

**FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE  
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**WEDNESDAY,  
JUNE 3, 2009**

A meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education Finance & Audit Committee was held on Wednesday, June 3, 2009 at the Board of Education Administration Building, 1110 Main Street, East Hartford, CT. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 P.M. by Chairman Ram Aberasturia.

**PRESENT** Ram Aberasturia, Chairman  
Robert Damaschi, Committee Member and BOE Member  
Karen Howe, Committee Member and BOE Member  
Anita Morrison, BOE Member  
Marcus Oladell, IV, BOE Member

**ALSO PRESENT** Mark Zito, Superintendent of Schools  
Paul Mainuli, Director of Business Services  
Al Costa, Director of Facilities  
Todd Andrews, Goodwin College  
Alan Kramer, Goodwin College

**Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION** By Robert Damaschi  
Seconded by Karen Howe  
To approve the Minutes of May 6, 2009  
Motion unanimously carried.

**Public Participation** – None

**Discussion of Monthly Financial Report for May**  
**(Paul Mainuli, Director of Business Services)**

Mr. Mainuli reviewed in detail the financial report for May noting we will have approximately \$1.2 – \$1.5 million at year end. We will be able to take dollars to pay health benefits to the Town for next year.

We continue to close out purchase orders on a daily basis. Mr. Mainuli noted we have encumbered funds for all staff retirements planned for June 30<sup>th</sup>. Retroactive payments for the Local 2727 – Secretaries/Security Guards will be paid out the week of June 19<sup>th</sup>.

Regarding utilities, Mr. Mainuli stated that we have locked in the generation of electricity cost at is less than 10 cents/kwh. This price is locked in until year 2015. He added that fuel oil pricing was been locked in at \$1.68/gal. He also mentioned that all the technology equipment that was purchased under the lease financing program will be paid off in the current fiscal year.

Revenues received from Hartford Magnet Schools and other school districts that send students to Woodland School will bring in another \$1 million by fiscal year end. He also expects to receive over \$300,000 in Medicaid revenues this fiscal year which will go back into the Special Education program.

Mr. Mainuli noted grants are also being charged for substitute teachers assigned by Kelly Services.

Mr. Mainuli also noted the 2009-10 budget will be available for purchase orders in the next couple of weeks.

Mr. Damaschi asked that an inventory of supplies be done in each building.

Mr. Aberasturia stated we should reinstate a staff retirement dinner for retirees.

**Discussion of Goodwin College Proposal – CT River Academy Magnet School**

Superintendent Zito gave background information on the Goodwin College proposal, noting the State would fund 95 percent of the cost of construction for the CT River Academy Magnet School.

Alan Kramer and Todd Andrews were present from Goodwin College. Mr. Kramer stated they would like to partner with East Hartford. It is hoped the magnet school will open in the fall of 2011 or 2012. Goodwin College would own the host magnet and be the operator of the school. It will also be the fiscal agent. A contract with East Hartford Public Schools will be structured to keep the school district from having any financial responsibility for the new magnet school. The Superintendent stated if it doesn't cost us anything, he believes there is a benefit to us in having a partnership with Goodwin College.

The following questions were asked by Committee Members at the meeting:

- what formula would be used for registration – it was noted 50% of the students would be from Hartford and the remaining could come from other towns as part of the “Open Choice” program – East Hartford could have the option to select how many slots they would like;
- would there be a Governance Committee – yes;
- questions of the schools management and operations need to be considered;
- questions of workman's compensation and other insurance requirements;
- staff discipline – whose responsibility – EHPS or Goodwin College.

East Hartford Public Schools is interested in a partnership. Further discussions will be ongoing with Goodwin College and more detailed information presented. The CT River Academy Magnet School is scheduled to open in the fall of 2010.

**OTHER BUSINESS** - None

**MOTION**

By Karen Howe

Seconded by Robert Damaschi

To adjourn the meeting of the Finance & Audit Committee  
(5:35 P.M.)

Motion unanimously carried.

Recorded by: Donna Fitzgerald