

**REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,
APRIL 21, 2014**

A Regular Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Monday, April 21, 2014, at the Connecticut IB Academy, 857 Forbes Street, East Hartford, CT. The meeting was called to order at 7:20 PM by Chairman Jeffrey Currey.

PRESENT Chairman Jeffrey Currey, Tyron Harris, Marilyn Pet, Dorese Roberts, Valerie Scheer, Stephanie Watkins, Christopher Gentile

ABSENT Bryan Hall Secretary, Tom Rup

ALSO PRESENT Nathan Quesnel, Superintendent of Schools
Debbie Kaprove, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Curriculum
Anne Marie Mancini, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Curriculum
Dr. Sharon Bremner, Director of Pupil Personnel Services
Al Costa, Director of Facilities
Christopher Wethje, Director of Human Resources
Paul Mainuli, Director of Business Services

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Christopher Gentile
Under New Business, place Items 8-20 Referral to Policy & Audit Committee on Consent Calendar
Motion unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Meeting of April 8, 2014 (5:00 PM), as corrected:
First Motion – correct spelling of **Valerie B. Scheer**
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Tyron Harris
Seconded by Christopher Gentile
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Meeting of April 8, 2014 (5:30 PM)
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Marilyn Pet
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Meeting of April 8, 2014 (6:00 PM)
Motion unanimously carried.

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MOTION By Tyron Harris
Seconded by Dorese Roberts
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Meeting of April 10, 2014 (7:00 PM)
Motion unanimously carried.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD - None

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT - None
Alyssa Crooks and Brian Calero, Student Representatives

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS
Human Resources/No Action Required

Chairman's Report – Jeffrey Currey

- 4/29/14, 6:00-8:00 PM 23rd Annual Town-Wide Student Art Show at the East Hartford Cultural Center, 50 Chapman Place, featuring artwork of students in the K-12 program – other show hours: Wednesday, 4/30/14, 9-4 PM; Thursday, 5/1/14, 6-8 PM; Friday, 5/2/14, 9-4 PM; Saturday 5/3/14, noon-4 PM;
- Hope everyone had a pleasant holiday and a restful time with family and friends during April vacation – it's good to be back.

Superintendent's Report – Nathan Quesnel

- Update is significantly abbreviated, as our last BoE meeting (4/10/14) was the day prior to April vacation;

Educational Programs: Teaching and Learning:

Expect Student Achievement: Commissioner's Network Meeting(s): Commissioner's Network:

We are in the final phases of the Commissioner's Network with the PSA team. We have completed the plan as a committee and submitted a budget. I am extremely proud of the work accomplished by the committee and our principal. The PSA team plan adds over \$450,000 of resources and staffing to O'Brien School. In addition, nearly \$500,000 of bond monies are slated to be used for facility improvements, including bathroom upgrades, hallway improvements and the potential to add a portable trailer. The plan also adds an additional Social Worker, ELL teacher, Special Ed Teacher and Parent Liaison Specialist to the school, among other items. The Plan was presented by the union to staff at the school last week and staff was given the vacation week to process and review. Today, staff met again regarding final concerns. I hope to have a signed agreement from the PSA committee tomorrow. I will be meeting with the entire faculty tomorrow afternoon and sharing my appreciation of the efforts of both the PSA team and the entire staff to bring this plan forward. Our current plan is to present this to you on Wednesday night, April 23rd. Thank you again to staff.

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Next Steps:

- Legislative session is closing May 7th;
- Budget adoption in early May;
- Alliance Plan drafting and review session (current);
- EHHS Graduation June 16th;
- Synergy/CIBA Graduation (pending BOE approval)

School Business Partnership (SBP)

Penny Brice, Community Coordinator, School/Business Partnership

Ms. Brice noted the mission of the School/Business Partnerships, Inc. is to unite schools, businesses, organizations and families with the community to support education, build trust, provide opportunities/resources and create an environment in which all can learn and grow. Presently, we share our school district goals and objectives. Our **mission** is to deliver a high quality learning experience for every child, every day. Our **vision** is schools are the pride of our community. The School/Business Partnerships, Inc. has its own Board of Directors and also the Academy of Finance Advisory Board.

School Business Partnerships have contributed \$32,695 in 2012-2013. Two major partnerships are Pratt & Whitney and United Technologies Research Center, who totally have contributed \$25,000. The Academy of Finance income received in 2012-2013 was \$16,450. We do grant writing on behalf of SBP and AOF. SBP fundraises to pay accounting fees – approximately \$1,075 per fiscal year.

We have many new initiatives, i.e., Coca Cola & Synergy – Above & Beyond/O’Brien – STEM; Roma’s & Synergy, United Technologies Corporation and Goodwin College. Many of their employees serve as mentors and guest speakers in the classrooms. Since 1987 Pratt & Whitney and McDonalds have been our partners.

For over 20 years, SBP has awarded mini-grants to a select group of applicants. Each year teachers and administrators receive funding for programs that are not covered under the current BoE budget. This year a total of \$14,970 was awarded to 17 proposals. Total amount budgeted for grants are \$15,000; Mini-grants range from \$500 - \$2,000.

The East Hartford Rotary Club supports Career day at EHMS (this year Tuesday, June 3rd). The goal of the program is to get students to begin thinking about viable career options. We collaborate and network with many organizations, i.e., Chamber of Commerce, CT Mentoring Partnership, School Readiness and ChildPlan – Quarterly Member.

EHPS Website

Paul Mainuli, Director of Finance

Guy Collins, IT Supervisor

Both Mr. Mainuli and Mr. Collins gave a presentation of the EHPS new Website. We are trying to share with students and families to be well informed with what IT is offering on our Website. In particular, there are two new exciting features: (1) **eNotify** – allows parents, teachers and

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community members to subscribe to various district lists to receive important and relevant e-mail notifications and/or text messages; (2) **Twitter** – we do use this technology to showcase some of the exceptional things that are happening in our schools. Please join us. Superintendent Quesnel commended Paul Mainuli, Guy Collins and Cheryl Looke for their contribution in developing our new Website. Chairman Currey echoed those accolades. He also asked that telephone numbers be included for Board members.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

Retirement

MOTION

By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Tyron Harris
To approve (1) One **Retirement:**
1. Rosemary Hanko, Nurse, effective 6/30/14
Motion unanimously carried.

Non-Renewal of Non-Tenured Teachers

MOTION

By Christopher Gentile
Seconded by Tyron Harris
The following teachers are recommended for non-renewal in light of possible budgetary reductions:

FIRST	LAST	DOH	POSITION	FTE	LOCATION
MICHAEL A	PICARD	03/03/14	GRADE 2	1.0	LANGFORD
STEPHANIE	REALE	01/21/14	GRADE 2	1.0	MAYBERRY
CAROL	FELLENSTEIN	01/02/14	GRADE 5	1.0	O'CONNELL
KELLEY L	HUNTER-MORALES	09/24/13	GRADE 2	1.0	LANGFORD
KATIE L.	MANFRE	08/26/13	KINDERGARTEN	1.0	GOODWIN
LINDSEY M.	FIGUEROA	08/26/13	GRADE 4	1.0	SUNSET RIDGE
VICTORIA M	MILLER	08/23/13	GRADE 1	1.0	MAYBERRY
KARA A	LEVENDUSKI	08/23/13	LITERACY COACH	1.0	O'BRIEN
JENNIFER	SIERRA	08/23/13	GRADE 5	1.0	SILVER LANE
AUDREY J	ARESCO	08/23/13	GRADE 5	1.0	O'CONNELL
KARA A	COLON	08/23/13	GRADE 6	1.0	O'CONNELL
STEPHANIE A	GORMAN	08/23/13	GRADE 5	1.0	O'CONNELL
DENYEL J	PARENT	08/23/13	GRADE 3	1.0	O'CONNELL
REBECCA L	BROOKS	08/23/13	KINDERGARTEN	1.0	NORRIS
HOLLY E	de MELO	08/23/13	LITERACY COACH	1.0	WOODLAND
PATRICIA A	REID	08/23/13	GRADE 2	1.0	O'BRIEN
THOMAS J	DONATO	08/23/13	MATH COACH	1.0	LANGFORD
KEUMOK	HEO	10/17/13	MUSIC	0.1	O'BRIEN

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KRISTEN Z	MINER	09/11/13	MUSIC	1.0	HOCK/O'BRIEN
DANA M	SACCOMANO	08/23/13	MUSIC	1.0	O'CONNELL/NOR
ROBIN M	RUSSOTTO	08/27/12	MUSIC	1.0	NORRIS
KAELY R.	ADAMS	01/03/12	MUSIC/STRINGS	1.0	SUNSET RIDGE
ALYSSA M	HOVANEK	12/12/11	MUSIC	1.0	WOODLAND
PATRICIA A	O'SULLIVAN	08/25/11	MUSIC	1.0	EHMS
JULIE O.	SPAGNESI	08/26/10	MUSIC BAND	1.0	EHHS
ALISON L	PILON	11/12/13	ART	1.0	EHHS
CELESTE M	SHELLEY	09/25/13	ART	1.0	EHMS
DAVID J.	BROWNELL	08/26/10	ART	1.0	SYNERGY
STEPHANIE P.	PELLEGRINO	08/26/10	ART	1.0	EHMS
MORGAN E	OUELLETTE	10/24/11	HEALTH & PE	0.8	EHHS
MATTHEW J	MARTUCCI	08/25/11	HEALTH & PE	1.0	EHHS
MARCIE L.	BLACK	08/26/10	HEALTH & PE	1.0	EHHS
JOSEPH M	PEARCE	08/26/10	HEALTH & PE	1.0	NORRIS
JACKELINE P	THOMPSON	08/27/12	SPANISH	1.0	O'CONNELL IB
LISA J.	MERRILL	08/26/10	FRENCH	1.0	EHHS
GILLIAN G.	RONDINONE	08/26/10	TECH ED	1.0	EHMS
THOMAS E.	STEGNER	08/26/10	TECH ED	1.0	EHMS
CLARISSA T	DOZIER	12/11/13	HEAD START	0.7	WILLOWBROOK
MEREDITH T	KRAUSS	08/23/13	LA INTERVENTION	1.0	EHMS

Motion unanimously carried.

Chairman Currey stated we appreciate what our State Representatives are trying to do for us. Mr. Wethje has been trying to help those teachers that might be affected by non-renewal by contacting other districts to possibly get them positions, if needed.

Graduation Dates for Synergy and CIBA

MOTION

By Tyron Harris

Seconded by Chris Gentile

To approve graduation dates for Stevens Alternative High School (Synergy) and the Connecticut IB Academy (CIBA) – both schools will be held on Friday, June 13, 2014 at East Hartford Middle School. Synergy's graduation will be held at 5:00 PM and CIBA's graduation will be held at 7:00 PM in the auditorium.

Motion unanimously carried.

Overnight Field Trip to UConn, Storrs, CT

MOTION By Tyron Harris
Seconded by Christopher Gentile
To approve request for overnight travel to UConn – Storrs, CT for 20
EHHS students To attend the Coexist program at UConn Dodd Center in
Storrs, CT on June 23-24, 2014. The program will help students improve
and strengthen leadership skills.
Motion unanimously carried.

Ms. Michelle Marion, Assistant Principal, was present to field any questions the Board might have. She noted the Alliance Grant is funding this trip.

Math Textbook Adoption

MOTION By Tyron Harris
Seconded by Christopher Gentile
To approve envision Math Program, Revised Curriculum Document and
adopt enVision as the Elementary Math Textbook.
Motion unanimously carried.

Melisa Howey and Marcia Huddy were present to address any questions from the BoE.

School Meal Prices

MOTION By Christopher Gentile
Seconded by Tyron Harris.
To approve USDA required price increases for school meals program.
Motion unanimously carried.

In order to be in compliance with the USDA requirements, we must raise our school weighted average price requirement by .10 cents from \$2.47 to \$2.57 for all paid meals for Elementary and middle school prices. Prices at the high school will increase by .05 cents, hoping this will maintain participation. Free and reduced student prices will remain the same.

Refer Capital Improvement Plan to the Facilities Committee

MOTION By Christopher Gentile
Seconded by Tyron Harris
To refer the Capital Improvement Plan to the Facilities Committee.
Motion unanimously carried.

Refer the following policies to the Policy & Audit Committee for Adoption, Rejection, or Revision

MOTION By Tyron Harris
Seconded by Dorese Roberts
To accept placing the following referrals on the Consent Calendar and
forward the following policies to the Policy & Audit Committee for

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Adoption,
Rejection or Revision:

- 2137 – (Athletic Director)
- 3121 – (Approval of the Budget/Delivery to Fiscal Authority)
- 3130 – (Delivery to Fiscal Authority)
- 3160 – (Board Budget Procedures and Line Item Transfers)
- 4115.3 (Athletic Coaches)
- 4131 – (Staff Development)
- 5111 - (Admission/Placement)
- 5112 – (Ages of Attendance)
- 5118 – (Non-Resident Attendance)
- 6142.10 (Health Education Program)
- 6142.61 (Physical Activity)
- 6146.2 (Statewide Proficiency/Mastery Examinations)
- 6163.31 (Dissection of Animals)

Motion unanimously carried.

Board Member Representative Reports

Marilyn Pet – re: volunteered at O’Brien School today – students and staff were planting flowers and checking on vegetables that were planted. Thank you to the East Hartford Garden Club;

Valerie Scheer - visited Pitkin School – was very impressed with the staff and accomplishments of the students;

Chairman Currey - dropped by Sunset Ridge on Saturday and spoke with parents. He brought them up to date as to what is happening regarding the possible closing of Sunset Ridge school. We will continue to keep all parents informed.

Questions and Concerns by Board Members

Marilyn Pet- Synergy is having a 40 year celebration – date to follow.

Dorese Roberts – re: a concern expressed by a parent re: athletics – she will refer the parent to the Director of Athletics or the Superintendent.

Topics for Future Agendas - None

MOTION

By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board (8:45 PM)
Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by: Donna Fitzgerald