+ years of service;
- May 4<sup>th</sup> – Career Day - thank you to Penny Brice and Mayor Leclerc;
- Thank you to Penny Brice for all she does for the School/Business Partnership e.g., Academy of Finance, Project Graduation, School Uniform fund.
- Honors & Awards Ceremony – thank you to all Department Heads, Matt Ryan and Frank Staples and staff.

**Invention Convention**

Five elementary school students participated in the “Invention Convention” and brought posters detailing the inventions they created, as well as showing them to the Board and members of the audience.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Bid #1677-12 Replacement of Core Routing Equipment at EHHS**

MOTION By Tyron Harris  
Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV  
To approve Bid #1677-12 Replacement of Core Routing Equipment at EHHS at a cost of \$71,016.00.  
Motion unanimously carried.

**Year End Transfer of General Budget Funds to the Town of East Hartford’s Reserve Fund for Building Improvements**

MOTION By Tyron Harris  
Seconded by Christopher Gentile  
To approve Year End Transfer of General Budget Funds to the Town of East Hartford’s Reserve Fund for Building Improvements.  
Motion unanimously carried.

Mr. Mainuli noted we may have approximately \$100,000 at year-end to do some facilities projects.

**Table Policy 4118.11/4218.11 Nondiscrimination (Personnel Certified & Non-Certified)**

MOTION By Tyron Harris  
Seconded by Tom Rup  
To **table** for first read Policy 4118.11/4218.11 Nondiscrimination (Personnel Certified & Non Certified)  
Motion unanimously carried.

**Table Policy 5145.4 – Nondiscrimination (Students)**

MOTION By Tom Rup  
Seconded by Tyron Harris  
To **table** for first read Policy 5145.4 Nondiscrimination (Students)  
Motion unanimously carried.

**Delete Policy 4118.14/4218.14 Disabilities**

MOTION By Marcus Oladell, IV  
Seconded by Tyron Harris  
To **delete** Policy 4118.14/4218.14 Disabilities  
Motion unanimously carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Program Improvement Projects (PIP) Grant**  
**(Pat Perrone, Adult Education Director)**

**MOTION** By Marcus Oladell, IV  
Seconded by Tyron Harris  
To approve the Program Improvement Project Federal Grant to Supplement Adult Basic Education.  
Motion unanimously carried.

Ms. Perrone noted the PIP grant will increase the accessibility to adult education programs and services for learners most in need.

**Referral to Finance & Audit Committee, Purchase of IEP Direct**

**MOTION** By Tyron Harris  
Seconded by Dorese Roberts  
To refer to Finance & Audit Committee purchase of IEP Direct Web-Based Special Education Management Software from Centris Group.  
Motion unanimously carried.

It was noted the first year cost of the software is \$51,327.05 to be provided from State grants.

**Resignations:**

**MOTION** By Dorese Roberts  
Seconded by Tyron Harris  
To approve (8) **Resignations:**  
1. Melinda Robinson, Teacher, effective 4/9/2012;  
2. Kenneth M. Sayers, Network Administrator, effective 5/18/2012;  
3. Helen DeLacruz, Bilingual Tutor, effective 4/25/2012;  
4. Alicia M. Brocuglio, Behavior Manager, effective 5/8/2012;  
5. Lorraine A. Fote, Nurse, effective 5/1/2012;  
6. Marcus D. Tappin, Behavior Manager, effective 4/27/2012;  
7. Shelley M. Stratman, Executive Secretary, effective 6/30/2012;  
8. Brenda Machado, Family Advocate, effective 5/11/2012.

*and*

To approve (1) **Retirement:**  
1. Cheryl L. Hence, Teacher, effective 6/30/2012.  
Motion unanimously carried.

**Superintendent Search Committee**

**MOTION** By Tyron Harris  
Seconded by Marilyn Pet  
To appoint the East Hartford Board of Education as the Personnel Search Committee to fill the position for Superintendent of Schools.  
Motion unanimously carried.

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**Board Member Representative Reports**

**Tyron Harris** – there will be a Special Finance & Audit Committee meeting on Wednesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 6:15 P.M. at the Board Administration building.

**Marilyn Pet** – (1) April 28<sup>th</sup> - Child Plan Children's Fair was a great success. Also, parents were able to register their children for Kindergarten at this event; (2) Healthy Kids Day was held – plantings of fruits and vegetables were enjoyed by all.

**Stephanie Watkins** – thank you to the parents who spoke this evening in support of our paraprofessionals.

**Marcus Oladell, IV** – attended the EHMS Family Fun Night – attendance was great and it was an enjoyable event.

**Public Participation** - None

**Questions and Concerns by Board Members**

**Dorese Roberts** – On behalf of the paraprofessionals, I hope we can find a solution.

**Tom Rup** - Thanked the paraprofessionals for speaking tonight and suggested other budget financial alternatives.

**Chairman Currey** - stated we are still waiting to see if the State Legislature/Governor approves of granting various towns any funding.

**Topics for Future Agendas** -None

**MOTION**

By Marcus Oladell, IV

Seconded by Tyron Harris

To adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board (8:15 P.M.)

Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by: Donna Fitzgerald