

**REGULAR MEETING
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,
MAY 6, 2013**

A Regular Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Monday, May 6, 2013, at the Connecticut IB Academy, 857 Forbes Street, East Hartford, CT. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 P.M. by Chairman Jeffrey Currey.

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

ABSENT Stephanie Watkins

ALSO PRESENT Nathan Quesnel, Superintendent of Schools
Debbie Kaprove, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Sharon Bremner, Director of Pupil Personnel Services
Paul Mainuli, Director of Business Services
Al Costa, Director of Facilities
Christopher Wethje, Director of Human Resources
Aleysa Negron, Student Representatives

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

MOTION By Tyron Harris
Seconded by Christopher Gentile
To place on this evening's agenda a Consent Calendar, under New Business, Items 4-10.
Motion unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Bryan Hall
Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV
To approve the following Minutes: Regular Meeting of April 16, 2012 as corrected on April 23, 2013.
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Bryan Hall
Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV
To approve the following Minutes: Regular Meeting of April 1, 2013 as corrected on April 23, 2013.
Motion unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Bryan Hall
Seconded by Tyron Harris
To approve the following Minutes: Regular Meeting of April 15, 2013
Motion unanimously carried.

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MOTION By Bryan Hall
Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV
To approve the following Minutes: Special Meeting of April 17, 2013
Motion unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Bryan Hall
Seconded by Dorese Roberts
To approve the following Minutes: Special Meeting of April 22, 2013
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Tyron Harris
To approve the following Minutes: Special Meeting of April 22, 2013
Motion unanimously carried.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

- East Hartford Public Schools Registration for 2013-14 is open all year long – Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M.to 4:00 P.M., 1110 Main Street, East Hartford, CT 06108. Telephones: (860) 622-5081, 5082 or 5084.; you can also visit our web site. **Beginning July 1st, Central Registration will relocate across the street to 1137 Main Street (Goodwin College), Monday-Friday 8:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M. Beginning August 12 – September 12, Hours open to the public: Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays 9:00 A.M – 3:00 P.M., Wednesdays 9:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M. CLOSED FRIDAYS!**

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

Aleysa Negron

- 4/24 – Sophomore Class fundraiser – Buffalo Wild Wings;
- 4/24 – Senior Citizen Prom – close to 100 people were in attendance;
- 4/27 – Junior Prom at Maneely's;
- 4/29 – Spring Blood Drive in back gym;
- 4/30 – Honors/Awards Night – Auditorium
- 4/30-5/2 Senior Ball tickets on sale - \$75 per ticket;
- 5/2 – Spring Instrumental Concert;
- 5/4 – SAT testing at EHHS;
- 5/4 – Cabaret Performances – close to 100 people were in attendance;
- 5/6 – Open mike night 6-8 P.M. East Lecture Hall;
- 5/6 – 5/15 – AP exams – began today with AP Chemistry and AP Psychology

SPORTS: Tennis – Girls 4/22 beat Bulkeley 6-1; 4/25 beat Plainville 5-2;
Tennis – Boys 4/26 beat Bulkeley 7-0
Softball – 4/17 beat East Catholic 8-1; 4/22 beat Manchester 16-2; 4/26 beat Windsor 1-0; 5/3 – South Windsor 4-2
Baseball – 4/15 – Plainville 7-2; 4/26 – Windsor 13-9

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PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Human Resources/No Action Required

Chairman's Report

- Cabaret performance – impressed with the talent of our students – it was great;
- Attended the 22nd Annual Town-Wide Student Art Exhibit for Grades K-12 – it was a great success;
- Visited O'Connell School – it was for the gallery walk through for first graders presenting their summative assessments for IB Unit 5 – very impressive;
- Re: Memorial Day Parade – Board members, please let Donna Sahlberg know if you are planning to take part in the activities;
- May 22nd - Kickoff meeting for the Town's Plan of Conservation and Development;
- CT Shirtman has relocated to 70 Tolland Street;
- Congratulations to East Hartford High School's Paraprofessional of the Year for 2014 Anne Marie Wickersham. Mrs. Wickersham will represent East Hartford at the State Paraprofessional of the Year Program. The East Hartford Board of Education will formally recognize all building Paraprofessionals of the Year at the November 4, 2013 Board of Education meeting.

Superintendent's Report

- Thank you to Sam Goh for singing the National Anthem – terrific job;
- Congratulations to Anne Marie Wickersham, East Hartford High School's Paraprofessional of the Year for 2014.
- **Vision /Mission Planning** – We are currently in the process of drafting a revised district vision and mission that aligns with our core beliefs. We are also revamping our District Improvement Plan and developing a Strategic Plan that will lead us into 2015. I have shared the drafts with cabinet team members, district planning committee, teachers, parents and students. I plan to share our work with the Board of Education members in the next workshop session and hope to obtain approval prior to the summer recess.
- **Time Collaborative Update** – We have received data back from the survey we sent to parents. Approximately 184 families responded. Also, we have been notified by the National Center on Time and Learning that they have reached a decision. We have scheduled a meeting with them to review their feedback. We anticipate a positive approval process and will send a draft to parents with any feedback we receive. We will then submit a completed draft schedule to the Board for approval.
- **Security Task Force Update** – We have completed our Task Force meetings and are drafting a presentation regarding recommendations and commendations to the Board and the Town Council. Thank you to Chief Sirois, Chief Oates, Dan Dube, Board of Education member Chris Gentile and all our district personnel who participated in this process. Thank you also to Al Costa, Mike Moan and building principals.
- **Quality Review Project** – We have completed the self-assessment and visit portion of the Quality Review at Silver Lane, Norris, O'Brien and Mayberry schools. The feedback received has been very positive.

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- Thank you to all the principals of these schools for their openness, leadership and commitment to task in these projects.
- **District Alliance Audit** – We will be meeting tomorrow with representatives from the SDE to review the district Alliance first year plan. We will focus on strategy and goals, human capital, operations and culture and climate.
- **Work Ahead** – Alliance Planning Round II; Strategic Planning EH15 – Vision Work; Beginning of Summer work process: Hockanum, O’Connell/Barnes schools and Pitkin Parking lot; Synergy Redesign Work.

Invention Convention

The following students presented their inventions to the Board at the Invention Convention:

Sam Goh –RADIATION RESTORER
Grade 6 – Sunset Ridge
Nicholas Ganesh – LIGHTA SLIPPERS
Grade 4 – Mayberry
Sana Chaudhry – SIP ‘N CRUNCH
Grade 5 – Pitkin
Nathaniel Ringrose – SNOW FREE COAT
Grade 5 – Pitkin
Juliana Alfonso – MATHMA
Grade 6 – Sunset Ridge
Jaime Sullivan – PET COMFORTER
Grade 6 – Sunset Ridge

Chairman Currey thanked Mrs. Kiely, all principals and the students that presented this evening. It was great to see the enthusiasm of all presenters. The accomplishments were very educational.

Wellness & Student Nutrition

Joseph LeRoy, K-12 Supervisor of Health & PE

Shari Staeb, General Manager, Sodexo Education Services

A presentation was given to the Board on the school nutrition, physical activity and wellness in the East Hartford Public Schools.

The PTO Treasurer noted she would like to have us keep certain items on the menu; i.e., sports drinks, hot chocolate, etc. Ms. Staeb stated she will help the PTO’s as new products become available for “healthy foods”.

It was noted that at the end of the athletic season that PTO’s suffered a significant loss (60%) due to a lack of certain items available to the public and increase in products available. Funds are to support Project Graduation.

Superintendent Quesnel stated the Healthy Foods initiative has been challenging for PTO’s. He noted we will continue with the healthy foods certification with exceptions for after school activities. Further discussion will take place this evening later in the agenda.

IGNITE – Mayberry Elementary School
Jenny Correa, Kim Munz, Kristin Tingey

The presentation given focused on improving school climate. Some of the positives going on at Mayberry School include: recognizing students of the month – results show increase in positive behavior; having a breakfast prior to the CMTs and many other accomplishments by staff and students. Superintendent Quesnel stated he loves to visit Mayberry. He stated under the leadership of Jenny Correa you can feel the enthusiasm throughout the school.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

Food Service Management Contract Renewal with Sodexo Management, Inc.

MOTION

By Bryan Hall

Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV

To approve the Food Service contract renewal with Sodexo Management, Inc. commencing July 1, 2013 and continuing until June 30, 2014. This agreement is subject to renewal for one additional term upon mutual agreement of both parties.

Motion unanimously carried.

Superintendent Quesnel stated nine East Hartford Public Schools have been awarded the USDA’s Healthier U.S. School Challenge Bronze Award. As part of the award, the district will receive a banner, plaque and \$500 for each school for the school’s food service account.

Approve State of Connecticut Healthy Food Certification for FY 2013-14 Under Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes

MOTION

By Bryan Hall

Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV

The East Hartford Board of Education is authorized to “exclude from such Certification” the sale to students of **food** items as identified in Section 10-215f and Section 10-221q and detailed in Section 3(b) – Exemption Statement; provided (1) such sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of a regular school day or on a weekend; (2) such sale is at a location of the event, and (3) such food is not sold from a vending machine or school store.

And be it further resolved, the East Hartford Board of Education will allow the sale to students of **beverages** not listed in the state statute provided that the following conditions are met: (1) The sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; (2) the sale is at the location of the event; and (3) the beverages are not sold from a vending machine or school store.

Motions carried, as amended. **Nay:** Tyron Harris

Chairman Currey thanked Shari Staeb, General Manager, Sodexo and the PTO representation for sharing the open dialogue that took place.

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State Head Start Grant

MOTION

By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV
To approve the State Department of Education Head Start Grant Application for 2013-2014.
Motion unanimously carried.

This is the application for the two year State Head Start Grant Funds for 2.5 classrooms at Willowbrook School and language enrichment for all classes.

MOTION

By Bryan Hall
Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV
To approve the following placed on this evening's Consent Calendar:

Referral to Curriculum Committee, Advanced Placement Environmental Science Course Textbook – Essential Environment

Referral to Policy & Audit, Policy 2131 – Superintendent of Schools

Table Policy 3524.3 Hazardous Material in Schools, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for Ornamental Turf Surfaces – No Pesticides

Referral to Policy & Audit, Policy 4117.4 – Administrative Leave/Suspension/Dismissal

Referral to Policy & Audit, Policy 5113 – Attendance and Excuses

Referral to Policy & Audit, Policy 5113.2 – Truancy

Referral to Policy & Audit, Policy 5145.14 – On Campus Recruitment

Motion unanimously carried.

Employee Sick Bank – Certified Staff

MOTION

By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Marcus Oladell, IV
To approve donation of sick days to certified employee whose sick time was depleted.
Motion unanimously carried.

Three Resignations

MOTION

By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Tyron Harris
To approve (3) **Resignations:**

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1. Alicia V. Cuentas, Bilingual Tutor, effective 4/22/13;
 2. JaimeLynn K. Drake, Physical Therapist, effective 5/19/13;
 3. Antonia Hutchinson, Paraprofessional, effective 4/24/13
- Motion unanimously carried.

Board Member Representative Reports

Dorese Roberts – (1) attended the Willowbrook School Policy Committee with Superintendent Quesnel; (2) Kindergarten transition meeting was held at the Cultural Center on April 3rd. Forty-three parents (24 were Willowbrook parents) enjoyed a light dinner followed by a parent informational meeting. Superintendent Quesnel welcomed parents at The Cultural Center on April 3rd and introduced the following speakers: Lisa Beauchamp, Principal, Hockanum School, Christine Covell, Kindergarten teacher, and staff from Central Registration. Maria Guzman, a Family Service Provider from Willowbrook provided translation services. Daycare was provided to the families in attendance; (3) 5/23 – a multi-cultural program will take place at Willowbrook School.

Marcus Oladell, IV – attended EHMS for the All-Town Band Festival – it was enjoyed by many families. Thanks to the staff.

Chris Gentile – attended the last meeting of the Security Task Force. Many great things are happening. The Committee has worked very hard to ensure our buildings students, and staff are safe.

Marilyn Pet – re: (1) ChildPlan Goal Line Program came to an end. After interacting with the athletes during the school year, both men's and women's groups ended the program with a trip to UConn to watch a game and experience the UConn campus; (2) The Parent Academy had its graduation at Silvas. Two groups, the fathers group and PEP (People Empowering People) group received diplomas for completing the program.

Public Participation - None

Questions and Concerns by Board Members

Topics for Future Agendas -None

MOTION

By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Christopher Gentile
To adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board (9:00 P.M.)
Motion unanimously carried.