

**TOWN OF EAST HAVEN, CT
EAST HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
35 WHEELBARROW LANE, EAST HAVEN, CT 06513
TUESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2010
7:00 P.M.**

**PRESENT: MR. PALLADINO, MRS. DEPALMA, MR. DENUZZO,
MR. HENNESSEY, MRS. MAISANO, MR. POMPANO,
MR. SCALESE and MRS. VINEYARD**

ABSENT: MRS. KLUTH

**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

Chairman Palladino called the regular Board of Education meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. in the Boardroom at the High School. He then asked that everyone stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. MINUTES

Mr. Palladino asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Board meeting of August 10, 2010.

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

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

There were no objections to the motion. There was one (1) abstention which was Mrs. Vineyard. 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 stated there were a few appointments this evening and football started on the 18th. All other sports would begin this Saturday.

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

Mr. Pompano had no report this evening.

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

Mrs. DePalma had nothing to report on for curriculum. Under negotiations things were moving forward, but there was nothing to report at this time.

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

Mrs. Maisano had no report for finance. **She would like to set up a Grants Subcommittee meeting in the near future. Janice would find out availability of the Board members.**

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

Mrs. Vineyard had no food service report. They had a PTA/PTO subcommittee meeting last week and the principals had planned some dates for an open house of sorts on September 3rd from 1-3 p.m. The schools would be open for parents and students to come in and tour the school and meet the staff. The Back to School nights had also been set.

- **Legal/Ronald DeNuzzo, Chair**

Mr. DeNuzzo stated he had nothing to report this evening.

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

Mr. Scalesse had nothing to report this evening.

- **Personnel, Laura Kluth, Chair**

Mrs. Kluth was unavailable to give a report this evening.

5. REPORTS/COMMUNICATION

- **Student Representatives**

The student representatives are not present during the summer.

- **Superintendent and Central Office Administration**

Mr. Serio introduced Stephen Anderson, the new principal of the high school. Mr. Anderson stood up and introduced himself and spoke about some of his goals for the upcoming year.

Mr. Serio wanted to thank the teachers, custodians, Mr. Travaglino, Public Works and the principals for all their hard work this summer in preparation for the opening day of school. Mr. Serio informed the Board that Public Works would be paving the parking lot at Overbrook School because it was in disrepair. This was an item that was on the agenda for approval tonight.

The Board would only have to pay for the materials and not the labor.

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

Mr. Palladino would also like to say that everyone in the school system did a great job in this very involved project. He hoped the opening would be seamless with very few glitches. There may be a few more due to the reorganization.

Mr. DeNuzzo wanted to mention that they had lost a tremendous person last week, James Glee. He was a tremendous athlete here in East Haven and everybody here is saddened by this loss. He asked for a Moment of Silence.

Mr. Palladino thanked Mr. DeNuzzo for remembering James Glee.

6. COMMUNICATION FROM PUBLIC

Laura Dellarocca, had been involved with the schools for many years. She spoke about the discussion at the last meeting regarding the formation of a Presidents' Council that would meet once a quarter or month. Perhaps parents if they were not comfortable coming to the Board meetings to discuss their concerns would feel comfortable going to the Council. She hoped if parents did come to the Board meetings that the Board makes every effort to address and resolve such issue. She wished everyone luck and hoped everything went smoothly.

The information regarding the Middle School orientation was next Tuesday night from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the auditorium. Parents needed to call and register. Information was currently on the website and no letters were being sent home.

Mrs. Vineyard wanted to let everyone know that the Presidents' Council for the PTO's was something the principals were going to encourage the PTO's to do on their own.

Lena Travers, spoke about the last Board meeting and she wanted to know what had happened with the discussion of the special fund

of \$3,000 going to each school or the PTO/PTA's, and where was this money and where has it been. Mr. Lathrop explained he had mentioned this amount at a prior meeting and should have run it by the Superintendent first. The monies in the grant could be used for community/parental involvement in the schools. Mr. Serio stated that they had decided that \$3,000 was more than they wanted to offer, but thought the PTO's should communicate through their principals as to what type of funding they would need to improve parental involvement in their community and help build educational communities within those schools. This would build relationships with parents and also provide educational programming not only for the children but for the parents.

There was discussion on student planners and whether they would be covered under the grant. Mr. Serio did not believe planners would be covered, but instructional nights such as math nights or CMT nights would be. Mr. Serio thought the Board might be able to help with the payment of more custodial hours when the PTA/PTO's needed them so that their fundraising was not affected as much.

Mrs. Travers felt that the PTA/PTO's needed to hear about things like the grant so they could understand it and maybe the Board could give them what the Title I funding was for and they could plan what they needed to do ahead for the children. She felt the planners were very important and she did not know what kind of monies they had at Tuttle, but she did not think they had enough for the planners for the children. Mrs. Maisano suggested the Board subsidize this and Mr. Serio stated they had never paid for this.

Mrs. Travers would like to be notified by Connect Ed if there was another meeting. There was some more discussion on planners. **Mr. Serio asked that she meet with Mrs. Ruff to go over this and have Mrs. Ruff give him a call afterwards.**

Pam CoFrancesco, asked if Mr. Serio had an answer about the 6th grade band at the Middle School. She stated he had told her he would have an answer by this Tuesday. Mr. Prato spoke about this and stated that the 6th graders had signed up for band and chorus. **There was some discussion on this matter and Mr. Prato asked**

her to call tomorrow and he would check into those students at Tuttle School to see if they had signed up.

Marilyn Vitale, asked why the sophomores, juniors and seniors get their schedules on the first day of school and not prior to school. Mr. Serio explained this had always been done this way.

Mrs. Vitale asked Mrs. Forti when they could expect a presentation on the CMT's and CAPT and the schools that did not make AYP. Mrs. Forti stated they were in an excellent position as far as AYP and they would give the presentation on another night. She stated all of the schools had worked extremely hard. Those schools in need of improvement, Carbone, D. C. Moore, Momauguin and the Academy all achieved safe harbor. She then explained how the schools remain with a status of safe harbor for two years before they make completely normal status.

Mrs. Vitale asked that she be notified when they give the CMT and CAPT presentations. The results were currently on the website. They would arrive in Central Office the second or third week in September and then be sent to the schools with one copy kept there and one sent home.

Patrick Madley, spoke about how students who want to change their schedules at the high school had to wait for two weeks until they get an appointment with the guidance counselor to see if spots open up. If you are waiting to get in that class, you are out of luck or you end up two weeks behind and that was hard to do in the AP courses. He would like to see this changed in the coming year so students can get scheduled in late May or June and the problem could be changed immediately.

There was discussion on Power School and how things could be done much faster and how doing the schedules sooner allowed students to change teachers they did not want or change their schedules to be with their friends. These were not good reasons to change schedules. Mr. Serio stated the new principal could work with his administrative leaders and assistant principals and guidance counselors to facilitate a better system for the students.

Lena Travers, asked when the bus schedules would be out. They were posted already on the website. There was discussion as to whether these would be in the newspaper. Mr. Serio explained that usually they were not in there because it took too many pages to put them in. It was also on the Access Channel starting tomorrow. Not all parents got this channel because they were with AT & T. Rob Becker explained that would change in November when they went to U-Verse.

7. SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS

7.1 School Building Committee

There was no presentation from the School Building Committee due to a medical issue.

8. OLD BUSINESS

8.1 Any questions or comments on the Board Briefs (8-10-10)

There were no questions or comments this evening.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Ratification of Appointments

- **Special Education Psychologist @ JMMS**

Mr. Serio asked Mrs. Acquarulo to present the Special Education positions which he was recommending.

Mrs. Acquarulo asked the Board to approve the appointment of Cassandra Lulaj as a replacement psychologist for Amy Freiman at JMMS.

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

Any discussion on the motion?

These were all replacement positions and people were coming in at less than those that left as retirees or those that had

resigned. Mr. Lathrop stated they were right on target. There were 11 interviewees and 30 applicants.

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

- **Special Education Teacher @ EHHS**

Mrs. Acquarulo recommended through the Superintendent that the Board approve the appointment of Elizabeth Paquette as special education teacher at EHHS. This person would replace Ava Sorensen who took another special education position in the system.

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

Any discussion on the motion?

There were 7 applicants.

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

- **Special Education Teacher @ EHA & JMMS**

Mrs. Acquarulo recommended through the Superintendent that the Board approve the appointment of Carolyn Gareiss as the replacement special education teacher for EHA and JMMS.

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

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

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

- **Family & Consumer Science Teacher @ EHHS**

Mr. Serio recommended the Board approve the appointment of Nathaniel Bradshaw as the replacement for Richard Krusewski who retired last year.

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

Any discussion on the motion?

There was discussion regarding the number of applicants and this person's qualifications. Mrs. Mazzu spoke to the candidate's outstanding qualifications and experience.

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

- **Spanish/Italian Teacher @ EHHS**

Mr. Serio recommended the Board approve the appointment of Carla DeStefanis as a replacement Spanish/Italian teacher @ EHHS.

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

Any discussion on the motion?

There were only three applicants for this position. Of the three, one declined an interview, one did not interview well, had no CT certification and had not finished their courses.

Mrs. Mazzu spoke to the candidate being highly qualified and she had spoken to her references. At Central University she unanimously won an award from the entire language department for the most distinguished student.

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

- **Family Resource Center Lead Teacher**

Mr. Serio recommended the Board approve the appointment of Maryann D’Auria as the FRC lead teacher.

Motion was made by Mr. Pompano and seconded by Mr. Hennessey.

Any discussion on the motion?

How many applicants were there and what steps were put in place to make this interview process different from the last one? There were four applicants and the interview committee asked all of the candidates the same questions and they were all allotted the same amount of time. Those on the interview committee were a parent, Pre-K teacher, FRC Lead Childcare Instructor, Principal of the School, Karen Schmidt, and herself. The difference between this interview and the previous one was that all candidates were afforded an interview, the interview committee was more extensive than the previous one, and they had used the forced choice. They made the recommendations to the Superintendent and he brought it forward.

This position was a new position and it was grant funded. The salary range was \$28,000 to \$34,000. The interviews had been done today. There was only one interview today and no second interview. Some of the candidates had gone through two interviews. This position did not require certification.

Mr. Palladino asked for a roll call vote since there appeared to be some opposition.

Mrs. Maisano stated she was opposed because they had someone come up here two weeks ago very upset as to what she had heard. They were concerned the process was not being held to the utmost standards and they were not certain now. They wanted to make sure the same thing did not happen again.

Mr. DeNuzzo asked Mr. Serio if there was any reason they would not accept the recommendation. Mr. Serio stated not to his knowledge; the same person came to the top twice.

Mrs. DePalma asked if the recommended name was the name that was being given to them was the name forwarded by the group. Mrs. Forti replied the name was being put forward.

Mr. Palladino asked for a roll call vote.

Mrs. Maisano asked if the first interview had been forced choice and Mrs. Forti replied that the first time it was not. That's what was different.

Mr. Palladino asked for a roll call vote again.

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

Vote was five (5) in favor with two (2) opposed. Motion carries.

- **Volleyball Coach @ JMMS**

Mr. Serio recommended the Board approve the appointment of Patricia Bonanno as the volleyball coach at JMMS.

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

Any discussion on the motion?

Mrs. Vineyard stated she did not believe they should receive some of the information that was in the packet. They should probably just get the front sheet.

This person was a former player.

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

- **Head Volleyball Coach @ EHHS**

Mr. Serio recommended the Board approve the appointment of Alexis Nacca as the head volleyball coach at EHHS.

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

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

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

- **Asst. Volleyball Coach @ EHHS**

Mr. Serio recommended the Board approve the appointment of Kristen Varunes as the assistant volleyball coach at EHHS.

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

Any discussion on the motion?

There was a question regarding CPR being done. This Friday Marc Aceto would be giving a class on CPR and First Aid.

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

- **Asst. Swim Coach @ EHHS**

Mr. Serio recommended the Board approve the appointment of Taylor Miessau as the assistant swim coach at EHHS.

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

Any discussion on the motion?

The number of students signed up for this was approximately 15. They had a meeting last night and Mr. Marone emailed them this morning to find out the results but had not heard back yet. There were more students this year.

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

Mr. Serio asked the Board to add two more appointments to the agenda this evening. The first was for a special education teacher at JMMS and the second was for a science teacher at the high school.

Motion to add was made by Mr. Pompano and seconded by Mr. DeNuzzo.

Any questions on the motion? There were none.

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

- **Special Education Teacher @ JMMS**

Mr. Serio recommended the Board approve the appointment of Christina Serpa as a replacement special education teacher at JMMS.

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.

- **Science Teacher @ EHHS**

Mr. Serio recommended the Board approve the appointment of Steven Autieri as a replacement science teacher at EHHS.

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

Any discussion on the motion?

The certification in CT was pending. When will he get that? His paperwork was at the State. Will we have it before he starts or get verification? They would get verification that it was being processed.

Any further discussion?

Mr. Scalesse asked about the federal stimulus package and whether there were certain criteria they needed to meet. Mr. Serio explained this was fairly new and they did not have the details per se to answer his question. **They would be researching this to find out the exact amount. They were definitely interested and would report back to the Board.**

Mr. DeNuzzo asked about Race to the Top and whether this would happen again next year. Mr. Serio and Mrs. Forti stated there really was no talk about reapplying for it. There were federal mandates that needed to be met and Connecticut had to complete the mandates without the funding. Mr. Serio needed to look into the rules regarding the stimulus monies. He stated you can supplement but you cannot supplant. Those people they had not yet hired, such as instructional aides and some of their support people, may

qualify. Mrs. DePalma thought that the stimulus monies were only for certified people. Mrs. Forti stated the State of Connecticut had been allotted \$110 million and East Haven would receive a little bit over \$1 million. Mr. DeNuzzo asked if all of that comes to the Board of Education and if they had to spend it all in one year. Mr. Serio stated it was for the Board of Ed and he would have to get back to him on when it needed to be spent because nothing formal had come to them from the State.

Mr. Palladino was out of the room at 8:10 p.m.

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

9.2 Request for Approval of the Payment of Invoices:

- **Dated August 25, 2010 for Fiscal Year 2009-10 in the Amount of \$870,516.36**

Mr. Serio recommended the Board approve the payment of invoices dated August 25, 2010 for Fiscal Year 2009-10 in the amount of \$870,516.36.

Mrs. Vineyard asked for a motion.

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

Any discussion on the motion?

Mrs. Maisano welcomed Pattie Lewis to the meeting and apologized for not getting her questions to Mr. Lathrop but she had been away.

Mr. Palladino returned to the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

Mrs. Maisano asked if this would be the last approved payment they would be making for this year. Mr. Lathrop explained there were two open purchase orders which were for medical

and the town's worker's comp with a combined balance of \$1,000. Currently, the Board was \$30,000 to the positive.

Durant Nichols Houston – This was the June bill. How much were they over on the legal for this year? Mr. Lathrop to get the exact amount.

There was discussion on the huge amount charged regarding the nepotism issue that was looked into at the Board's request. The amount for this issue alone was \$6,658. Mr. Palladino had requested Lisa Egan look into this issue and was not aware of what the charges would be. A few of the Board members suggested that before they ask an attorney to look into a matter, they need to get an estimate ahead of time.

Mrs. DePalma spoke about the Board needing to be updated on cases and negotiations and, as a Board, decide what needed to be done. She also wanted to put a motion on the table that they do it with one attorney and use Shipman & Goodwin. If they were the top-notch education attorney, they would not have spent this amount of time on this issue and they could have saved money.

Mr. Palladino wanted to remind them that it was both she and Mrs. Maisano that were concerned about the issue and felt they needed a legal opinion. They voted to get a legal opinion. Mrs. DePalma stated it was only a suggestion. There was further discussion on what the proper way was regarding hiring of attorneys.

There was discussion on whether this needed to be tabled. Mrs. Maisano felt they had spent all this money and never took it seriously at all. They had suggested they put republicans and democrats on the search committee and he had pulled out and it cost them \$6,500. Mr. Palladino stated we are always looking for legal opinions instead of using our common sense.

Mrs. Maisano thought that this should be discussed with the attorney. Mr. Serio will look into this with Durant Nichols Houston.

Mr. Hennessey was concerned with another item on this bill and that was the one from the Middle School. How could something so simple and small end up costing \$15,000? He had read one that said, “research of gender-stereo type”. He thought this could have been resolved quickly with a letter. They needed to come up with a way to reign in the attorneys who think they have a blank check. He thought they should put an amount such as \$2,500 on it and once they reach that amount they should call us because they were done. Mr. Palladino agreed with him.

Mr. Serio stated that once they reach the Civil Rights Commission, then it was out of their hands. This case had been settled. Mr. Hennessey stated that the case could have been done before it left this place. He thought a lot of the cases could be settled. Mr. Hennessey stated if they had to pay \$1,500 for an opinion then they didn’t need one. Other Board members agreed.

Mrs. DePalma thought that \$7,000 to Dolan and Luzzi was extremely high for negotiations. How much could they talk about and not resolve it?

Mrs. Maisano felt they should use Shipman & Goodwin for the teachers, otherwise it might cost them triple. If they couldn’t do the cafeteria, how could they do the teachers? There was some conversation that it might take less time to find an answer out from the experts in the field and they could find out in a more timely and affordable manner.

Mr. Pompano stated that the cafeteria workers’ was just settled and that had been open for two years. Luzzi & Dolan wrapped it up and they did a nice job with that. Mrs. DePalma stated she did not believe it was ready to be wrapped up. She had heard differently. Mr. Serio did not feel this should be discussed.

Mr. DeNuzzo stated he agreed with what everyone was saying but did not think they should lock into one attorney because they could then dictate to them what they charge. This would

keep it competitive for negotiations or using them for something else. A few of the Board members thought that it should be up to Mr. Serio to decide which attorney to use for whatever issue may arise. Mrs. DePalma did not agree; she thought the Board should decide. Mr. DeNuzzo did not think they wanted to take the discretion out of the Superintendent's hands on whom to use for certain things.

Mrs. Maisano wanted everyone to keep in mind they had a budget for legal. They needed to get estimates on how long it might take and to be notified if they were going over a certain amount.

Hinding, Tennis, LLC – This was for repairs to the tennis courts.

Holt McDougal – This was for social studies books. The PO was done in June and just being processed now. This was to align the 6th grade curriculum with the 7th and 8th grade curriculum.

Kostin & Ruffkess – This bill was in the amount of \$8,500 and they were to come in and figure out what was wrong and right. There was discussion on holding the check because the work had not been completed. Mr. Hennessey thought we had hired them to make sure by the end of the fiscal year we were in 100% compliance with the audit. How could they not be done with that and we are paying them? Mr. Lathrop stated he had sent them a significant amount of documents and had not heard back from them. He said what the Board had requested was to make sure they do not over-expend for the current year.

Mr. Hennessey stated he was wrong. What the Board requested on the audit was there were some issues that stood out and that we had not done our financial accounting properly. They had hired the person, auditor, to come in and make sure we did everything right so when he came in and did the audit, it was going to be perfect. Now, if they had not rendered their service by the end of the year, he did see that they should pay them at

all because the fiscal year was over. Mrs. Maisano stated that Mr. Hennessey was right on target.

Mrs. Maisano found it odd that the purchase order was for \$8,500 and the bill was for \$8,500. Mr. Lathrop explained they were cutting it to close the fiscal year. He stated they could void it and what was deferred they could pay out of the current fiscal year.

There was discussion on what services had been rendered and what information they had requested. Mr. Lathrop explained that Kostin & Ruffkess had asked for grant information first because that was what held it up last year. Mrs. Maisano stated that was not why they hired these people. They were supposed to come in and do an analysis to see what our problems were and how we could fix them.

Mr. Serio stated he had not heard from Mr. Centofanti at all. Mr. Lathrop was not sure that this was the auditors' expectation. Mr. Lathrop stated they had four to five payrolls left so he could not have completed this by 6/30 because everything was not done by that time period. The grant stuff had been his biggest concern.

It was suggested that Mr. Serio call them and find out what they actually accomplished. Mrs. DePalma felt they should take this off because they did not do it.

Mr. Serio asked what would happen if you take that money out of 2009-10. Mrs. Maisano said you are at \$38,000. Mr. Serio said they should find out if he has a report that is being finished off or whatever and if they pay it out of this year's budget 2010-11, you lose the \$8,500 anyways. Mr. Lathrop stated that's correct. They wanted to go over the grants first and he had not heard back from him.

Mr. Hennessey stated if they cite us for one thing we have done wrong, we are not paying them \$8,500 because that's what we contracted them for. We wanted a clean audit; if we are not getting one, we are not paying it. Mr. Palladino agreed.

Mrs. Maisano stated Mr. Lathrop had not negotiated the scope of the work. He had said \$8,500 and she had voted against it. She had wanted it to be \$5,000. Mr. Hennessey confirmed that and said they had overruled her.

Mr. Palladino asked Mr. Serio to take care of this and straighten this out tomorrow.

William Meyers – The total for the move was \$77,000.

Mrs. Maisano made a motion to table Durant Nichols Houston so that Mr. Serio could talk to the attorney, Lisa Egan, to see if we can get the opinion letter reduced. She also wanted to withdraw the Kostin & Ruffkess bill. The motion was seconded by Mrs. DePalma.

Any further discussion?

There was discussion on whether to take the money out of this year or next if there was a portion of a bill to be paid for Kostin & Ruffkess. Mr. Serio stated he wanted it taken out of the 2009-10 year. Mr. Lathrop explained that the purpose was to solely close this budget out on a timely basis.

Mrs. Maisano said if they cut the check for \$8,500 and wait for an actual bill, there would be an outstanding check on the bank reconciliation. There was discussion on what they were actually voting on.

Mr. Serio explained he would negotiate the Durant Nichols bill. Mrs. Maisano stated they were going to see if they could negotiate the attorney's fee down and get an appropriate bill. For Kostin & Ruffkess for the \$8,500 they would leave the fiscal year open until they get a corrected bill. Mr. Lathrop stated he would cancel this check and reopen the Kostin & Ruffkess purchase order until such time.

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

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

- **Dated August 25, 2010 for Fiscal Year 2010-11 in the Amount of \$156,207.40**

Mr. Serio recommended the Board approve the payment of invoices dated August 25, 2010 for Fiscal Year 2010-11 in the amount of \$156,207.40.

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

Any discussion on the motion?

Anthem Blue Cross – There was a question regarding the unencumbered amount? There was a positive number in that balance so this was a good thing. Negative numbers are bad.

Dolan & Luzzi – There was a question on Ecuadorian Soccer League of Wallingford. This was a league that rented Overbrook School and they never paid the bill. They were trying to collect it. How much was the bill for? One bill was for \$4,000 and the other one was for \$9,000. They had used the building throughout the spring and the bill was from June 9th.

Mr. Serio stated that from now on any rental of the buildings would go through the business office. In past practice, it was done by the building secretaries. They had not signed contracts in the past.

Mrs. Maisano asked how much more would be expended on negotiations because the bulk of this bill was for negotiations. When would this be done? Mr. Serio did not know, but he would get an approximation for them.

Reilly's Adjusting Service was a collection agency.

Any further discussion? There was none.

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

9.3 Approval of ACES Annual Membership Agreement and Appointment of Board Members to Serve as ACES Representative and Alternate

Mr. Serio recommended the Board approve the ACES Annual Membership Agreement and Appoint Board members to serve as the ACES representative and alternate that met monthly.

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

Any discussion on the motion?

There was discussion on who might be able to do this. Mrs. Maisano will check her schedule to see if she could attend these meetings. Mr. Serio would get a schedule of the meetings.

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

9.4 Request Approval of \$500 Donation to Baseball Team from Town Fair Tire

Mr. Serio recommended the Board approve the \$500 donation to the baseball team from Town Fair Tire.

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

Any discussion on the motion?

Mr. Pompano asked about this money at one time being applied towards a storage trailer. Mr. Marone explained that was the initial hope and for various reasons it did not come to fruition. They had been sitting on this money since Christmas.

Mr. Lathrop stated this had been brought to the Board because any donation made to the Board had to be approved by the Board of Ed prior to us accepting the funds. This money would go into the Athletic Department funds for uniforms.

Mrs. Maisano spoke about the errors regarding the checks and bank reconciliations on the Quick Books report. Mr. Lathrop thanked her.

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

9.5 Discussion and Approval of Murphy Security Contract Agreement

Mr. Serio requested the Board approve the Murphy Security Contract Agreement.

Motion 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.

9.6 Request Board Approval of Capital Improvement Payment of \$12,500 for Paving at Overbrook School

Mr. Serio requested the Board approve the Capital Improvement payment of \$12,500 for paving at Overbrook School.

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

Any discussion on the motion?

The \$12,500 was just for supplies. The labor was being provided by Public Works at no cost to the Board.

Mr. Travaglino reported that Public Works had been very supportive this year. It had been the best year ever.

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

9.7 Permission for Superintendent to Hire Open Positions Prior to Start Up of School on September 7, 2010

Mr. Serio requested the Board's permission to hire for open positions prior to the start up of school on September 7, 2010. **He would bring those hires to the Board immediately after the start of school or if there was a special meeting.**

There was discussion on what was needed and the recall list. **Mrs. DePalma stated they needed a list of classes and teachers and how many kids in the grades. Something like Frank Meoli had given them in the past. Mrs. Forti stated she was working on that. Mrs. Forti stated that Janice Ball could send them the staffing list for all of the schools.**

There was some discussion on what the Middle School might need with the extra students coming in. **There was discussion about the possibility of a Teacher on Special Assignment that could assist with administrative duties to help support students, parents and the administration. Teachers would have to apply because it would be a stipend position.** They would get their regular salary plus an amount to do administrative duties. This might help to bring somebody back off the layoff list or possibly a new hire. This would be full-time. The secretaries came back today so there would be updates coming in on enrollments.

There was also the need for an in-school suspension person and support for reading. Tomorrow they would be reviewing specials to make sure class sizes were reasonable. Currently, Mr. Serio did not foresee any new hires from the outside. First they would recall employees that were laid off in June.

Mrs. Forti stated they were still actively seeking a Latin teacher, but had not been successful so far. They would have to redistribute all of these students into other foreign language courses. There was discussion on the other positions that needed to be filled.

Motion made by Mr. Pompano and second by Mrs. Vineyard.

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

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

10. INFORMATION ITEMS

10.1 Correspondence

10.1.1 Resignations/Retirements

- **Technology Specialist, Christine Merritt (Resignation)**
- **Science Teacher, Jeff Pascale (Resignation)**
- **School Psychologist, Cheryl Claise Briganti (Resignation)**

10.1.2 Athletic Checkbook – Regular Acct. – July 2010

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION – None.

12. ESTABLISHMENT OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION – SEPTEMBER 14, 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. Vineyard and seconded by Mr. Pompano.

There was no discussion on the motion, no objections, and no abstentions. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

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