

**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**TUESDAY,
JANUARY 15, 2013**

A Special Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Tuesday, January 15, 2013 at the Administration Building, 1110 Main Street, East Hartford, CT. The meeting was called to order at 6:07 P.M. by Chairman Jeffrey Currey.

PRESENT Chairman Jeffrey Currey, Secretary Bryan Hall, Marcus Oladell, IV, Marilyn Pet, Tom Rup, Dorese Roberts (arrived 6:45 P.M.), Christopher Gentile, Tyron Harris

ABSENT Stephanie Watkins

ALSO PRESENT Nathan Quesnel, Superintendent of Schools
Debbie Kaprove, Assistant Superintendent
Paul Mainuli, Director of Business Services
Christopher Wethje, Director of Human Resources
Al Costa, Director of Facilities

Benefits Coordinator

Memorandum of Agreement with Local 2727

Mr. Wethje stated effective July 1, 2013 the position of Executive Secretary for Benefits will be deleted from Schedule A of the contract and reclassified as a new Benefits Coordinator position. The new position will added to the contract as a Schedule C position. The new position reflects an expansion of job duties. It was the consensus of the Board to approve this reclassification.

Board Goals

The Board reviewed the Mission Statement of the East Hartford Public Schools. The wording of the mission statement was discussed. The Board will meet to consider alternative wording for the mission statement when Board goals are discussed for possible approval.

District Core Beliefs were reviewed. Mr. Rup suggested we condense our District Core Beliefs into more concise statement. Ms. Pet believes the document is fine as is.

Board Goals were reviewed by the Board. As part of the discussion, Superintendent Quesnel noted the district's relationship with the Community Renewal Team (CRT) will continue into the future. Our Head Start Program will remain in place. Mr. Mainuli stated that the district receives over \$1 million in Federal Head Start funding with an additional \$200,000 from the State. CRT is the grant agency for the Head Start Program. He further stated that the district is working with a new CRT management team.

Superintendent Quesnel stated we should look at all our goals and District Core Beliefs. He would like to continue this conversation with the Board. Chairman Currey stated approval of the Board goals will be placed on the agenda for the next Board meeting.

He asked that Board members direct comments/suggestions to either himself or Superintendent Quesnel prior to the next meeting.

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District Efficiency Study

It was the consensus of the Board to hold off on a reconfiguration study by Milone & MacBroom at a cost of approximately \$10,000. Mr. Mainuli was requested to gather more information on the financial aspects of the reconfiguration proposal.

Superintendent Quesnel stated we have been in preliminary discussion with the Connecticut Science Center regarding East Hartford Public Schools having a Sheff Magnet school STEM Academy and Science Center. Mr. Mainuli noted we would receive more funding as a Sheff magnet school. Superintendent Quesnel stated that we must think big and improve our schools. Discussions will continue with several possible options to consider.

Discipline Report

Superintendent Quesnel stated we need to keep kids in school. He provided statistics regarding East Hartford Public Schools expulsions from years 2006-07 to the present. He stated his goal is to work toward only mandatory expulsions. Chairman Currey asked; (1) what is the rate of attendance for Saturday detentions; (2) requests feedback on what happens when a child is sent to Synergy. Mr. Hall asked what kinds of weapons were used that lead to several expulsions. Superintendent Quesnel will get that information to Board members. Superintendent Quesnel stated we need to continue to work with parents, students and our support team regarding disciplinary issues.

CAPT Schedule

Superintendent Quesnel stated Principal Matt Ryan will give an in-depth presentation on the CAPT testing at our next Board meeting

Questions and Concerns by Board Members - None

MOTION

By Bryan Hall

Seconded by Tom Rup

To adjourn the Special Meeting of the Board (9:05 P.M.)

Motion unanimously carried.