

**REGULAR MEETING
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,
MAY 15, 2017**

A Regular Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Monday, May 15, 2017, in the Lecture Hall of the Connecticut IB Academy, 857 Forbes Street, East Hartford, CT. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Bryan R. Hall.

PRESENT Chairman Bryan R. Hall, Secretary Tyron V. Harris, Tom Rup, Valerie Scheer, Dorese Roberts, Harry Amadasun, Jr.

ABSENT Marilyn Pet, Shelby Brown, Stephanie Watkins

ALSO PRESENT 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
Marcia Huddy, Supervisor of Professional Development, Program Improvement, Gifted & Talented
Melodie Wilson, Chairperson, Patriotic Commission
Tim Siggia, East Hartford Patriotic Commission
Gene Pushefsky, East Hartford Patriotic Commission

AMENDMENT TO AGENDA

Remove item under **NEW BUSINESS** “Financial Close for the Langford School Roof Replacement Project”

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Tom Rup
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Board of Education Meeting, May 1, 2017 at 6:46 PM
Motion unanimously carried

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Tom Rup
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve the following Minutes:
Regular Board of Education Meeting, May 1, 2017 at 7:04 PM
Motion unanimously carried

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Tom Rup
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Board of Education Meeting, May 2, 2017 at 5:02 PM
Motion unanimously carried.

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

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS –

Jessica Moise, Bridget Nortey

- May 16th: All Town Strings Concert at EHHS
- May 18th: All Town Band Concert at EHMS
- May 19th: Scholarship Breakfast at EHHS
- May 26th: Iron Hornet Event and Memorial Day Celebration at EHHS
- June 6th: Autism Walk at Rentschler Field

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

American Flag Day Essay Contest Winners – Marcia Huddy, Melodie Wilson, Tim Siggia, Gene Pushefsky

Essays read aloud and trophy presentation to:

- L’Naya Vargas, Mayberry School
- Hailey Melo, O’Connell School
- Muhammad Kasliwala, East Hartford Middle School
- Christine Wang, Connecticut IB Academy

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.

As we kick off our meeting tonight, I wanted to give my full congratulations to Mr. Anthony Menard, our EHMS principal who was recently selected as the Connecticut Association of Schools Middle School Principal of the Year. For those of us who have had children at EHMS or had the opportunity to work with Anthony, this award does not come as a surprise. Anthony is the epitome of a servant leader; humble, committed to service and always willing to go the second mile for kids. I had the opportunity to join our Superintendent and Cabinet last week at a special event at EHMS where the staff acknowledged Mr. Menard’s leadership. While I was late getting there, I heard the hit of the afternoon was several student speeches where our kids (actually Board Member Scheer’s daughter) spoke about what Mr. Menard meant to her. I am so proud of Anthony and the work he has done. Congratulation and we know you will represent us well as you move on to National consideration.

Tonight’s agenda is filled with operational issues ranging from food service agreements, to facility projects. As I worked with the Superintendent to set this agenda, I was impressed at the continued level of work, effort, and innovation that we continue to see in the district. You see,

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East Hartford is a place where we are never satisfied with “so-so” and are continually looking for new opportunities, new ways and new resources to improve outcomes for kids. I am looking forward to a great meeting with you as we support this work!

With that, no time like now to get started!

Superintendent’s Report –

Anne Marie Mancini, Assistant Superintendent

Superintendent’s Message:

Happy Belated Mother’s Day. Our Superintendent is not available for this meeting as he is traveling to San Francisco on district business. He sends his best and wishes us a great meeting. The end of the year is rushing down on us at EHPS and while we have never been ones to complain about the impending summer vacation, much work is left to be done. We are incredibly busy between year-end financial closeouts, performance management and evaluative tasks, last minute facility planning, and of course...getting ready to release our 2017-2018 Plan for Summer School Improvement Planning. In the midst of this work, we are excited to celebrate and look forward to doing that with each of you.

Updates from the District

- **Parent Forum:** We hosted a fantastic Parent Forum last week at EHHS as we have outgrown our space at EHMS. The forum provided information to parents on our PowerSchool project, a high level overview of district work and finally, engage in a Q & A with Superintendent Quesnel. We enjoy these opportunities to directly engage, model transparency and share our vision and progress. Specifically we love the relationships that have developed between our team and our families; we love watching our families who have been coming to these events introduce new folks and we love the momentum we seem to be gaining. We are proud of the work going on with this initiative and the feedback we get. We are super proud that our families feel these events are worthwhile and are willing to have a voice. A special thanks to Board Member Val Scheer for attending—we really appreciate your dedication to the work!
- **Partnership with CSDE/McKinney-Vento, Homelessness Program:** This fall we participated in a voluntary self-audit with representatives from the CSDE regarding our efforts to comply with the McKinney Vento Act regarding the delivery of services for the homeless population. We have put significant time and effort into this initiative and it was very rewarding to receive positive feedback which I shared with you earlier in the year. Last week, we received a nice email from the CSDE liaison with a partnership offer of backpacks for our kids in recognition of the work we are doing. Great news for us!
- **2017-2018 DIP Planning Process:** Our senior team has been working hard to prepare and release the first draft of the 2017-2018 District Improvement Plan. While this process is only in the beginning stage, our efforts have produced a product that has great promise and will continue to be a valuable document for our schools as we continue to move toward the 2020 vision. Over the next few weeks, we will continue to refine this draft with the hopes of releasing it for the end of May.

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• **Dates ahead:**

- 5/17/17: Top Twenty Dinner, Rentschler Field, 5:00 PM
- 6/5/17: BoE Meeting
- 6/20/17: Last Day of School

Teach 2020 Report –

Heather Earley, Instructional Coach & Michelle Eckler, English Department Head

Shared presentation describing the efforts of the Instructional Practice Team as they develop “TEACH 2020” a website that will be a one-stop resource for professional development and curriculum for EHPS teachers.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS –

Retirements & Resignations

MOTION By Harry Amadasun, Jr.
Seconded by Tom Rup
To approve Five (5) Resignations
Motion unanimously carried.

Certified Staff Use of Employee Sick Bank

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve Certified Staff member’s use of Employee Sick Bank
Motion unanimously carried.

ECLC @ Hockanum School Floor Abatement Project

MOTION By Tom Rup
Seconded by Tyron V. Harris
To approve the ECLC @ Hockanum Floor Abatement Project
Motion unanimously carried.

EHMS Restroom Renovation Project

MOTION By Tom Rup
Seconded by Dorese Roberts
To approve the EHMS Restroom Renovation Project
Motion unanimously carried.

Healthy Food Certification

MOTION By Valerie Scheer
Seconded by Tom Rup
To approve Healthy Food Certification
Motion unanimously carried.

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Food Service Amendment with Sodexo – Paul Mainuli and Shari Staeb, Sodexo

MOTION By Valerie Scheer
Seconded by Tom Rup
To approve the Food Service Amendment with Sodexo
Motion unanimously carried.

School Meal Price Increases

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Tom Rup
To approve School Meal Price Increases
Motion unanimously carried.

Board Member Representative Reports – None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

Questions and Concerns by Board Members

Chairman Hall noted the media coverage of the renovated tennis courts at EHHS, he thanked Mayor LeClerc as this was a town project.

Topics for Future Agendas – None

Adjournment

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Tom Rup
To adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board (8:20 PM)
Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by: Carrie Van de Berg

APPROVED BY BOARD OF EDUCATION