

**REGULAR MEETING
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,
DECEMBER 5, 2016**

A Regular Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Monday, December 5, 2016, 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, Stephanie Watkins, Dorese Roberts, Tom Rup, Marilyn Pet, Valerie Scheer

ABSENT Shelby Brown, Harry Amadasun, Jr.,

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

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA – None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Marilyn Pet
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Board of Education Meeting, November 16, 2016 at 4:55 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, November 17, 2016 at 9:30 AM
Motion unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Tom Rup
Seconded by Tyron V. Harris
To approve the following Minutes:
Special Board of Education Meeting, November 21, 2016 at 5:15 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, November 21, 2016 at 5:27 PM
Motion unanimously carried.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve the following Minutes:
Regular Board of Education Meeting, November 21, 2016 at 7:00 PM
Motion unanimously carried.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION – None

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS –

Jessica Moise, Bridget Nortey

- Toys for Tots Drive by FBLA Club
- Breakfast with Santa will be held on December 17, 2016, at 9:00 – 12:00 PM
- National Honor Society Induction Ceremony held on December 7, 2016.
- Choral and Orchestra Ceremony held on December 14, 2016.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Human Resources/No Action Required

Chairman's Report –

Greetings to my fellow Board Members, our Superintendent, his team and our viewing public. Thanks for taking the time to be with us--It's great to be back in session as the East Hartford Board of Education--We have a full agenda tonight.

Prior to tonight's meeting, we hosted a hearing to allow opportunity for members of the public to comment on the Superintendent's budget that will come to our entire board for adoption on 12/19/16. As we kick off this meeting, I wanted to thank the Town Council and my fellow Board Members for their time and attention through the budget process to date. In a world of busyness, we know good decisions are always a result of time and hard work. I want to assure the viewing public that your elected leaders are putting in that time and hard work as we carefully develop a budget that represents a wise investment of town resources. Thanks to our Town Council for joining us in an extensive overview session last week. I don't know of many places in Connecticut where a Council is willing to patiently participate in an opening workshop session for a Board of Education—I want to thank Chairman Kehoe for his commitment to do this and his commitment to work together as governing bodies. While we recognize the ambiguity of the future in terms of state funding and its impact on East Hartford, we believe that this model of “team” is the model that will solve challenges ahead.

Finally, as I close my comments, I want to recognize the importance of parent conference week that is going on this week for our elementary and middle schools. With tonight's presentation on

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the Office of Family Community Partnerships, I think we have spoken clearly regarding our prioritization of families and their participation in our children's education journey. Moms, Dads, Aunts, Uncles and Grandparents—if you haven't gotten a conference scheduled this week, I am asking you to make that important step, to take the time off of work and to spend a few precious minutes talking to our faculty about the success of your child—I think you will be glad you did. Last month, the Superintendent and I wrote our column on the importance of family engagement—this week—we get a chance to make that happen—let's not miss it!

I am looking forward to a great meeting tonight—let's get to work!

Superintendent's Report

Nathan Quesnel

• **Superintendent's Message:**

With our first minor snow squall, we welcomed winter to East Hartford. As we all acclimate to the winter weather, I wanted to briefly remind our community that school closures and delays are posted using the following information channels:

- All school delays/closures/early dismissals are posted on Twitter. Please follow the district @EastHartfordPS
- All school delays/closures/early dismissals are posted on our district website at www.easthartford.org
- All school delays/closures/early dismissals are posted on local news networks. Please be patient as there is a delay in this posting method.

• **Updates from the District:**

- **Budget Process**
- **District Sub-Committee Process**
- **School Conference Week**

Next Steps:

- **12/5-12/8/16:** Elementary Parent Conferences
- **12/6-12/8/16:** EHMS/Sunset Ridge Parent Conferences
- **12/19/16:** Next BoE Meeting (Adoption of BoE Budget)
- **6/12/17:** Last Day of School
- **School Year 2016-2017—ALL IN**

Office of Family & Community Partnership Report-

Veronica Marion, Coordinator - Office of Family & Community Partnership

Vincent Crawford, Family/Community Liaison- EHMS

Ms. Marion gave an overview of the progress happening within the community at the district level of the OFCP. Mr. Crawford is the Family/Community Liaison for the EHMS. Mr. Crawford gave an overview of what's happening at the school based level of the OFCP. The focus areas of the OFCP are District-wide Programming, School-based Programming, Educator Academy, and Parent University. The expected outcomes of OFCP are engaging families and communities through high quality programming designed to develop school to home relationships, empowering families by improving school to home communication, and continuing to seek out and develop community partnerships centered on providing high quality

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experiences and resources for students at all levels. The OFCP also provides Family/Community Liaison as a point of contact for the parents and children within EHPS.

The OFCP held a couple of events within the past year for the families in the community as listed below which had an exceptional turnout. We have more upcoming events as well.

- Spring Family & Community Forum
- Back to School Rally
- Fall Family & Community Forum
- U for Youth Curriculum Night (5 out of 8 schools participated)
- Welcoming Walkthroughs within 9 schools
- Real Dads Forever Workshops (held @ O'Brien in sessions)
- Literacy Brunch(upcoming event)

Ms. Marion and her team are always available to the families in the community with any questions or concerns. We encourage everyone to visit the Family/Community Liaison assigned to their school with any questions about upcoming events or programs. Information regarding upcoming events and programs will also be posted on our school website and fliers sent home with students.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

Retirement & Resignations

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Tom Rup
To approve One (1) Retirement and Three (3) Resignations
Motion unanimously carried.

Head Start Coordinator

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Tom Rup
To approve the decision to move forward with new Head Start Coordinator
Motion unanimously carried.

Board of Education 2018 Business Calendar

MOTION By Tyron V. Harris
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve Board of Education 2018 Business Calendar
Motion unanimously carried.

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Board Member Representative Reports-

Board member Scheer mentioned Pitkin Elementary Can Food & Winter Outerwear Drive held December 5-9, 2016. Anyone can donate until December 9, 2016.

Board member Pet attended Synergy's Speaker Series with Ron King from Dattco in attendance.

Public Participation- None

Questions and Concerns by Board Members – None

Topics for Future Agendas – None

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Tyron V. Harris
To adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board (8:01 PM)
Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by: Octavia L. Moore

APPROVED BY BOARD OF EDUCATION