

**REGULAR MEETING
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 18, 2017**

A Regular Meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education was held on Monday, September 18, 2017, in the Lecture Hall of the Connecticut IB Academy, 857 Forbes Street, East Hartford, CT. The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM by Chairman Bryan R. Hall

PRESENT Chairman Bryan R. Hall, Dorese Roberts, Marilyn Pet, Valerie Scheer,
Tom Rup, Harry Amadasun, Jr.

ABSENT Secretary Tyron V. Harris, Shelby Brown, Stephanie Watkins

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

Introduction and Swearing in of Student Representatives to the Board of Education:

Chairman Bryan R. Hall administered the oath of office to the two new Student Representatives:

Bridget Nortey

Tam Vu

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA – None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Tom Rup
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve the following Minutes:
Regular Board of Education Meeting, August 28, 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, September 5, 2017 at 5:00 PM
Motion unanimously carried.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION - None

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STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS –

Bridget Nortey, Tam Vu

- Open House will take place on Thursday, September 21, 2017 from 6-8 pm.
- Get to know EHHS: September 28th current 8th grade students can visit the school and learn about the high school experience.
- Sports- Badminton: The Badminton team won their first match in 10 years against Hamden on Wednesday. Be sure to congratulate the members and their coach, 2016-2017 Teach of the Year, Mr. Martucci.
- Tri-M induction Ceremony: On October 18th some of EHHS top singers and instrumentalist will be inducted into the honors society.
- Girls Volleyball: Dig Pink game will be taking place on Wednesday, September 20th at 5:00 against Windsor.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

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. The month of September is flying by and I have especially appreciated the time I have been able to spend with the Superintendent visiting schools and seeing the work in action. As I watch our students move through the halls, as I see our teachers form relationships and as I am fortunate to attend various school programs that offer high quality opportunities for kids, I remember why I am a Board Member.

This evening, our agenda is packed with several important and interesting topics. As the Board Chairman, one of my favorite roles is working to set the Agenda in a way to hold the District Improvement Plan accountable as well as provide the necessary operational votes and decisions that our Board needs to make. This evening, I am proud and excited for several of the presentations that will be delivered including our Human Resources report on summer hiring and our personnel strategy. As you know our third Theory of Action, Attract and Grow a Talented and Diverse Work Force, pushes our Board to work to attract, hire, develop and promote a talented, diverse work force for the benefit of our kids. As I have had many long conversations with the Superintendent and his team on this topic, I am impressed at the report we will see tonight and the positive movement we see in this area. In addition, I am looking forward to the Head Start presentation and the work engaging our Pre-K students for early school success.

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Finally, as I mentioned last month, I find it impossible to open this meeting up without acknowledging the financial challenges our state faces. Along with our town leadership, we continue to monitor this process, provide feedback as is helpful and commit to finding solutions. In the face of this challenge, I have directed the Superintendent to place a freeze on district spending including holding any position vacant unless it is absolutely necessary. I am most worried about our afterschool programs as these are grant funded and have asked the administration to communicate over the past two weeks with parents regarding their uncertain status. I ask for your patience and communication as we navigate through these challenges together.

Let's get to work!

Superintendent's Report

Nathan Quesnel

- Superintendent's Message:
- Updates from the District:
 - Budget Update
 - Facility Project Update
 - CCJEF Update
 - Office of Family and Community Partnership/Hartford Foundation Annual Grant Review
 - Central Registration
 - United Way EHMS Grant Progress

Next Steps:

- **09/21/17:** Half Day—District Professional Development;
- **10/02/17:** Next BoE Meeting
- **06/08/18:** Last Day of School;

District Professional Development Plan –

Marcia Huddy, Supervisor of Professional Development, Program Improvement & Gifted & Talented

Marcia Huddy gave a detail overview of the districts Professional Development Plan that is designed to provide professional growth opportunities that center on the following four district themes:

- Literacy at all levels across all content areas
- Highly effective teaching strategies
- Culturally responsive practice(s)
- Leadership development

Summer Hiring Report

Chris T. Wethje, Director of Human Resources

Mr. Wethje gave an update of the Certified and Non-Certified FY17/18 new summer hires along with our Affirmative Action Efforts and Professional Growth & Development.

OLD BUSINESS – None

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NEW BUSINESS

To Approve Retirements & Resignations

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Tom Rup
To approve Two (2) Retirements and Nine (9) Resignations.
Motion unanimously carried.

To Approve Certified Staff Members Use of Employee Sick Bank- O'Connell

MOTION By Tom Rup
Seconded by Dorese Roberts
To approve Certified Staff Members Use of Employee Sick Bank- O'Connell
Motion unanimously carried.

To Approve Certified Staff Members Use of Employee Sick Bank- EHHS

MOTION By Dorese Roberts
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve Certified Staff Members Use of Employee Sick Bank- EHHS
Motion unanimously carried.

To Approve Head Start Grant:

MOTION By Valerie Scheer
Seconded by Marilyn Pet
To approve Head Start Grant
Motion unanimously carried

To Approve United Way Grant

MOTION By Tom Rup
Seconded by Valerie Scheer
To approve United Way Grant
Motion unanimously carried

Board Member Representative Reports

Board member Valerie Scheer attended EHMS's Open House and was impressed by the previous Yale (9th Graders) students who came to share their experience with the new 8th grade students.

Board member Dorese Roberts would like everyone to know ECLC policy meetings will be held on Tuesdays this school year instead of Thursdays.

Public Participation-

Annie Irvine, President EHEA

Over the summer teachers from O'Brien school dedicated their time to connect with the O'Brien community by orchestrating playdates with parents and students.

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Questions and Concerns by Board Members – None

Topics for Future Agendas – None

MOTION By Tom Rup
Seconded by Harry Amadasun Jr.
To adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board (8:56 PM)
Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by: Octavia L. Moore

APPROVED BY BOARD OF EDUCATION