

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

**WEDNESDAY,  
DECEMBER 18, 2013**

A Special Budget Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Wednesday, December 18, 2013 at the Board of Education Administrative Offices, 1110 Main Street, East Hartford, CT. The meeting was called to order at 6:20 PM by Chairman Jeffrey Currey.

**PRESENT** Chairman Jeffrey Currey, Secretary Bryan Hall, Dorese Roberts, Marilyn Pet, Stephanie Watkins, Tom Rup, Valerie Scheer

**ABSENT** Christopher Gentile, Tyron Harris

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

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – None

**Business Needing Board Action**

**Special Meeting for budgetary purposes with possible action on the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015.**

Chairman Currey welcomed the Board to the final night of the budget process. Superintendent Quesnel stated that the proposed budget reductions, if approved by the Board, will result in a 3.7% increase over last year's budget. This is a reduction of 2.0% from the Superintendent's proposed budget of 5.7%. Superintendent Quesnel noted the main budget drivers are mandated increases in special education, contractual salaries and employee health benefits.

Mr. Mainuli noted that to achieve a 2.0% reduction in the proposed budget, the administration looked at alternate funding sources; i.e., State and Federal grants and district revenue streams. A State grant for over \$300,000 will be used for technology improvements including the expansion of wireless connectivity throughout the district and to purchase iPads and other equipment for students in the classrooms. The technology grant resulted in reductions in the Information Systems Program. The State Alliance Grant will be used for salaries and instructional resources related to school reform and the implementation of the Common Core State Standards. Other proposed budget reductions include the elimination of dues, PE/Health Program textbooks, the transfer of a behavior manager position to grant funds and using Medicaid revenues to offset legal and contractual services expenses for Pupil Services.

Mr. Mainuli also reported that the district preserved everything that we could that is currently in the district: (1) preservation of programs and personnel; (2) continue to adopt materials for Common Core; (3) continue to invest in our aging structures.

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The Board's Proposed Budget for FY 2014-15 will go to the Mayor and then presented to the Town Council on February 26, 2013.

Superintendent Quesnel stated we will continue to focus on our kids – results do matter. We must continue to provide the necessary resources for them.

Board members gave accolades to the Administration for their fine work in preparing this budget. Chairman Currey stated we are moving forward with our vision and thanked the administration.

**To Discuss and Approve the Board's Proposed Budget for FY 2014-15.**

**MOTION** By Bryan Hall  
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins  
To approve a proposed annual budget for East Hartford Public Schools for FY 2014-15 of **\$90,513,280**. This represents a **3.7% increase** over the current year school budget.  
Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by: Donna Fitzgerald