

**SPECIAL MEETING  
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**TUESDAY,  
JUNE 17, 2014**

A Special Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Tuesday, June 17, 2014, at the Connecticut IB Academy, 857 Forbes Street, East Hartford, CT. The meeting was called to order at 7:12 PM by Chairman Jeffrey Currey.

**PRESENT** Chairman Jeffrey Currey, Tom Rup, Marilyn Pet, Dorese Roberts, Valerie Scheer, Tyron Harris

**ABSENT** Secretary Bryan Hall, Christopher Gentile, Stephanie Watkins

**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  
Christopher Wethje, Director of Human Resources  
Paul Mainuli, Director of Business Services  
Al Costa, Director of Facilities

**Presentation of Academic High School Diploma to Vietnam Veteran – David Russell Booth**

The East Hartford Adult Education is proud to award our first Vietnam Veteran Honorary Diploma to David R. Booth. This occurred under a state law (SB 386) that allows local school boards to award high school diplomas to Vietnam era veterans who left high school to join the military before graduating. Mr. Booth enlisted in the US Army on January 15, 1974. After completing military service, Mr. Booth returned to East Hartford and pursued a career in the construction industry. He currently lives in Windsor Locks, is self-employed in the transportation business and has one daughter, Emily, age 14.

Many of these young people were not able to continue their education upon returning home. Despite educational constraints, these veterans re-entered society and made significant contributions to our country through hard work as civilians. They have earned our esteem and gratitude and our acknowledgement that without their sacrifices, our lives would not be the same as they are today.

**AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA** - None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION** By Dorese Roberts  
Seconded by Tyron Harris  
To approve the following Minutes:  
Special Meeting of June 2, 2014  
Motion unanimously carried.

**MOTION** By Dorese Roberts  
Seconded by Tyron Harris  
To approve the following Minutes:  
Regular Meeting of June 2, 2014  
Motion unanimously carried.

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**MOTION** By Dorese Roberts  
Seconded by Tyron Harris  
To approve the following Minutes:  
Special Meeting of June 10, 2014  
Motion unanimously carried.

**WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD**

- Central Registration is open all year long, 734 Tolland Street, East Hartford.
  - Registration deadline is August 1, 2014
- Beginning August 11, 2014- September 11, 2014, hours will be Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00 A.M – 3:00 PM Wednesdays 9:00 A.M. – 5:00 PM CLOSED FRIDAYS. For additional information call (860) 622-5080.
- EHMS School Based Health Center will be OPEN this summer – we will be extending our services this summer to offer them to all East Hartford students. Location will be in the first floor school nurses office, directly across from the Community Resource Center. Hours: June 30-August 22 8:30 A.M. – 2:30 PM

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT** – None

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** - None

**INFORMATIONAL REPORTS**

**Presentation of American Flag Day Essay Contest Winners:**

Melodie Wilson, Peg Byrnes and Gene Pushefski were present from the Patriotic Commission to hear the following contest winner students present their essays. Each student received a gift from the Patriotic Commission:

Chelsea Adutumwah-Korsah, Langford School  
Jamiliah Eubanks, Mayberry School  
Danitza Grados-Salas, Sunset Ridge  
Antony Conreras, EHMS

**Human Resources/No Action Required** - None

**Chairman's Report – Jeffrey Currey**

- Congratulations to O'Connell School – received word today that O'Connell School has received official notification that they are an authorized IB school. Thanks to Principal Fox and the entire staff;
- Congratulations to students who graduated from Woodland, CIBA and EHHS – thank you to the Board members for attending.
- Re: pool issue – The Town Council will be taking up a resolution for the BoE and the town regarding keeping pools open. We will be able to continue with the pool at EHMS (shared services);
- Summer vacation is here – students please be safe – continue to read – get some fresh air, we will see you on August 27<sup>th</sup>;

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- Tonight is the final Board meeting for Debbie Kaprove – she has been with us since 2004. We will miss her. The Board honored her with a plaque. Board members and Superintendent Quesnel spoke of her many accomplishments.

**Superintendent's Report – Nathan Quesnel**

**Educational Programs: Teaching and Learning:**

- **Expect Student Achievement: Graduation Week:** We celebrated graduations of Adult Ed., Synergy, CIBA and EHHS over the past two weeks. This was truly a celebration of what East Hartford is all about. I am proud of our students, teachers, parents and BoE for the work that goes into a successful school year. Enjoy the summer and be safe;
- **Stats to Consider from EHHS Graduating Class:** 82% will attend either a 2 or 4 year college; 6% will join military; 8% will attend a technical/trade school and 3% will joining the work force;
- **O'Connell School** received word today that it has received official notification that they are an authorized IB School. Congratulations to staff, Mr. Fox and Catlin, as well as students on this extraordinary accomplishment.

**Good News Report:**

- **EHHS Track and Field** congratulations for the accomplishments this season 2014 CCC North runner up, Journal Inquirer runner up, 2014 Class LL State Champions and 2014 State open champions;
- The following athletes were recognized for their outstanding achievements in track and field: **Demarc Burell, Enyce Walker, Kurt Lundrin, and Fitzroy Miller and Dana Bramble.** Superintendent Quesnel stated he is very proud of all that our students do.

**Next Steps:**

- **Summer Work/Summer Planning :**
- Please register your child early – get a certificate of residency,
- Have a safe summer.
- First Day of School is August 27, 2014.

**Annual Report**

**Superintendent Nathan Quesnel**

Superintendent Quesnel gave a PowerPoint presentation on the State of the Schools: Annual Report. He applauded the Board for all that they have done as well as making him accountable. Superintendent Quesnel noted the purpose of the Annual Report is to showcase key district accomplishments and core work completed for school year 2013-2014. He referred to the District Improvement Plan which is aligned to the six district core beliefs. He stated he is very proud of the accomplishments achieved this past year, but also noted we have more work to do.

Going forward, he noted the following projects for 2014-15:

- **Sunset Ridge Redesign Work:**
- Development of 6-8 Middle Years IB Programme
- Potential partnership with RESCO office (tuition potential)

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- **Pre-K Programming:**
- Move towards becoming the grantee for the Head Start Grant (financial and operational incentive for EHPS);
- Relocation of Head Start Program at Willowbrook School;
- **Commissioner's Network Plan:**
- Implement Commissioner's Network Plan at O'Brien School;
- Facility upgrades
- **District K-3 Literacy Project:**
- Continue district efforts to align and improve district literacy programs for K-3 with resources made available through Alliance funding;
- **Budget Process:**
- Review and redesign of the budget process to focus on parent engagement and cooperation with town and policy leaders;
- **Facility Improvements:**
- EHMS Window Wall Project
- Referral to referendum: Langford Roof, Woodland Parking & EHMS air- conditioning.

**OLD BUSINESS** - None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Resignations**

**MOTION**

By Dorese Roberts

Seconded by Tyron Harris

To approve the following (5) **Resignations**

**1. Faye Tine, Teacher, effective 6/30/14**

**2. Edith Lacey, Teacher, effective 6/30/14**

**3. Jeanne McCarroll, Interim Principal, effective 6/30/14**

**4. Crystal L. Hernandez, Priority Tutor, effective 6/13/14**

**5. Maurice S. Lloyd, Tutor, effective 6/16/14**

Motion unanimously carried.

Chairman Currey thanked Jeanne McCarroll, Interim Principal at Willowbrook School. He also noted Melinda Grunert will be the Principal at Willowbrook School.

**PMHP/Friend to Friend**

**Mary Beth Kuzoian, Program Coordinator, Primary Mental Health Grant**

**MOTION**

By Marilyn Pet

Seconded by Tyron Harris

To approve the Primary Mental Health grant for selected children

At Hockanum and Silver Lane Schools in grades K, 1 and 2.

Motion unanimously carried.

The program has been running in East Hartford since July 1, 1996. The Board contributes \$5,000 toward this program for Hockanum and Silver Lane Schools.

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**Approval to Name the Student Assistance Center (SAC) after Ken Gwozdz**

**MOTION** By Dorese Roberts  
Seconded by Tyron Harris  
To approve naming the SAC after Ken Gwozdz  
Motion unanimously carried.

Superintendent Quesnel recognized Mrs. Gwozdz. He noted in the fall we will be sending out invitations to a dedication ceremony in honor of Mr. Gwozdz. Further, Superintendent Quesnel stated Mr. Gwozdz was founder of the SAC and touched the lives of many students and staff.

**Year End Transfer of General Budget Funds**

**MOTION** By Dorese Roberts  
Seconded by Tyron Harris  
To approve year end transfer of general budget funds and place within the Town's Reserve Fund in accordance with Section 10-34 Town Code Ordinance. The Town Council must approve the use of these funds for building improvements.  
Motion unanimously carried.

There is no impact on the general budget. Funding will come from the accumulation of year end balances from all general budget accounts. Chairman Currey stated he does not want anyone thinking the Board has additional funds.

**Board Member Representative Reports**

- **Tom Rup** – re: many accolades to Superintendent Quesnel for his Annual Report.
- **Superintendent Quesnel** – (1) may consider delivering the Annual Report to the Town Council; (2) we are working on a voluntary report for parents; (3) 8/25 – District Convocation will be held;
- **Marilyn Pet** - attended many graduations, they were all exceptional;
- **Valerie Scheer** – also attended many graduations, found them very exciting.

**Questions and Concerns by Board Members** - None

**Topics for Future Agendas** None

**MOTION** By Valerie Scheer  
Seconded by Tyron Harris  
To adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board (9:15 PM)  
Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by: Donna Fitzgerald