

**TOWN OF EAST HAVEN, CT
EAST HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
35 WHEELBARROW LANE, EAST HAVEN, CT 06513
TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2011
7:00 P.M.**

**PRESENT: MR. PALLADINO, MR. DENUZZO, MRS. DEPALMA,
MRS. KLUTH, MRS. MAISANO, MR. POMPANO,
MR. SCALESSE and MRS. VINEYARD**

ABSENT: MR. HENNESSEY

**ALSO PRESENT: MR. ANTHONY SERIO, SUPERINTENDENT
MRS. ERICA FORTI, ASST. SUPT. OF CURRICULUM
& INSTRUCTION
MRS. MARY ACQUARULO, DIRECTOR OF
PUPIL SERVICES
MR. JOSEPH TRAVAGLINO, DIRECTOR OF
BLDGS. & GROUNDS
MR. JASON LATHROP, BUSINESS ADMIN.
MRS. PATRICIA LEWIS, BUSINESS MANAGER**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Nicholas Palladino called the regular Board of Education meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Boardroom at the High School. Mr. Palladino asked that the student reps lead them in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. MINUTES

Mr. Palladino asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Board meeting of May 24, 2011.

Motion was made by Mr. Pompano and seconded by Mrs. DePalma.

There was no discussion or objections to the motion. Motion carries. The minutes were approved.

3. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- **Chairperson, Nicholas Palladino**

Mr. Palladino stated he had two pieces of correspondence. They had received a thank you card from Mr. & Mrs. Serio for their appreciation to the Board for sharing in their sorrow and for the Board's kindness. He also had something from the CT Association of Public School Superintendents. He would have Janice make copies and get them to the Board. It was for the National Superintendent of the Year Program. He thought they should make a recommendation and put the Superintendent in for it.

- **Superintendent, Mr. Anthony Serio**

Mr. Serio had no correspondence this evening.

4. **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

- **Athletic Oversight, Raymond Pompano, Chair**

Mr. Pompano reported they had one appointment for a volleyball coach appointment this evening. The spring sports ended and everyone did a great job and he offered his congratulations to all of the teams.

- **Buildings & Grounds, Raymond Pompano, Chair**

Mr. Pompano spoke about the Board's opportunity to be involved in the last School Building Committee meeting regarding the portables at Overbrook. The cost was driven up by the architect during the presentation and they were going to look at it further and look for other avenues with which to approach this. **They were reconvening next Tuesday, June 21st at this time.** They had gotten a few answers since then on flood management and other concerns they had.

Mr. Pompano stated he would like to piggyback this with a Special Meeting on June 22nd. They would not push anything through until the School Building Committee gave it a stamp of approval.

Mr. Pompano stated he had an opportunity to speak with the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and Mrs. Schmidt and they had reassured him that they had things in the works and all-day K will start and not be a problem.

- **Curriculum & Instruction/Negotiations, Tia DePalma**

Mrs. DePalma stated she had returned Attorney Dolan's call but had not heard back from him regarding the non-certified contracts. **She would like to schedule a Curriculum Subcommittee meeting in the very near future.** She was looking forward to seeing the improvements to the Middle School schedule and how the changes would affect student progress regarding the SRBI targeted instructional blocks and also attendance recovery. It was so successful at the High School that it should also be successful at the Middle School.

Mrs. DePalma wanted to also report that Chairman Palladino had assigned her to the task of organizing the Superintendent's evaluation and the performance of the Board. She would do her best to schedule these meetings when everyone could be present. They were not in compliance with this according to the State mandates. It was not logical to set goals and objectives without first completing the Superintendent's evaluation for this school year.

Mr. Palladino stated they would find a time when everyone could be there. He stated they had met the timeline of the 15th and had 30 days to complete it per his contract. He requested that Mr. Serio give the Board an extension of an additional 30 days to get that done. Mr. Serio stated it was no problem.

- **Finance/Grants Subcommittee, Christine Maisano**

Mrs. Maisano reported they had received a report in their packets and she was not sure what it was. Mr. Lathrop explained that there was a

request two meetings ago for a breakdown from one of the Board members and it had been sent out in this packet for all of the Board members. **They had a detailed report here tonight for their review.**

Mrs. Maisano asked what was going on with Kostin & Ruffkess. Mr. Lathrop explained they had everything they needed a couple of weeks ago and they had received a partial billing for that in the amount of \$5,000. The purchase order was cut for \$10,000 and the Board wanted to be apprised if it was going to exceed \$8,000. Mr. Serio stated he left a couple of voicemails this past week asking for an update for the Board. He had not received a call back yet.

Mrs. Maisano stated she did not want the Board to think she was micro-managing, but she did speak with Mr. Centofanti. He promptly called her back and after one call he produced this letter here dated May 25, 2011 directed to the East Haven Board of Education. She was not sure who got it or received it but it had been out there three weeks. She stated that the information that was requested by Joe Centofanti from Kostin & Ruffkess was not delivered in a timely fashion at all. Mrs. Maisano referred to the minutes of March 14, 2011 in which a question was asked of Mr. Lathrop and Mrs. Lewis, as to whether or not they would be prepared as of March 28th to have the auditors come in and they had both responded yes. The February bank statements were to be done by the middle of April and they were not done. She thought they had a big problem.

There was further discussion on the letter that had not been sent to the Board members but was addressed to the Board of Education. Mrs. Maisano spoke about the timeline of when this was supposed to be done and how Mr. Centofanti wasn't supposed to begin this in June. She thought that he felt he would be done in June.

Mrs. Maisano thought the Business Office had big problems and that this Board needed to address this. It was the same thing over and over again. It was redundant and ridiculous.

Mr. Palladino stated he wanted to know where this letter came from. Mrs. Maisano asked Janice if she opened the mail and if she knew where it came from. Mrs. Ball responded that she did not open the

mail but did go through everything. She could probably tell if they had indeed received it. Mr. Serio said if he did not get this to them, he apologized. He did remember talking to him, yes. He said that it was his error. Mrs. Maisano wanted the Board to meet and find out what was going on. Mr. Palladino felt they all agreed that there was a problem with their Finance Department and the way they worked with the Town's Finance Department. Mrs. Maisano explained that Mr. Centofanti did say in the information that there was a dramatic difference to what the Town states as to what we state.

Mrs. Maisano stated she had a simple question to ask Mr. Lathrop and that was "What is the problem?" "Why did it take so long to do a bank reconciliation and so long to produce the information that Joe needs?" There were 7 or 8 people working in the Business Office and they were not getting the work done. There was no response.

Mrs. Kluth stated they had a meeting going back in Executive Session about the Finance Department and they did not get anywhere and they did not come to any solutions. Since that meeting, she had been trying to get those issues resolved. **She recommended that tonight under Personnel they have a meeting next week to go over the Superintendent's evaluation, the Board self-evaluation, and the issues in the Business Office.**

Mrs. Maisano asked Mr. Lathrop to respond to her last question of what he thought the problem was. Mr. Lathrop explained that he was not privy to the final scope of services of Kostin & Ruffkess and did not know what transpired outside of his office. The Board directed the Superintendent and he (Mr. Lathrop) was the person they wanted to take a look at and the department for performance. He explained that as soon as he received the request for information, every piece of information was cc'd to Mr. Serio and the auditor once it was uploaded. The fund that trailed the most was the Athletic fund because of Quick Books and their general ledger system. It was not a quick process.

There was further discussion on this issue and Mr. Lathrop thought he had given him everything. He did not know that Mr. Centofanti was retained to do every individual fund. They had spent a ton of time working on the general fund. Mrs. DePalma stated they had only seen

that once before. Mrs. Maisano reiterated that Mr. Centofanti had told her they were not in balance at all with the Town. Mr. Lathrop explained that where they were off was on the gasoline charges and that we don't have that expense on our books. With the general warrants, they don't see a gigantic difference. They had retained Mr. Centofanti to tell us where the difference was.

Mrs. Kluth felt they should save this for the Special Meeting next week. The Board agreed.

- **Food Service & PTA/PTO Advisory Committee, Kristen Vineyard, Chair**

Mrs. Vineyard had no report this evening.

- **Legal/Ronald DeNuzzo, Chair**

Mr. DeNuzzo had no report this evening but had a question on the security issue at the Middle School. **He would like to get a further update on the security measures at the Middle School and he would like to have a subcommittee meeting on this.**

Mr. Palladino thought they should definitely discuss this in a regular meeting before September and the Superintendent could present to them what they were going to do.

Mr. DeNuzzo would also like an update on the cameras or extra cameras. Mr. Serio stated that the receiver was not working and they had the capability of adding cameras to it. They were looking to do this after July 1st. These would be implemented before the start of the school year.

- **Policy & Bylaws, Charles Scalesse, Chair**

Mr. Scalesse had no report this evening.

- **Personnel, Laura Kluth, Chair**

Mrs. Kluth had no report this evening except to just say for the record that they needed to meet next week for evaluations and for the Business Office.

5. REPORTS/COMMUNICATION

- **Student Representatives, Kelianna Bonn & Rob Fucci**

Kelianna and Rob reported on the high school activities. Kelianna spoke about a fellow classmate who was 14 years old that had been diagnosed with Leukemia and how the school had come together to sell bracelets and tee-shirts to help her with the treatments she would need.

Rob and Kelianna spoke about the Holiday Hill trip which was a blast with all of the different activities; class officers were planning a Future Plans Day and students would dress up and share what they were planning to do after high school; Field Day was a success and lots of fun with a dunk tank where they got to see the Mayor and Principal get dunked; tomorrow was the 7th grade recruitment day to show them what East Haven High School was all about; yearbooks were out and graduation was on June 28th. A climate survey was coming up where the whole school would take it to see what problems there were and also what they were succeeding in at school. This would help to make East Haven better than it already was.

This was their last meeting and they thanked the Board for having them. Each spoke about what they had gotten out of serving on the Board. The Board thanked them for a great job and wished them well in all their endeavors.

- **Superintendent and Central Office Administration**

Mr. Serio spoke about the Junior Honor Society Inductions at the Middle School and the Academy and congratulated the students, parents and families, staff and administration for a nice job. He had met with area superintendents last week in a meeting with Rosa DeLauro. She listened to their concerns and brought them up to date on some of the issues in Washington and sadly enough many of them

entailed some kind of cuts moving forward. They were hoping to see some funding come down the road for Early Childhood Education.

Mr. Serio also wanted to congratulate those students in HOSA who earned the US Presidential Awards this year. The students were Natasha Buskey, Elizabeth Francois, Abigail Kuziel, Amariah Lem, Stefanie Lopez, and Olivia Marshall. They had provided 100 hours of community service during the year. He wanted to publicly congratulate them for a job well done.

Mr. Scalesse reported on one other event which was the Scholar Leaders for the Middle School and Academy which was held at Aqua Turf. He did not have their names but it was on June 6th.

Mrs. Forti suggested that they recognize them formally at their next Board meeting.

- **Comments from the Chairperson, Nicholas Palladino**

Mr. Palladino spoke about an email he received from a parent regarding a bus issue and how well it had been handled by Mr. DeBernardo. He thanked him for it because he would be the first one to jump on administrators if they did something wrong, so he also wanted to mention when they did a great job. The parent was very happy.

6. COMMUNICATION FROM PUBLIC

Mr. Palladino asked if there was any communication from the public.

Charlene Carlona, spoke about how well the Credit Recovery Program was working this year but unfortunately this was not offered when her son was denied going to his graduation ceremony last year. She spoke about how she had addressed all of the Board members in emails and had gotten responses from a couple of them. She stated she had to jump through “rings of fire” prior to speaking to Mr. Serio. She explained how her son just wanted to close a chapter in his life and graduate with the upcoming Class of 2011. Her son had taken the responsibility of talking with Mr. Serio, and she, herself, had spoken with Mr. Anderson who told her he did not have a problem with this. After she had spoken with Mr. Serio, he had told her that Mr. Anderson did have a problem with this.

She begged the Board to reconsider this and to come together as a Board and allow her son to close a chapter in his life and let him walk. There was discussion from the Board members some saying that they did not have a problem with this. Mr. Serio asked that the Board let him take care of this tomorrow. Mrs. DePalma stated she did not have a problem with Mr. Serio taking care of this tomorrow. She was in support of letting him walk. Mrs. Carlona spoke some more about her son and why he should be allowed to walk.

Mr. Palladino spoke to Mrs. Carlona about how many times they had spoken and how he did not have a problem with this. He explained that the Board did not have the authority to approve it because they could not overrule the Superintendent because it was strictly up to him.

Mrs. Carlona stated that Mr. Serio had given her son a “no” for an answer and she did not think it was fair and that was why she was here this evening. Mr. Palladino explained that the Board could not vote on it. Mrs. Carlona asked that Mr. Serio reconsider this. Mrs. DePalma said she was under the impression it was. **Mr. Serio stated he would take care of this in the morning.**

Kathy Adinolfi, spoke on behalf of the cafeteria workers. She was asking the Board to vote “no” when the vote comes up tonight. The café workers were here to serve the children of East Haven and protect their best interests. The small amount they would be saving comes out of the pockets of the parents in higher lunch prices and smaller portions. They were told by John Prunier that the principals have some input, but as Whitson’s employees, any issues would be brought to Debby and then to him. She spoke about how you need to be careful about what you wish for because it may come back as the grass isn’t always green on the other side. Sometimes there are just bigger problems on the other side of that white picket fence.

John Finkle, wanted to comment briefly on the contract and the food service program. This program was put in place a few years back for its management processes that were lacking. This program was a \$1.1 million program and for as long as he could see, these revenues never changed. If the Board privatized completely, anybody getting involved in it, it is a business. The bottom line to a business was in it for the bottom line. Mr. Finkle had served on the Board for many years and worked with

Mrs. Vineyard who worked to keep the quality of the food where it was. If you go into it for a profit program, something was going to be sacrificed. He hoped they would do the right thing on this vote. He thanked the Board.

Marilyn Vitale, spoke about how the Board had never acknowledged those teachers/administrators who had retired in years previous. She felt they should be thanked with some sort of appreciation. Mrs. Vitale knew that the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent were very busy, but perhaps the Board themselves could put something together. These teachers had dedicated so many years to our children. Imagine working 25 to 40 years at a place and then they don't even get a piece of paper.

Patrick Madley, said he agreed with Mrs. Vitale on the retirees. He spoke about being President of his class or junior year and the fun activities for the year. He had a few ideas to make their senior year excellent.

Any other comments? There were none.

7. SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS

7.1 STEM Presentation by Taylor Auger

Mr. Serio informed the Board that they had participated in the STEM Competition this year for the first time. They had prepared for it all year and worked with the grade 6-8 students at the Middle School and the Academy. Taylor Auger was here to present with Mrs. Forti and Mrs. Noonan.

Mrs. Forti stated they had documented some footage of the STEM Competition finals for tonight. They wanted to bring them through some of their culminating activities and was hoping to bring some of the excitement as well.

Taylor Auger informed the Board that they would be viewing a video presentation of the 8th grade documentary. He spoke about the website which was being periodically updated. He then showed everyone the video of the 8th grade class and their experiment. On May 19th everyone came together and the competition was a huge success. The parents came and they thought it was phenomenal.

Taylor stated that it was overall an absolutely fantastic experience for himself and all of the kids involved. He wished it could somehow be available to everyone to be involved in a project that allows kids to participate in something that showcases skills, problem-solving and analyzing problems. The kids did a fabulous job.

Mrs. Forti stated there were teams of all different backgrounds that all came together to make a project come to life. She thanked Mrs. Noonan for her vision and ideas; Randel Osborne for his technological support; and Taylor Auger for documenting such a wonderful project for our students and teachers.

Mr. Scalesse spoke about being a judge over the years in many science fairs and this was the most exciting and unbelievable. It was both motivating and challenging. The kids used their tools and different skill levels and communicated with each other. They assessed their projects and came up with new designs. He thought it was a fantastic experience. In addition to acknowledging Marilee and Randel, he thought they should acknowledge the teachers who had given so much of their time. They had given up prep periods and lunch time and many hours after school. He then read the names which were as follows: Michael Archambault; Kara Kacynzki; Bill Tomassi; Tracy Shumway; Jay Creighton; Chris Dutro; and Christine Ferrales. Also Chris Bonaguiso, Deb Caplan; Mike Curcio and Janice Staires.

Mr. Palladino thanked Mr. Scalesse for giving his time. Great job.

Mrs. Forti informed the Board that it was their intent to write another Title II grant but the funding was cut. They were looking at other ways to engage both teachers and technology to help transform classrooms into the 21st Century. She spoke about the involvement of IPADs or laptop carts and transforming any space to get those devices into the hands of those students. She wanted to inform them of any initiative the district would possibly be working on.

Mrs. Forti spoke about how student work was now kept in portfolios for all students in kindergarten to second grade. This was all done by hand currently and they were hoping to transform that with the possible deployment of IPADs. There were two goals: continue with

the integration of technology through the K-5 and then at the 9-12 levels in the digital arts and science academies that 25 students would be going through. The adults will be able to use the IPADs to deliver running records and transform them into electronic documents which would then be put into the kids' portfolios. When the teachers were not using them, they could wheel the IPADs on carts into the classrooms where kids can use them to do learning games, research and access information using them.

Mrs. Forti then spoke about the professional development that was happening on June 29th with Jim Mylen and his team who would be presenting the wireless generation initiative. They would provide two days of in-service. She stated she could get them the breakdown for those two days.

Mr. Serio then spoke about bringing the Apple Lease for our technology to the Town Council for their approval. The teachers would be trained and it would be up and running by September. Mrs. Forti would update the Board as these things came to pass.

They were trying not only to meet the needs of the students but bring them into the 21st Century learning environments.

There was discussion regarding the cost of the presentations and how they were very worthwhile.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Ratification of Appointments

- **Math Teacher @ EHHS**

Mr. Serio requested the Board approve the appointment of Nicole Riviere as a replacement math teacher at the high school for Chris Lincoln.

Motion was made by Mrs. DePalma and seconded by Mrs. Vineyard.

Any discussion on the motion?

These appointments were for next year. They wanted to interview early and get the best candidates.

There were no objections or abstentions to the motion. Motion carries.

- **Guidance Counselors (2) @ EHHS**

Mr. Serio requested the Board approve the appointments of Adam Coppola and Gretchen Hoeflich as the two guidance counselors at EHHS. One was a replacement and the other one was for a position that had been phased out in 2009.

Motion was made by Mrs. DePalma and seconded by Mrs. Vineyard.

Any discussion on the motion?

There was discussion on the enrollment numbers over the past few years. A few Board members were concerned about what was being done at the Middle School and how they needed help there. There was lengthy discussion on the schools that needed help and the number of students at each school.

Mr. DeNuzzo asked if the lack of a guidance counselor was one of the issues during the last time that NEASC was here. Mr. Serio responded it was.

Mr. Serio explained that there were plans to move someone who was full-time and had requested a transfer and then put a part-time person into the other position. He was looking at this so there would be no cost associated with it. Mr. Serio explained that he had asked Mr. Anderson to work within his budget and staffing and realize he needs to reduce somewhere else and he was doing that.

Mr. Serio stated that one of the positions at the high school would be in charge of the department and oversee all of the guidance counselors there. That person's student load would be reduced. Mrs. Kluth disagreed and felt that the principal and assistant

principals should oversee this department and make sure they were doing their jobs. Discussion ensued regarding how this might be accomplished.

Mr. Pompano asked if he was saying that he would have the flexibility to move the additional full-time person to the Middle School if they were to make this hire. This would free up the part-time hire to take over the Adult Ed who did not need a full-time person. This hire would allow the full-time person to be at the Middle School and it was currently in our budget.

Mr. Palladino asked Mr. Serio to explain what the plan was so he could assure the Board of what he was going to do.

Mr. Serio explained he would honor the request of the guidance counselor at Adult Ed and this person would be added to the Middle School and then they would fill the Adult Ed in with a part-time person. Mr. Palladino repeated back to Mr. Serio what he thought he meant and Mr. Serio stated that he was correct.

There was further discussion and differences on how many guidance counselors should be hired. Mr. Palladino asked for a roll call vote on the motion that was made previously. There was more discussion regarding how they wanted to vote on this item. It was decided to leave the motion the way it was.

Mr. DeNuzzo	-	yes
Mrs. DePalma	-	yes
Mrs. Kluth	-	no
Mrs. Maisano	-	yes
Mr. Pompano	-	yes
Mr. Scalesse	-	yes
Mrs. Vineyard	-	yes

Vote was six (6) in favor with one (1) opposed. Motion carries.

- **Head Volleyball Coach @ EHHS**

Mr. Serio requested the Board ratify the appointment of Craig Brown as the volleyball coach at EHHS.

Motion was made by Mr. Pompano and seconded by Mrs. Vineyard.

Any discussion on the motion?

Mr. Marone spoke about how excited they were to hire this person and also about his six (6) years of experience as a volleyball coach.

Any further discussion on the motion? There was none.

There were no objections or abstentions to the motion. Motion carries.

- **Little Jackets Assistant Summer Caregivers (2) @ Tuttle**

Mr. Serio requested the Board approve the appointments of Marissa Buonocore and Sandra Cubellotti as Little Jackets assistant summer caregivers at Tuttle School. These were replacement positions. Marissa Buonocore was being hired at a rate of \$8.25/hr. and Sandra Cubellotti was being hired at \$9.00/hr.

Motion was made by Mrs. DePalma and seconded by Mrs. Kluth.

Any discussion on the motion?

Mr. Palladino stated that it's a pet peeve of his when two people were doing the same job at two different pay rates. We have the problem paying aides different rates with the same certification. Mrs. Kluth stated there were people working there now making less than these people they were hiring. Mr. Lathrop explained there were different rates of pay for people based on their years of experience. Mr. Palladino wanted an explanation. Mrs. Maisano suggested they table this because of the fact of the rates of pay and also based upon the fact they had not received a Little Jackets report in a while.

There was discussion on the motion.

Mrs. DePalma amended her motion and was now requesting that the Board table this item. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Kluth.

Any discussion on the motion?

Mrs. Maisano asked if these people would start tomorrow. Mr. Serio stated they're not now.

There were no objections or abstentions to the motion. Motion carries.

8.2 Request for Approval of the Payment of Invoices:

- **Dated June 15, 2011 for Fiscal Year 2010-11 in the Amount of \$1,660,007.78**

Mr. Serio recommended the Board approve the payment of invoices dated June 15, 2011 for Fiscal Year 2010-11 in the amount of \$1,660,007.78.

Motion was made by Mrs. Vineyard and seconded by Mrs. DePalma.

Any discussion on the motion?

Mrs. Maisano commented on the Shipman & Goodwin bills being so outrageous. She would like a whole legal analysis done on what they had spent with them and for Dolan & Luzzi.

The only other comment was on Murphy Security being quite a bit higher than it normally was. It was determined this was for a 3-week period instead of a 2-week period.

Mrs. Kluth left the room at this time (9:00 p.m.)

Any further discussion or questions? There were none.

There were no objections or abstentions to the motion. Motion carries. The bills were paid.

8.3 Review and Approval of Budget Transfers

Mr. Serio requested the Board approve the budget transfers as provided in their Board packets this evening.

Motion was made by Mr. Pompano and seconded by Mrs. Vineyard.

Any discussion on the motion?

Mr. Pompano commented that he went through this and obviously the work was done. He wondered with the budget freeze how some of these things keep going through if they were emergencies and why he was then never notified of these emergencies. Mr. Serio explained when there was a freeze, they needed to get permission from the Superintendent to process a PO. Not a single request during a freeze comes back to the Board. Mr. DeNuzzo said, so in essence if there is a freeze, and something is necessary, you approve it. Mr. Serio responded for the day-to-day operations of the school, yes he does.

Mr. Pompano asked when they saw we were about to over-expend our budget, did we at that time have good knowledge that the money would be available to us from other areas to go ahead and do this; transferring after the fact. Mr. Serio stated you usually see a transfer after the fact because it was necessary to do and it was necessary to override that account. This was always the way they had done business. If the Board wanted to change things moving forward, they could do that.

There was discussion on whether Goody's would be the best place to purchase things like paint or would it be cheaper at Home Depot. It was determined that they get good paint for a cheaper price at Goody's.

Mr. Lathrop explained that the money would be transferred out of ACES tuition and Mrs. Acquarulo was aware of it and the final payments for June were in their Board packets tonight. The leeway in that account was \$89,000.

Mrs. Kluth returned to the meeting at 9:10 p.m. and Mrs. Vineyard left the room at this same time.

There was discussion on how programs were brought back into the system and this was why there was a savings. Things changed sometimes during the year. This year they brought back the 18-21 year program and it was run in our buildings.

Mrs. Maisano questioned why they did not go out to bid on Pro Floors and North Haven Ceramic Tile. Mr. Travaglinio stated that North Haven Tile was on the State bid list. Mr. Lathrop stated the bid requirement was \$4,000 by Charter. He learned when he started here that's what they try to follow.

There was discussion that this had been done last summer, and the check was dated 11/03 and they were just paying for it now.

Mrs. Vineyard returned to the meeting at 9:12 p.m.

Mrs. Maisano thought it was expensive that they spent \$9,000 on two rooms for carpeting. She could carpet her whole house. **Mr. Lathrop to get copies of those invoices to her.**

There was discussion on when the transfer request had originally been requested and how it had been denied a number of times.

Mr. Palladino just wanted to know whether or not they had over-expended their approved budget. Mr. Lathrop stated they had not over-expended their approved budget amount, just this line item.

Mr. Pompano wanted to know if this would at least give them the ability to free up the money to cover the work that was done at the Middle School. Mr. Lathrop stated yes, as long as there were no other unforeseen expenditures that came up. Mr. Palladino wanted to know if they were going to end the year in the black and Mr. Lathrop responded that that was correct. Mr. Pompano asked if they were going to pay off the Middle School heating and Mr. Lathrop responded yes. Mr. Palladino did not want them to go into the red because they, the Board, were ultimately responsible. He was in agreement to pay the money back as long as he had his word that they were not going into the red. Mr. Lathrop responded that they were not going into the red.

There was discussion on whether they would agree to the transfers. Mr. Palladino asked for a roll call vote.

Mr. DeNuzzo asked if they did not make this transfer, what would happen. Mr. Lathrop responded that they were already in the negative. They were over-expended by a couple of thousand dollars and \$35,000 of un-posted accounts and he had a handful of other things that were potentially out there for the total transfer. They were positive about \$35,000 in the account. Un-posted requisitions have bills associated with them. If they say no to the transfer, the bills are still there and they don't go anywhere. They don't have an approved purchase order. There could be some other negative ramifications. Mrs. Maisano stated he had already let the account go negative. Mr. Lathrop stated he had requested it several times. The bills would then be paid through 5/31/11.

Mr. Serio stated these were old bills and if they wanted to change the way we do business going forward, they could do that.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. DeNuzzo	-	yes
Mrs. DePalma	-	abstained
Mrs. Kluth	-	no
Mrs. Maisano	-	no
Mr. Pompano	-	yes
Mr. Scalesse	-	yes
Mrs. Vineyard	-	yes

Vote was four (4) in favor with two (2) opposed and one (1) abstention. Motion carries.

8.6 Request Permission to Cancel the June 28, 2011 BOE Meeting

Mr. Serio requested the Board's permission to cancel the June 28, 2011 BOE Meeting because of the high school graduation. Mr. Serio stated they were having one next week and they could reschedule another one.

Motion was made by Mr. Pompano and seconded by Mrs. Vineyard.

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

There were no objections or abstentions to the motion. Motion carries.

Mr. Serio stated he would like to hold on 8.4 and 8.5 and add a couple of items to the agenda.

He would like to add 8.7 Request Permission for Superintendent to Pay the Bills for the June 28th meeting that would be rescheduled. This was the close of the fiscal year.

Motion to add 8.7 was made by Mr. Pompano and seconded by Mrs. Vineyard.

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

There were no objections or abstentions to the motion. Motion carries.

8.7 Request Permission for Superintendent to Pay the Bills for the June 28th Meeting

Mr. Serio requested the Board's permission to pay the bills for the June 28th meeting that was being cancelled.

Motion was made by Mr. Pompano and seconded by Mrs. Vineyard.

Any discussion on the motion?

Mr. Serio stated they would send out the bills to the Board prior to this so they could review and ask questions.

There were no objections or abstentions to the motion. Motion carries.

Mr. Serio requested the Board add 8.8 Discussion and Approval of Contracted Service for Custodial Services and Security for the District.

Motion to add 8.8 was made by Mrs. Vineyard and seconded by Mr. DeNuzzo.

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

There were no objections or abstentions to the motion. Motion carries.

8.8 Discussion and Possible Approval of Contracted Services for Custodial and Security for the District

Mr. Serio requested the Board have discussion and possible approval for the contracted services regarding custodial and security for the district as proposed in the handout.

Motion was made by Mrs. Vineyard and seconded by Mrs. DePalma.

Any discussion on the motion?

Mr. Pompano asked that they put this off and give Mr. Travaglino a platform to explain it. The attorney was here and they were paying him so he asked that they table this for now.

Mrs. Vineyard withdrew her motion.

Motion to table was made by Mr. Pompano and seconded by Mrs. DePalma.

There were no objections or abstentions to the motion. Motion carries.

Mr. Serio requested the Board go into Executive Session to discuss the 11.1 Cafeteria Negotiations and 11.2 Pathways/Children's Center Lease. He explained that in Executive Session he would clarify it.

Those in Executive Session were himself, Attorney Dolan, Mrs. Forti, Mrs. Acquarulo and Mr. Lathrop.

Mr. Palladino asked if 8.4 Cafeteria Bid was the same as Whitson's gave to take over the cafeteria services. Mr. Serio stated correct. Did 11.1 Discussion of Cafeteria Negotiations have anything to do with their current contract negotiations and Mr. Serio replied no, it was a letter of agreement that pertained to any action that we may take on the cafeteria bid 8.4. This was something they had discussed with the Cafeteria Union and management. It was to make a decision on the outsourcing.

Motion to go into Executive Session was made by Mr. Pompano and seconded by Mrs. Vineyard.

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

There were no objections or abstentions to the motion. Motion carries.

Out of Regular Session at 9:37 p.m.
Into Executive Session at 9:45 p.m.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

11.1 Discussion of Cafeteria Negotiations

11.2 Discussion of Lease with Pathways/Children's Center

Mr. Palladino asks Attorney Dolan if they should be in Executive Session and Attorney Dolan advises against meeting in Executive Session.

Motion to go out of Executive Session was made by Mr. Palladino and seconded by Mrs. Kluth.

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

There were no objections or abstentions to the motion. Motion carries.

Adjourned Executive Session at 9:50 p.m.
Reconvened Regular Session at 9:50 p.m.

8.4 Possible Action on Cafeteria Bid

Mr. Palladino explained that on the advice of their attorney it had been decided they do these items in Regular Session.

Attorney Dolan shared information from the meeting held last Thursday at Union's request. He spoke about the agreement and steps if the Board decided to outsource. Union had concerns about the possibility of outsourcing and Attorney Dolan thought they were on the same page. Attorney Dolan had a discussion with the Union Rep after receiving a draft today and put his concerns in writing. Attorney Dolan passed out the drafts to the Board (which would be collected at the end) from Ron Suraci. The Board members then read the draft agreement. Attorney Dolan shared his concerns 4, 5 language from the contract. (4) Current employees will be rehired (roster date of June 9 was agreed on at the meeting); (5) from contract "age 55".

Mr. Serio stated that one of questions was what happens if the BOE says yes to outsourcing – how do they finish the year? If they had voted last time, there would have been some confusion based on the contract.

Mrs. Kluth asked why anyone would want to outsource. She did not see how they were saving money. It was stated that it pays for itself if it's outsourced; they can do whatever they want. Mr. Palladino stated that was not true; we will have a contract. Mrs. Kluth said when they host events at EHHS, would they have to pay? Mr. Serio and Mr. Palladino stated that it was already that way. Mr. Palladino stated it would not be any different than it is now. Mrs. Kluth and Mrs. DePalma didn't think it would work that way. Mrs. Kluth stated they have the right to get rid of them after a year and Mr. Palladino responded that they could unionize. Mrs. DePalma felt it would remove them even further from the kids.

There was discussion on the revenues and expenses. Mrs. Kluth did not see how anyone could vote on this in good conscience. Mr. Lathrop shared the audited amounts and what was lost during

each of the last three fiscal years. For 2008-09 there was a loss of \$183,000; 2009-10, there was a loss of \$204,000; and for 2010-11, there was a potential loss projection of \$114,000. The bid document narrowed the loss to \$27,000.

Mrs. DePalma thought they needed better management of worker's compensation. They did not have the time to manage Whitson's contract; they would be in the business of making money.

Mrs. Kluth asked if something breaks, who would pay for that. The answer was that we do. Mr. Palladino stated that nothing changes. Mrs. Kluth stated we pay the bills and they make the money. Mr. Palladino explained that they were taking over the cost of payroll, workmen's comp, and insurance. The bottom line was they were taking off the burden of workmen's comp.

Mrs. Kluth brought up the 15-minute issue at Ferrara again. Mr. Lathrop stated there were 33 food service employees and 8 take benefits. The general fund bears the expenses and worker's compensation was borne by the general fund.

There was further discussion on outsourcing and Attorney Dolan informed them that Whitson's said they would not let anyone go. They did not have a pool of employees. They had done this in Hamden and the people were still employed. Mrs. DePalma was concerned because there had been only one bidder while Mrs. Kluth thought it was not good and they should leave it alone.

Mr. Pompano asked Mr. Serio what his stance was on this since he had been involved for a long time in this. Mr. Serio stated his stance was the same. This idea came out of a discussion to save costs and it was a Board member who suggested looking at outsourcing and concentrate on educating. He was only sharing what it would look like if they chose to outsource.

Mr. Pompano asked if he supported Mr. Lathrop's numbers. Mr. Serio stated that he did and he had checked with others and the savings comes in Year 2. Mrs. DePalma felt that the cafeteria people deserved some support and gratitude and who was going to look out for what our kids are eating.

Mr. Lathrop stated they had cancelled the June 28th meeting. The bid was being held for 60 days. If they don't vote tonight, the bid expires on July 9th. They would have to have another meeting and if they didn't, it would expire on July 9th.

Motion to table was made by Mrs. Maisano and seconded by Mrs. DePalma.

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

There were no objections or abstentions to the motion. Motion carries. This item was tabled.

8.5 Possible Approval of Lease for Pathways/Children's Center

Mr. Serio handed out copies of the proposed lease. It was a standard lease drawn up by Attorney Mike Luzzi which entitled them to enter into an agreement with Children's Community Programs of Connecticut, Inc. They would be on the receiving end of \$167,000 that we were paying for Dodge Avenue. It would offset our tuition. It was a one-year lease. This would give them another year to take a look at our services and look at our options. Mr. Serio would like to see it approved tonight because the date for leaving Dodge Avenue was as of June 30, 2011.

Motion to accept was made by Mr. Pompano and seconded by Mrs. Vineyard.

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

There were no objections or abstentions to the motion. Motion carries.

Mr. Serio requested the Board add to the agenda Item 8.9 Acceptance of the Wireless Generation IPAD Initiative.

Motion to add Item 8.9 was made by Mr. Pompano and seconded by Mrs. Vineyard.

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

There were no objections or abstentions to the motion. Motion carries.

8.9 Acceptance of the Wireless Generation IPAD Initiative

Mr. Serio requested the Board accept the Wireless Generation IPAD Initiative.

Motion to approve was made by Mrs. DePalma and seconded by Mrs. Vineyard.

Any discussion on the motion?

Mrs. Forti explained that there would be 60 IPADs that would be used in the elementary schools. The monies would come out of the Title III, School Readiness and USF Fund for a total cost of \$65,000. Mrs. Forti explained the disbursement of laptops to schools.

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

There were no objections or abstentions to the motion. Motion carries.

9. OLD BUSINESS

9.1 Any questions or comments on the Board Briefs (5-24-11)

Any questions on the Board Briefs? There were none.

10. INFORMATION ITEMS

Mr. Palladino asked if there were any questions on the informational items. There were none.

10.1 Correspondence

10.1.1 Resignations and Retirements – None.

- 10.1.2 Invitation to EHHS Class of 2011 Graduation Ceremony – June 28, 2011 @ 6 p.m.
- 10.1.3 Invitation to JMMS 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony @ EHHS on June 27th @ 4 p.m.
- 10.1.4 FYI – Certificate of Liability Insurance for HOSA National Leadership Conference
- 10.1.5 School Newsletters
- 10.1.6 FYI – School by School Budgets
- 10.1.7 School Enrollment Report for June 1, 2011
- 10.1.8 FYI – ECA Enrollment and Tuition Letter

12. ESTABLISHMENT OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION – JUNE 28, 2011 WILL BE CANCELLED. THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING WILL BE ON JULY 12, 2011. – EASTHAVEN HIGH SCHOOL, 35 WHEELBARROW LANE, EAST HAVEN, CT 06513 at 7:00 p.m.

13. ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR MEETING

Motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. DePalma and seconded by Mrs. Maisano. Meeting adjourned at 10:50 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

**MR. NICHOLAS PALLADINO, CHAIRPERSON
EAST HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION**