

**SPECIAL MEETING  
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**TUESDAY,  
NOVEMBER 29, 2011**

A Special Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Tuesday, November 15, 2011 at the Board of Education Administrative Offices, 1110 Main Street, East Hartford, CT. The meeting was called to order at 6:03 P.M. by Chairperson Jeffrey Currey

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

**ALSO PRESENT** Dr. Mark Zito, Superintendent of Schools  
Debbie Kaprove, Assistant Superintendent of Schools  
Christopher Wethje, Director of Human Resources  
Dr. Sharon Bremner, Director of Pupil Personnel  
Paul Mainuli, Director of Business Services  
Al Costa, Director of Facilities  
Joanne LeBeau, Principal, Willowbrook Early Childhood Center

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** - None

**To Remove from Table for Discussion with Possible Action Regarding the Grant Application for the Birth-to-Three Program**  
**(Dr. Sharon Bremner, Director of Pupil Personnel Services)**

**MOTION** By Bryan Hall  
Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV  
To remove from Table for discussion and possible action the Grant Application for the Birth-to-Three Program  
Motion unanimously carried.

Discussion took place regarding space factors and costs associated with the Birth-to-Three program. Superintendent Zito stated there are other agencies available to run a Birth-to-Three program, if the Board does not approve this application to move forward. He added that there are only two school districts in the state that run Birth-to-Three programs; East Hartford and Cheshire.

**MOTION** By Bryan Hall  
Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV  
To move forward with submission of grant application for the Birth-to-Three program.  
Motion carried. Nay: Tom Rup

**Discussion with possible action regarding the 2012-2013 Budget**

Superintendent Zito noted the proposed FY 2012-13 proposed budget request of \$89,604,781 reflects a current services budget. This budget results in a \$7.1 million increase over the adopted budget for FY 2011-12. The increase is attributed to a \$1.1 million increase in health benefits

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and the loss of approximately \$2.5 million in Federal Education Job Funds. These two factors amount to an increase of 4.0% over our current year budget. Special education costs have increased as well as students attending CREC magnet school, totaling an increase of \$7.1 million. The \$7.1 million increase includes budget adjustments of \$4 million in Woodland School revenues.

By Town Charter, we must submit a final approved budget to the Mayor by January 5, 2013.

**The following programs were reviewed. The Superintendent's proposed budget amounts are listed next to the program:**

**1. IDEA Regular Grant Funds (Special Education)**

All Federal AARRA funding has ended.

**2. Pupil Services**

**#226 – External Placements - \$1,851,394.00 – reflects current services for FY 2012-13 – cash book credits from Woodland School tuitions will be used to offset \$2 million of the \$3 million needed;**

**#227 – Home Instruction - \$55,029.00 – reflects current services for FY 2012-13.**

**#230 – Special Education - \$8,519,606.00 – reflects current services for FY2012-13 – cash book credits from Woodland School tuitions will be used to fund (31.0 FTE's) and support staff; transportation is a large issue;**

**# 313 – Social Work Services - \$566,597 – reflects current services for FY2012-13;**

**# 320 – Guidance/Career Education - \$1,258,106.00 – reflects current services for FY 2012-13;**

**# 330 – Health Services - \$1,095,182.00 – reflects current services for FY012-13;**

**# 340 – Psychological Services - \$1,084,985.00 – reflects current services for FY2012-13;**

**# 350 – Speech/Language Hearing - \$954,634.00 – reflects current services for FY 2012-13;**

**3. Facilities Programs** – Mr. Costa noted we do not have dollars to maintain our buildings as they should be maintained. We rely on bond referendums; all programs (#551, 552 and 800) equal 9.4% of the entire BOE general budget.

**#551 – Plant Operations - \$3,827,490.00 – reflects current services for FY 2012-13;**

**#552 – Plant Maintenance - \$3,811,014.00 – reflects current services for FY 2012-13;**

**#800 – Capital Improvements - \$220,000.00 – reflects current services for FY 2012-13;** Superintendent Zito encouraged the Board to think about asking the Town for funds for Capital Improvement projects. Mr. Hall recommended recognizing the custodial staff at a future Board meeting for their significant contribution to the district as a whole.

**#910 – Debt Service - \$709,670.00 – reflects current services for FY 2012-13;**

Mr. Costa noted there will be significant rebates from CL&P as a result of completing Phase II of the Johnson Controls energy efficiency program; He also explained our stance with Johnson Controls to new Board members, noting Phase I was very successful and Phase II is ongoing – we may be receiving approximately \$670,000 in utility rebates.

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Mr. Mainuli noted all of our buildings, except Stevens, will be using natural gas. Electricity costs have stabilized. Mr. Hall suggested looking at other companies as a utility supplier. Mr. Mainuli noted next week's budget meeting (December 6<sup>th</sup>) we will focus on Curriculum. The following schedule is in effect, unless otherwise notified:

Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup>: Public Hearing, 6:30; Regular Meeting, 7:00;

Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>: Budget workshop 6:00;

Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>: District re-configuration or also additional Budget items;

Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup>: Regular Meeting, 7:00.

**MOTION**

By Bryan Hall

Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV

To adjourn the Special Meeting (7:50 P.M.)

Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by: Donna Fitzgerald

**APPROVED BY BOARD OF EDUCATION**