

**TOWN OF EAST HAVEN, CT  
EAST HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
35 WHEELBARROW LANE, EAST HAVEN, CT 06513  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2010  
7:00 P.M.**

**PRESENT: MRS. DEPALMA, MR. HENNESSEY, MRS. KLUTH,  
MRS. MAISANO, MR. PALLADINO, MR. POMPARO,  
MR. SCALESE and MRS. VINEYARD**

**ABSENT: MR. DENUZZO  
MRS. ERICA FORTI, ASST. SUPT. OF  
CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION**

**ALSO PRESENT: MR. ANTHONY SERIO, SUPERINTENDENT  
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**

Chairman Nick Palladino called the regular Board of Education meeting to order at 7:14 p.m. in the Boardroom at the High School. He then asked that the student reps lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. MINUTES**

Mr. Palladino asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the revised Regular Board meeting of September 28, 2010.

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

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

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

Mr. Palladino asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Board meeting of October 12, 2010.

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

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

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

### **3. CORRESPONDENCE**

- **Chairperson, Nicholas Palladino**

Mr. Palladino had no correspondence this evening.

- **Superintendent, Mr. Anthony Serio**

Mr. Serio had no correspondence this evening.

### **4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

Mr. Pompano reported there were a handful of appointments this evening.

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

**Mr. Pompano would like to have a Building and Grounds Subcommittee meeting prior to the regular meeting on November 9, 2010 to discuss the terms of the lease on Dodge Avenue and some potential strategies as far as their**

buildings if they were going to entertain ideas of an all-day kindergarten next year.

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

Mrs. DePalma would like to schedule a Curriculum & Instruction Subcommittee meeting to discuss scheduling and specials at the Middle School. She would like to invite the general public to come and be a part of that subcommittee to see how scheduling is done and set up.

Mr. Serio spoke about a visit to the North Branford site for their Middle School so that they could think about moving forward with a long-term plan. Mrs. DePalma had spoken with her principal a little bit and said he was quite eager to have them come.

Mrs. DePalma reported that teacher negotiations were progressing. Mr. Serio spoke about the upcoming dates and Mrs. DePalma would like the times for the non-certified negotiations to be at a time that would accommodate everyone so people don't have to come out of their jobs to attend them.

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

Mrs. Maisano believed they had a Finance/Grants Subcommittee set for Thursday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. to discuss the June 30<sup>th</sup> numbers. It was on the agenda tonight, but she would like it discussed on November 4<sup>th</sup> and then again on November 9<sup>th</sup>. She wanted to go over the grants for last year and grants so far this year.

Mr. Serio asked if this would interfere with the Town Hall or auditors or hold him up in any way and Mr. Lathrop stated no.

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

Mrs. Vineyard had no report this evening.

- **Legal/Ronald DeNuzzo, Chair**

Mr. DeNuzzo was unavailable this evening to give a report.

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

**Mr. Scalesse would like to have a Policy & Bylaws Subcommittee meeting prior to the next Board meeting on November 23, 2010. He would like to review policies and procedures and take into consideration those things that need to be addressed and then address them not at this meeting but at a future meeting.**

- **Personnel, Laura Kluth, Chair**

Mrs. Kluth had no report this evening.

## **5. REPORTS/COMMUNICATION**

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

Kelianna reported on the new Early Dismissal schedules and how they had changed the periods to be longer with lunch being served as a “grab and go” lunch. There was some controversy on this with some thinking it was unfair and others liking it. She would come back to them after the next Early Dismissal to bring back more information.

Mr. Anderson spoke about how he had met with the students and they had tweaked it afterwards. He felt it taught students to make decisions and involved them in the “decision-making” process. Breakfast was open for a longer period of time throughout the day and study halls were held in the cafeteria so all students had the chance to eat. This was only done on early dismissal days. Students were dismissed at 11:11 a.m. and had 35 minutes to eat prior to catching the buses.

Rob spoke about the Open House they had for 8<sup>th</sup> graders and how successful it was. Some of the students were really surprised with what the high school had to offer. He reported the football team won their first game in 4 years and how everyone

was really “pumped” about that. There was a Pep Rally tomorrow and that was exciting.

Mrs. Vineyard attended the Open House and thought the administration did a marvelous job and it was very well put together and attended. Mr. Pompano stated the feedback around town was very positive and they did a nice job.

Mrs. DePalma had been at the high school several times attending events and she wanted to commend Coach Marone and his entire staff. She stated the girls on the volleyball team showed how to win with integrity and how to lose with integrity. They did a phenomenal job. They had dealt with inappropriate behavior and bad sportsmanship. The coaches and girls on that night set a fine example.

- **Superintendent and Central Office Administration**

Mr. Serio believed the band had won the State and New England championships. He thanked the high school staff for hosting the 8<sup>th</sup> grade open house. It was well-received by students and faculty. They ran a separate night for parents and that was also well attended. It was a job well done. He also wished the football team the best of luck in their future games.

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

Mr. Palladino had nothing to comment on this evening.

## **6. COMMUNICATION FROM PUBLIC**

Mr. Palladino asked if there was any communication from the public. There was none.

## **7. SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

### **7.1 CAPT Presentation – East Haven High School Staff**

The CAPT presentation was given by Principal Steve Anderson and Vincent DeNuzzo.

Mr. Anderson gave a presentation regarding the 2010 CAPT scores. He spoke about the student scores in science, math, reading and writing for this year compared to the previous years and also to the State expectations and where they had fallen short or gone up regarding proficiency levels and reaching goal. He stated the suggestion was that “we are teaching to the middle”. The question he would ask and it would be the same question he asked for the rest of the presentation was “Is good enough, good enough? Was good enough just enough for our students or do we want more?” He would say, “We want more.”

Mr. Anderson went over a list of items called “SWOT” which stood for strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.

The Board asked a few questions during the presentation and thanked him for a fabulous presentation.

## **8. OLD BUSINESS**

### **8.1 Any questions or comments on the Board Briefs (10-12-10)**

Any questions on the Board Briefs?

Mrs. Maisano wanted to know where they were at with the meeting with Tom Thompson. Mr. Serio explained he met with Mr. Lathrop and Mr. Thompson and they discussed their concerns regarding the letter that went to the Chairman of the Board. There were certain issues they needed to agree on. Also in that meeting they had included the auditor’s firm in a conference call. Everyone agreed on what needed to be agreed upon and information then needed to be sent to the auditors. Mr. Thompson was going to give the auditor’s firm a call the next morning confirming their conversation. Currently, they were on schedule and promised the auditors they would be on time.

Mrs. Maisano asked if they auditors had started to work on the June 30<sup>th</sup> numbers and Mr. Serio stated he believed they started that. Mr. Thompson and Mr. Lathrop were working on the Town and Board numbers. Mrs. Maisano asked how much longer it would be before they were in compliance with that.

Mr. Lathrop responded Friday. Mrs. Maisano asked what his definition of compliance was and Mr. Lathrop stated it was making sure this Town has the accrual entries for payroll and accounts payable. There was between \$3.5 to \$4 million dollars not recorded on the Town's books. They needed to make sure it was properly recorded on their books. He had delivered a warrant report to Mr. Thompson; a reconciliation between the Town and the Board and they had delivered a beginning balance regarding June 30, 2010.

Mr. Lathrop informed the Board that he believed this would be in balance and the information would be to the auditor by this Friday. There had been a \$10,000 payment to Kostin & Ruffkess for a progress payment on the audit.

There was discussion on whether Mr. Lathrop was attending the Board of Finance meetings. Mr. Lathrop had not attended the last two because he had no information to report to them because he felt it was more appropriate to give the Board of Education the information first.

Mrs. DePalma felt there should be more communication between Mr. Lathrop and the Mayor's Office regarding attendance at the Board of Finance meetings. Mr. Lathrop replied that he had been communicating with the Mayor's office pretty effectively.

**Mrs. DePalma asked the Chairman where they were with doing an evaluation on the Superintendent and on the Board itself. Mr. Palladino stated it was something they would do.**

Mrs. DePalma had spoken with CAFE and currently they were not in compliance with the State at this time with setting the goals or coming up with a plan for the Superintendent's evaluation. CAFE would be forwarding some forms and she would forward them to him.

Mr. Palladino stated he would like to move 9.4 up on the agenda so the gentleman that was here could make an appointment he had.

Motion to move 9.4 up on the agenda was made by Mrs. Vineyard and seconded by Mrs. Kluth.

Any questions on the motion? There were none.

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

**9.4 Permission to Waive the Fee for the Use of the Auditorium on December 17, 2010 for the EH Teen Center Fundraiser (Keith Bouve)**

Mr. Bouve, 99 Prospect Road, spoke about having a fundraising concert at the high school to benefit the EH Teen Center. The Board asked questions regarding who would cover the cost of the custodial and security. This would be covered by him for any overtime hours this would entail. He was looking to just waive the fee for the use of the auditorium. They would need the auditorium from 6 p.m. – 12 midnight. Insurance would be provided by him for that night as well.

There was discussion on having no food or drink in the auditorium. Normally, the Yellow Jackets Club would be offered the option of supplying the food, but Mr. Palladino thought that this could be waived as well.

Mr. Travaglino stated the food and drink needed to be confined to the lobby area or it could drive the cleaning costs up. Mr. Bouve stated they would police it all themselves. Security for an event like this was usually \$1,000. This could be adjusted to reflect the extra costs for the custodial and security could be paid upfront. If there were any issues, they knew where to go. Mr. Lathrop explained there would be a contract sent to him and he needed to provide proof of insurance and a check would set the date.

Motion to waive the fee for the rental portion of the auditorium was made by Mrs. Kluth and seconded by Mrs. Vineyard.

Any questions on the motion? There were none.

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

## **9. NEW BUSINESS**

### **9.1 Ratification of Appointments**

- **Language Arts Teacher @ JMMS**

Mr. Serio requested the Board ratify the appointment of Kaitlyn Seipold for the Language Arts teacher position at JMMS. This position replaces Neil Sullivan.

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

Any discussion on the motion?

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

- **Kindergarten Teacher @ Deer Run**

Mr. Serio requested the Board ratify the appointment of Dana Murphy as a kindergarten teacher at Deer Run School. This is a new position.

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

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

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

- **District ELL/Bilingual Teachers (2)**

Mr. Serio stated there was only one appointment this evening instead of two and requested the Board ratify the appointment of Kim Johnsons de Gonzalez as a district ELL teacher.

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

Any discussion on the motion?

This person would work at D.C. Moore and then also where they needed that person according to the population with the most need.

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

- **Special Education Paraprofessionals (2) @ JMMS**

Mr. Serio requested the Board ratify the appointments of Michelle DePalma and Terese McDermott as paraprofessionals at JMMS.

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

Any discussion on the motion?

Mr. Hennessey asked if this was a relation of Mrs. DePalma. Mrs. DePalma stated she might be a distant cousin of her husband and she was planning to abstain anyways.

Mr. Palladino asked for a roll call vote on the appointment of Michelle DePalma.

Mr. DeNuzzo – absent  
Mrs. DePalma – abstained  
Mr. Hennessey – yes

Mrs. Kluth – yes  
Mrs. Maisano – yes  
Mr. Pompano – yes  
Mr. Scales’ – yes  
Mrs. Vineyard - yes

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

Mr. Palladino asked for a vote on the appointment of Terese McDermott.

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

- **Special Education Paraprofessional @ Tuttle**

Mr. Serio requested the Board ratify the appointment of Kelly Yanick as a paraprofessional at Tuttle School.

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

Any discussion on the motion?

This person was regular ed certified. The person who held this position prior moved to another position in the district.

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

- **Special Education Paraprofessional @ Momauguin**

Mr. Serio requested the Board ratify the appointment of Jayme Cifarelli as a paraprofessional at Momauguin.

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

Any discussion on the motion?

Was there an influx of special ed students? Mrs. Acquarulo explained these were appointments for people that left at the beginning of the year that had not been replaced yet and they had moved a few students around.

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

- **½ Assistant Cheerleading Coach @ EHHS (shared)**

Mr. Serio recommended the Board ratify the appointment of Kimberly Amatruda as a half assistant cheerleading coach at EHHS.

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

Any discussion on the motion?

This was a position at the high school.

There were no objections and there was one (1) abstention which was Mrs. Maisano to the motion. Motion carries.

- **Winter Coach Reappointments**

Mr. Serio requested the Board ratify the following winter coach reappointments:

- Jim Reynolds                      Head Boy's Basketball
- George Pisani                      Asst. Boy's Basketball
- Rob Manghnani                      Freshman Boy's Basketball
- Anthony Russell                      Head Girl's Basketball
- Chris Barry                      Asst. Girl's Basketball
- Cathy Celotto                      Freshman Girl's Basketball
- Kristen Varunes                      JMMS Girl's Basketball
- Lou Pane                      Head Hockey
- Paul Cicarella                      Head Wrestling
- Stephen Tarquino                      Asst. Wrestling

- Nathan Stadig                      JMMS Wrestling
- Rusty Dunne                        Head Indoor Track (Coed)
- Jeff Cretella                        Asst. Indoor Track (Coed)

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

Any discussion on the motion?

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

**9.2 Request for Approval of the Payment of Invoices:**

- **Dated October 27, 2010 for Fiscal Year 2010-11 in the Amount of \$601,859.15**

Mr. Serio recommended the Board approve the payment of invoices dated October 27, 2010 for Fiscal Year 2010-11 in the amount of \$601,859.15.

Motion was made by Mrs. Kluth and seconded by Mr. Hennessey.

Any discussion on the motion?

Mrs. Maisano asked the following questions.

The anticipated costs for the audit would be for the 2009-10 year? Mr. Lathrop responded yes. Mrs. Maisano suggested he move over his columns a little bit.

**Dornfeld** – This was for repairs at the Middle School and Ferrara. One was for a pump in the boiler room at Ferrara and at the Middle School it was for an air-conditioning compressor at the beginning of the year. There was an open PO in the amount of approximately \$70,000. There was approximately \$2,000 allotted per school. It was done in piece-meal in hopes they would not have to use the entire amount.

**Trash Master** – Mr. Travaglinio informed the Board this was for dumpsters from the reconfiguration. The Town allowed in their contract for one pickup a week. Because of everything that was going on, they had used additional. He hoped this was the last of the bills.

Mrs. Maisano stated she had asked Mr. Lathrop to find an account for this that was not in repairs. Mr. Lathrop explained they do not usually have a trash account.

Mrs. Maisano asked about Whitson's being over-encumbered and the monies owed to them. They owed them a large sum of money and he had only transferred half. Mr. Lathrop said he had no complaints from Whitson's from a cash standpoint. They were never ahead; there was a 30-day delay waiting for cash to come in and pay the bill at the end of the month. The State of CT did not reimburse until 60 days later.

Mr. Hennessey stated that he was concerned. He did not understand why they were always behind with Whitson's and they were giving us a loan while we are giving the Town back \$50,000. There was discussion on why this money had not been given to Whitson's. Mr. Hennessey thought they could have used the \$50,000 to pay Whitson's or brought down the amount owed on Worker's Comp or Medical Benefits.

Mrs. DePalma recalled that they said they were not giving any money back to the Town. Mr. Lathrop stated he had over-encumbered in two areas. One was for utilities in the month of July and also in the summer payrolls they had processed. A couple of employees should not have been in the payroll. There was \$50,000 on the employees and the utilities were a little bit more than that. Mrs. DePalma wanted to know why they didn't know that until it went back. Mr. Lathrop stated that technically it had not gone back. If they told him to pay Whitson's the additional \$50,000, he would adjust the amount with the Town.

There was further discussion on Whitson's not asking for the money. It was decided they would hold off on this discussion until they got to the fiscal report.

Any further questions on the bills. There were none.

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

### **9.3 Possible Approval of the Appointment of Elementary Principal**

Mr. Serio asked the Board to ratify the appointment of Laura Lynn as the new elementary principal at Tuttle School.

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

Any further discussion on the motion?

Mr. Hennessey asked Mr. Serio to give them a description of who they were hiring. Mr. Serio stated Laura Lynn had been employed with the New Haven Board of Education for her first 13 years as a teacher and many years since then as a principal of a K-8 school. She was currently a principal at a Magnet School and had been given the Teacher of the Year award as well as receiving many other awards.

Mr. Serio stated they had interviewed five candidates, two internal and three external. There were 15 members on the interview committee and Laura Lynn was the number one pick for Tuttle School.

Mr. Serio would call Mrs. Lynn to find out when she would be able to start but most likely it would be in two to three weeks. Mrs. Ruff's 60 days would be up on December 3.

Any further discussion? There was none.

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

## **9.5 2009-2010 Fiscal Year End Report – Jason Lathrop**

Mr. Pompano suggested they make a motion to go to 9.7 and discuss this item when they have their meeting on November 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Lathrop was concerned that by delaying this, he would not be able to present to the Board of Finance and be reprimanded again for this.

**There was discussion on what date the Finance/Grants Subcommittee would be held. It was decided that this meeting would take place on November 4, 2010 at 6 p.m.**

Motion to table this until the subcommittee meeting was made by Mrs. Maisano and seconded by Mrs. Vineyard.

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

Mrs. DePalma made a motion they move 9.7 Little Jackets Financial Report up on the agenda and it was seconded by Mrs. Maisano.

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

## **9.7 Little Jackets Financial Report**

There was discussion on the Little Jackets financial report as far as payroll, staffing and enrollment. Enrollment was down in that program and it was stated they should get an enrollment report regarding this program. Mrs. Maisano was shocked with the revenue number and the expenditure number. Mrs. Maisano wanted to know where the intergovernmental monies were that were coming in. Mr. Lathrop stated she could see that in the FRC side of things. Mrs. Maisano asked where Mr. Lathrop put it. Mr. Lathrop stated he was not sure whether they got Care for Kids for the Little Jackets Program. Mrs. Maisano was sure the program did get Care for Kids and felt that this was not good accounting because it did not recognize any intergovernmental funds in this report at all.

**Mrs. Maisano told Mr. Lathrop that she would like to see that broken out so they could see the intergovernmental numbers.**

**There was further discussion on how these intergovernmental funds were tracked and Mrs. Maisano wanted these to be tracked so they could get an adequate number of where as a population they stand and what they were receiving back from the intergovernmental amount.**

There was discussion on the comparison of months from year to year and how come they were so far apart as far as the payrolls, because percentage-wise, they were not even close. Mrs. Maisano was concerned that the charge for services in 2010 was \$18,000, yet payroll was \$24,000. You overpaid your staff for what you got in for services. How could that be?

Mr. Lathrop stated that most likely staffing remained the same where it could have been reduced. Mrs. Maisano stated that that was a huge problem. They were in the negative last year and they could not run it in the negative. She was not suggesting the person who runs the program runs it negative at all. They needed to get a better control over monies coming in and the expenses. Mrs. Maisano asked who did the payroll for Little Jackets and Mr. Lathrop responded that he does. Who authorized the payroll hours that were worked and who signed the timecards. Mr. Lathrop responded it was Cathy Finkle.

Mrs. Kluth asked what the difference was in salaries for caregivers vs. assistant caregivers. Mr. Lathrop stated he would have to defer to Cathy Finkle regarding that. Mrs. Maisano asked how payments were made to the Little Jackets and Mr. Lathrop responded that the families pay by check; cash was not accepted. Payments were due between the first and tenth of the month. Mrs. Maisano asked who made the deposits and Mr. Lathrop stated the Little Jacket's Program makes the deposits. Who tracks the accounts? Mr. Lathrop responded they do, the Little Jackets.

Mrs. DePalma asked where the Little Jackets were held now and Mr. Lathrop informed them the program was held at Deer Run, D. C. Moore and Tuttle Schools.

Mr. Hennessey stated he was getting a bad feeling on this. He stated that payroll number changes too much. There was no way they were gaining that many people. It was \$30,000 in June and half of that in May. Mr. Lathrop explained they had accrued two payrolls. Mr. Hennessey asked what that meant. Mr. Lathrop stated it was for July 2<sup>nd</sup> and July 16<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Hennessey stated he did not get it and Mrs. Maisano agreed with him.

Mr. Pompano asked if a quarterly stipend goes out to the director or anyone like that. Mr. Hennessey asked if her pay was included in that amount and Mr. Lathrop stated yes. Mrs. DePalma asked if there was a stipend on top of that. Mr. Lathrop stated everything was contractual and what was negotiated in the Mid-Management Contract. Mr. Lathrop stated he would have to refer to the contract. Mr. Lathrop stated it was not a stipend. The members in that contract were paid a certain amount per month that was contractually set for travel. It was called Travel - Supplemental Income.

Mr. Palladino stated there were four people in that union and all four get the same and it was negotiated in the contract. Mr. Travaglino informed them that the contract ended June 30, 2011.

Mrs. Kluth wanted to know if it was true that the caregivers had not been given raises in two years. This was true.

**Mrs. Maisano stated they needed to revisit this and requested a list of employees, what their positions were, their pay and a list of enrollment. In that enrollment, she would like it separated between how often they come there, such as Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Enrollment should be by location and type and the whole intergovernmental program needs to show how many children were on those books that were receiving**

**intergovernmental revenues that impact that so they can make adjustments. She would also like to see the payroll numbers and ledgers 5/30/10 to 6/30/10 and for November and December because of the big gap between those numbers.**

Mr. Pompano stated that Mrs. Maisano made a good point at their last meeting asking where Pattie Lewis was. There were four in that union and he felt that all four of them should be here at all of their meetings. There was discussion on who should or should not be in attendance at the meetings on a regular basis. Mr. Pompano stated they should come to the meetings until the Superintendent says they are released. If two of them had to be here, then the other two should also. All of the administrators were required to be at the meetings even if there was nothing specific on the agenda for them.

Mrs. Maisano felt the budget numbers were a little low for purchase services and supplies. Last year the combination of those two were \$72,000 and now it was approximately \$52,000. They were looking pretty with revenue at \$80,000, but she did not think it was a realistic view at all. She disagreed with him on how he put those numbers in balance and wanted to go back and look at those closer and also at the payroll.

Mr. Palladino asked if there was anything else on the financial report. **He asked Mr. Lathrop when they could expect that information and Mr. Lathrop replied by November 4<sup>th</sup>.**

## **9.6 2010-11 Financial Report Forecast**

Mr. Lathrop reported he was forecasting a deficit for the end of the year. Last year they had reported on expenses only and this year they were reporting on revenues and expenses. They had been netting it out in the past and it did not accurately reflect what was occurring on their general ledger. Mrs. Maisano stated that was her point with the Little Jackets. Despite using \$200,000 of the unbudgeted Education Jobs Grant, increased staffing and benefit costs place them in a deficit position of \$150,000.

Mr. Lathrop reported on salaries for certified and non-certified showing a deficit amount. He spoke about benefits and also on how the Board had never received the grant monies in the amount of \$140,000 from the Town and how they had not received a satisfactory explanation from the Town. Mr. Lathrop stated from a grant standpoint, he thought the auditor would have to determine if those funds were incorrectly retained by the Town because they were reported on our grant schedule. He would have to defer to the auditor.

There was discussion on the Special Education Excess Cost and how this had come up at a Board of Finance meeting. Mr. Lathrop shared that it had been a bone of contention between him and Mr. Thompson in the month of June. He had not reported to the Board of Finance since the month of June.

Mrs. Maisano suggested they have Tom Thompson come to them to explain why. Mr. Palladino stated they had him come last time regarding the Worker's Comp to find out those numbers and he had never received those numbers regarding what they actually paid opposed to what they were being charged. He still did not know if they were putting more towards Worker's Comp than they needed to. They had been asked to pay the award to a certain teacher from Worker's Comp as he retired even though they pay into Worker's Comp Self-Insurance and they wouldn't pay out of it. They never did get an answer and never did get the actuary.

**Mr. Lathrop stated he would be glad to get him that information as to why we are paying that worker's comp claim.** Why were they paying above and beyond? Mr. Lathrop stated it was also a concern of his.

There was a question on the graduation expenses being \$16,900. This was for all of the student activity funds combined. Mrs. DePalma thought they had cleared up the description and Mr. Lathrop explained that he did not think he had updated this on the spreadsheet. **Mrs. Maisano asked that**

**they have an updated sheet for the November 4<sup>th</sup> meeting and this to be put on the larger paper.**

Mr. Hennessey asked what the Education Jobs Grant was. Mr. Lathrop explained it was an award to the State of CT and East Haven would receive an amount of \$1,097,000. It had become available on 10/10/10 to hire or rehire teachers laid off during the last two years. Mr. Hennessey stated you are already using that fund so we are really \$350,000 in the hole. Mr. Lathrop stated based upon the five positions, yes. Mr. Hennessey stated he had a little problem with that. It was \$1.1 million and the Board should have some input on how that was spent. They were \$350,000 in the hole and he was filling it in with money they didn't even know he was using.

There was discussion on having an expenditure freeze. Mrs. DePalma wondered why there were so many curriculum materials being ordered at this time of the year. She wanted to know who makes those decisions and says we can spend that money. Mr. Lathrop stated there were small amounts coming in. Mrs. DePalma wanted to know what and where that money was going to that he was assigning it without it coming to the Board. They had never adjusted the budget.

Mr. Hennessey stated they spent \$200,000 in three months. Mr. Serio explained that the extra hires they had tonight was used tonight. They were trying to sit on the rest of it. He stated he would bring it to them to discuss. Mrs. Maisano stated she did not necessarily agree with that. They were not putting it into a savings account. **Mr. Serio stated they needed to come together to make a plan. Mr. Serio stated they could talk about this on Thursday night.**

There was further discussion on how they would not be able to spend that money until they get their allocation from the Town. They needed to know where they stood on this.

Mrs. DePalma asked if all the teachers were back that had been laid off. Mr. Palladino stated they had brought everyone back. Mrs. DePalma asked why curriculum textbooks and workbooks

were coming in now. Mr. Lathrop stated the financial report he gives to the Board of Ed shows they slowed down from an expenditure standpoint. He needed to take a hard look at their curriculum expenditures and he would report back to them on a monthly basis to see where they stand.

## **10. INFORMATION ITEMS**

Mr. Palladino asked if there were any questions on the informational items.

Mrs. DePalma spoke about the high school website still not being up and running. Those who do the websites received a stipend and she also signed up for the email to get feedback. There were quite a few technology people on staff in this district. **Mr. Palladino stated they needed to have Randel Osborne come to the next meeting. That was a good question to ask him.** Mr. Pompano stated they were all under Randel Osborne.

### **10.1 Correspondence**

#### **10.1.1 Resignations/Retirements – None.**

#### **10.1.2 School Newsletters**

## **11. EXECUTIVE SESSION – None.**

## **12. ESTABLISHMENT OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING:**

**THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION – NOVEMBER 9, 2010 – EAST HAVEN 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 Mr. Hennessey.

There was no discussion on the motion, no objections, and no abstentions. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**

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