

**REGULAR MEETING
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,
FEBRUARY 13, 2017**

A Regular Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Monday, February 13, 2017, in the Lecture Hall of the Connecticut IB Academy, 857 Forbes Street, East Hartford, CT. The meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM by Chairman Bryan R. Hall.

PRESENT Chairman Bryan R. Hall, Stephanie Watkins, Dorese Roberts, Tom Rup, Marilyn Pet, Harry Amadasun, Jr., Shelby Brown (arrived 7:04), Valerie Scheer

ABSENT Secretary Tyron V. Harris

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

AMENDMENT TO AGENDA – Yes, Create a Consent Calendar for items 1-8, and items 10-25 Under New Business. Item 9 will be pulled out for a separate motion.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Tom Rup
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Board of Education Meeting, January 30, 2017 at 6:00 PM
Motion unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve the following Minutes:
Regular Board of Education Meeting, January 30, 2017 at 7:00 PM
Motion unanimously carried.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION – None

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS –

Jessica Moise, Bridget Nortey

- January 25-26th: Many students from EHMS and Sunset Ridge came to the high school to experience life as a high schooler.
- February 7th: Chinese New Year Celebration had a great turnout.
- February 14th: Band, Jazz Band, and Wind-ensemble Winter Concert.
- February 24th: The Spanish language department is having a Mardi Gras theme dance.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Human Resources/No Action Required

Chairman's Report – Bryan R. Hall

Good evening to my fellow Board Members and our viewing public. At the start of our last Board meeting, I made a comment about having only had one snow day so far...it appears I spoke too soon. Let's hope with this last burst of incredible snow, winter can be behind us!

As the Superintendent and I prepared the agenda tonight, I am especially excited to see the informational report regarding our Mid-Year progress. As I have taken the time to review the documents for tonight's meeting, this feeling of excitement continued as we continue to take steps towards the results we have prioritized as a board, as a system and as a community. In East Hartford, we have developed a culture of transparency where we boldly "put our numbers on the wall," and make significant commitments toward focusing on outcomes. We have not shied away from problems, we have never made excuses and we have always believed that expectations and effort were sure ingredients for results.

Tonight is just another step in that journey. When we review the data regarding student achievement in literacy and math, we see steady progress both within the year and remarkably over the past 4 years. When we consider drastic reductions to In School and Out of School Suspensions, we understand the hard work our school leaders and educators are doing to continue to engage our kids. When we look at the effort and work around chronic absenteeism and the over 95% daily attendance rate, we know that these are all signs of things to come.

Thanks in advance to each of you for being Board members who have been willing to make big commitments even when it might not have seemed possible. Thanks for being a Board member who has understood our role, supported our administrators and refused to let anything come in the way of doing what is best for our kids together. I know that we have a long way to go and this is by no means a victory celebration but in my faith, we "never despise the day of small beginnings." Let's keep working hard and chasing big results together!
Time to get to work!

Superintendent's Report – Nathan Quesnel

Superintendent's Message:

A snow filled couple of weeks since our last meeting—hoping winter will wear itself out!

- Second Half Attendance Campaign:
- Silver Lane 1003a Grant:
- Working Cities Update:
- SBHC Update:

Dates Ahead:

- 03/06/17: Next BoE Meeting
- 02/17/17: Half Day for Students—Staff Professional Development
- 02/20/17: No School Washington's Birthday

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- 02/21/17: No School for Students— Staff Professional Development
- 6/15/17: Last Day of School
- School Year 2016-2017—ALL IN
-

Mid-Year Progress Report –

Assistant Superintendent Anne Marie Mancini, Assistant Superintendent Cynthia Ritchie, and Dr. Sarah Brzozowy

Assistant Superintendent Ritchie stated the purpose of our Mid-Year Report is to Refocus, Reflect, and Recommit. Mrs. Ritchie also spoke about the first two Theories of Action.

1. Transform Student Learning
 - a. Curriculum
 - b. Instruction
 - c. Assessment
2. Rich & Vibrant Learning Cultures
 - a. Student Culture
 - b. Family & Community Culture
 - c. Staff Culture

Assistant Superintendent Mancini gave an overview of third and fourth Theories of Action.

3. Talented & Diverse Workforce
 - a. Recruitment and Hiring
 - b. Professional and Development
4. Responsibly Invest District Resources
 - a. Budget
 - b. Grants
 - c. Technology
 - d. Facilities

Dr. Sarah Brzozowy concluded with an overview of the Districts results. We are 3 percentage points away from achieving our goal in reading and 5 percentage points away from achieving our goal in math. We are continuing to see a decrease in ISS and OSS as well as chronic absenteeism. The district is continuing to move in the right direction.

OLD BUSINESS –

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 1700 – Otherwise Lawful Possession of Firearms on School Property

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 1700 – Otherwise Lawful Possession of Firearms on School Property
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 4111/4211 – Recruitment and Selection

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 4111/4211 – Recruitment and Selection
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 4112.5/4212.5 – Security Check/Fingerprinting

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 4112.5/4212.5 – Security Check/Fingerprinting
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 4112.51/4212.51 – Reference Checks

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 4112.51/4212.51 – Reference Checks
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 4118.235/4218.235 – Drug and Alcohol-Free Workshops

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 4118.235/4218.235 – Drug and Alcohol-Free Workshops
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 5113 – Attendance/Excuses/Dismissal

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 5113 – Attendance/Excuses/Dismissal
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 5113.2 – Introduction and Definitions

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 5113.2 – Introduction and Definitions
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 5131.601/4118.236/4218.236 – Medical (Palliative) Use of Marijuana

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 5131.601/4118.236/4218.236 – Medical (Palliative) Use of Marijuana
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 5145.53 – Gender Identity and Expression (Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Youth)

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 5145.53 – Gender Identity and Expression (Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Youth)
Motion carried. Nay: Stephanie Watkins

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6141.31 - Bilingual-Bicultural Education

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6141.31 - Bilingual-Bicultural Education
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6142 – Basic Instructional Program

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6142 – Basic Instructional Program
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6142.2 – Reading/Language Arts

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6142.2 – Reading/Language Arts
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6145 – Extra-Curricular Activities

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6145 – Extra-Curricular Activities
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6152 – Grouping Policy

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6152 – Grouping Policy
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6160 – Educational Resources and Materials

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6160 – Educational Resources and Materials
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6161.21 – Overdue, Damaged, or Lost Instructional Materials

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6161.21 – Overdue, Damaged, or Lost Instructional Materials
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6162.3 – Testing Program

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6162.3 – Testing Program
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6162.4 – Community Resources

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6162.4 – Community Resources
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6162.5 – Research Testing

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6162.5 – Research Testing
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6163 – Instructional Resources for Students

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6163 – Instructional Resources for Students
Motion unanimously carried.

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To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6172.5 – Pilot Programs

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6172.5 – Pilot Programs
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6172.6 – Interactive Distance Learning

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6172.6 – Interactive
Distance Learning
Motion unanimously carried.

To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6172.12 – Magnet Schools

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6172.12 – Magnet
Schools
Motion unanimously carried.

**To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6180 – Evaluation of the Instructional
Program**

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6180 – Evaluation of the
Instructional Program
Motion unanimously carried.

**To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6180.1 – Evaluation of the Instructional
Program**

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve To Remove from Table and Approve Policy 6180.1 – Evaluation of
the Instructional Program
Motion unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Retirement and Resignations

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Marilyn Pet
To approve One (1) Retirement and Two (2) Resignations
Motion unanimously carried.

Approval of the Working Cities Challenge Grant

MOTION By Marilyn Pet
Seconded by Harry Amadasun, Jr.
To approve the Working Cities Challenge Grant
Motion unanimously carried.

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Board Member Representative Reports-

Board member Valerie Scheer along with Board member Stephanie Watkins attended EHHS Chinese New Year Celebration.

Board member Dorese Roberts attended ECLC'S Baby Olympics. Board member Shelby Brown along with Marilyn Pet was also in attendance at the Baby Olympics at Hockanum ECLC.

ECLC will be hosting 6 sessions of Raising Readers Parent Classes starting in March 2017. Each week parents will receive a free book to share with their student.

People Empowering People event at ECLC will begin on March 14, 2017 – May 23, 2017 from 5-7:30 PM. (Childcare and Dinner provided)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS BY BOARD MEMBERS – None

TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS – None

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board (8:41 PM)
Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by: Octavia L. Moore

APPROVED BY BOARD OF EDUCATION