

**REGULAR MEETING
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,
MAY 1, 2017**

A Regular Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Monday, May 1, 2017, in the Lecture Hall of the Connecticut IB Academy, 857 Forbes Street, East Hartford, CT. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by Chairman Bryan R. Hall.

PRESENT Chairman Bryan R. Hall, Secretary Tyron V. Harris, Tom Rup, Marilyn Pet, Shelby Brown, Valerie Scheer, Stephanie Watkins

ABSENT Dorese Roberts, Harry Amadasun, Jr.

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

AMENDMENT TO AGENDA – None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve the following Minutes:
Regular Board of Education Meeting, April 17, 2017 at 7:00 PM
Motion unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Tom Rup
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Board of Education Meeting, April 18, 2017 at 5:06 PM
Motion unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Tom Rup
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Board of Education Meeting, April 18, 2017 at 5:30 PM
Motion unanimously carried.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION – Tyron V. Harris

- **Tuesday, May 2, 2017, 6:30 PM** – Goodwin Spring Concert- Goodwin School/1235 Forbes Street
- **Wednesday, May 3, 2017, 6:30 PM** – O'Connell Spring Concert- East Hartford Middle School/Auditorium

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- **Thursday, May 4, 2017, 6:30 PM** – Woodland Spring Concert - Woodland School/110 Long Hill Drive
- **Tuesday, May 9, 2017, 7:00 PM** – EHMS Instrumental Spring Concert - East Hartford Middle School/Auditorium & Music Wing
- **Wednesday, May 10, 2017, 6:30 PM** – Pitkin Spring Concert - Pitkin School/330 Hills Street
- **Wednesday, May 10, 2017, 6:30 PM** – Silver Lane Spring Concert - Silver Lane School/15 Mercer Avenue
- **Thursday, May 11, 2017, 6:30 PM** – Norris Spring Concert - Norris School/40 Remington Road
- **Tuesday, May 16, 2017, 9:00 AM** – All-Town String Festival - East Hartford High School/Gymnasium, Back Gym Wing
- **June 26- July 7, 2017-** Central Registration will be closed due to staff training.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS –

Jessica Moise, Bridget Nortey

- **May 1-12th:** Exams for all AP classes will be taking place through next week. Exams will either start at 8:00 AM or 12:00 noon. Encourage everyone to study hard!
- **May 16th: All Town String Concert-** Every String student, grades 3-12ⁱⁿ East Hartford High School gym.
- **May 18th: All Town String Band Concert** – Every Band student grades 4-12 in East Hartford will perform at the East Hartford Middle School auditorium.
- **May 24th: Service Learning BBQ** – An event to celebrate those students who have already obtained the required hours for their classes. Freshman need 10, sophomores need 20 and juniors need 30, please turn in your hours to your guidance counselor.
- **May 25th: Career Expo** – Students will have the opportunity to learn about a multitude of different professions and colleges to help them decide what they want to do later in life. This will be taking place from 8:00AM to 11:30 AM. It will be a great opportunity for students in 9th and 11th grade.
- **May 26th: Iron Hornet-** On this day, there will be two events taking place. First, from 3-5:00 pm, the Iron Hornet will be taking place. This is an obstacle that both staff and students can participate in to help raise money for wounded warriors. T-shirts will be sold this week. There will be an event in the evening to honor past and current citizens in the military. This Memorial Day Celebration will take place at 6:00 PM in the auditorium.

Public Participation –

Somaya Hayes, EHHS Student

Ms. Hayes would like everyone to spread the word about Buzz for Books fundraiser. Everyone can donate to the Rwanda Reads campaign by participating in any of the following:

- Purchase tickets for our senior vs. staff basketball game on Friday, May 12, 2017.
- Bring our Flyer to Friendly's to have a percentage of your sale donated to Rwanda reads.
- Come get your car washed on Saturday, May 27, 2017 @ Sunset Ridge School.
- Participate in movie night on Tuesday, May 31, 2017 at Rave Cinema.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Human Resources/No Action Required

Chairman's Report –

Bryan R. Hall

Good evening to my fellow Board members and administration and audience. It's great to be back together for the good of children in East Hartford.

This week, in accordance with our nation's calendar, East Hartford Public Schools celebrates Faculty Appreciation Week by taking a pause in the action to publically thank and acknowledge our 1,300+ employees for their service, dedication and commitment. In East Hartford, we are blessed to have school and district employees who simply put, "get it." Our employees are characterized by their high expectations their passion and love for children they serve and their deep desire to do good for others. Our employees focus on the positive and believe in the power of solutions even when faced with the most obstinate and intractable challenge. You know these employees at the busy cross walks in the morning walk to school, the hectic main offices of our schools, and the energizing classrooms where your child sits every day. You see their joy in student success as you walk down our hallways and their pride in effort on the sidelines of the athletic field. Our employees are those folks that you have come to rely on, to count on and to trust in that beautiful and sometimes trying journey of growing up. This month, we ask you to join us in thanking all the folks in East Hartford Public Schools who make the "magic" happen for our kids. If you get a chance, please thank a crossing guard, custodian, nurse, assistant principal, paraprofessional, tutor, teacher, principal or supervisor. While you may surprise them with this sudden brush of appreciation, let them know that for your child, their hard work matters and that in your home, they are a hero!

Tonight's agenda has a topic that I am extremely excited to hear about as our Superintendent shares some of the work that has been delivered in the district regarding equity and ensuring our educators are given the tools they need for success. In East Hartford, we value all people, all religions, all races and all types and truly—diversity is our strength. I want to especially thank our administration for taking on this challenge and working hard to be sure our faculty and staff get opportunities to develop their cultural competencies and skills. While the topic of "Race" has certainly made much national news—I am proud of how we have chosen to address this need and how we have taken this opportunity to continue to grow and get better!

Much to do—let's get started!

Superintendent's Report

Nathan Quesnel

Superintendent's Message:

A busy two weeks since our last Board of Education meeting marked by several very exciting events and happenings. This week, we celebrate Faculty Appreciation week and I want to start off by publically celebrating our 1,344 employees for their commitment, service, professionalism

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and dedication to our kids and community. As we often celebrate various programs, special events, and guest visitors, it is truly a great honor to lift up the people who work tirelessly day in and day out to make our schools special places. Thank you for the time, effort and willingness to go the extra mile as we continue to grow, improve and learn together.

Updates from the District:

- Anthony Menard, Connecticut Association of Schools Middle School Principal of the Year:
- MYP Accreditation Visit, Sunset Ridge/CIBA:
- District Equity and Diversity Team:
- Teacher Leadership Academy Interviews:
- 2017-2018 DIP Planning Process:
- Supervisor of Math Hiring:

Dates Ahead:

- 5/2/17: Family Forum @ 6:00 EHHS Cafeteria
- 5/15/17: BoE Meeting
- 6/20/17: Last Day of School
- School Year 2016-2017—ALL IN

District Equity Project: Study Circles Report –

Veronica Marion, Coordinator, Office of Family & Community Partnerships

Our mission is to support a culture where every family is welcomed as a full partner in their child's learning and development. Our purpose is to fully engage, empower and appreciate students, families and faculty through all district and school interactions.

The Equity District Committee consists of 25 people which use the Study Circles Framework as a tool to:

1. Develop the capacity to engage in uncomfortable conversations.
2. Hear perspectives from different stakeholders.
3. Examine beliefs, practices, and policies that are barriers to success.
4. Engage staff in the conversation and work.
5. Change practices and policies.
6. Transform culture.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS –

Retirement & Resignations

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To approve One (1) Retirement and Three (3) Resignations
Motion unanimously carried.

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Program Improvement Project (PEP) Grant

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To approve Program Improvement Project (PEP) Grant
Motion unanimously carried.

General Wage Increases – Grant Funded Employees

MOTION By Tom Rup
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To approve General Wage Increases – Grant Funded Employees
Motion unanimously carried.

Board Member Representative Reports-

Board member Pet attended the Art show at the Community Cultural Center.

Board member Brown along with board member Roberts attended the ECLC Policy meeting and ECLC's mural painting over the spring break.

Board member Scheer attended the Art Show at the Community Cultural Center and Pitkin School's Arbor Day Ceremony.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

Questions and Concerns by Board Members – None

Topics for Future Agendas – None

Proposed Executive Session

MOTION By Stephanie Watkins
Seconded by Tom Rup
To recess to Executive Session (8:03 PM) for the purpose of discussion with possible action regarding Superintendent's Evaluation
Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by: Octavia L. Moore

The Regular Board meeting reconvened at 9:00 PM

MOTION By Tom Rup
Seconded by Stephanie Watkins
To extend the Superintendent's contract for one year with a 2% salary increase and move to the same High Deductible Health Plan as the district.
Motion unanimously carried.

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MOTION By Valerie Scheer
Seconded by Shelby Brown
To adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board (9:04 PM)
Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by Tyron Harris

APPROVED BY BOARD OF EDUCATION