

REVISED

**EAST HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
EAST HAVEN HIGH SCHOOL BOARDROOM
35 WHEELBARROW LANE
EAST HAVEN, CONNECTICUT 06513**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2010
7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Mrs. DePalma, Mr. Hennessey, Mrs. Kluth
Mrs. Maisano, Mr. Palladino, Mr. Pompano,
Mr. Scalesse and Mrs. Vineyard

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Anthony Serio, Superintendent
Mr. Frank Meoli, Assistant Supt.
Mrs. Erica Forti, Asst. Supt of
Curriculum & Instruction
Mrs. Mary Acquarulo, Director of
Pupil Services
Mr. Jason Lathrop, Business Administrator
Mr. Joseph Travaglino, Director of
Bldgs. & Grounds

ABSENT: Mr. DeNuzzo

1. OPEN MEETING

Chairman, Mr. Palladino called the Regular Board of Education Meeting to order at 6:58 p.m. in the Boardroom at the High School. Mr. Palladino stated they would be relocating to the Auditorium.

Chairman, Mr. Palladino called the Regular Board of Education Meeting to order at 7:17 p.m. in the Auditorium at the High School. Mr. Palladino stated that it was the Fire Marshall's rules. Mr. Palladino asked everyone to please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance and requested a moment of silence for those who died from the explosion at the Power Plant in Middletown.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Mr. Palladino requested a motion for the approval of the minutes for the Regular Board meeting of January 26, 2010.

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 made to the motion. Motion carries. The minutes were approved.

Mr. Palladino requested a motion for the approval of the minutes for the Special Board meeting of January 20, 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 made to the motion. Motion carries. The minutes were approved.

Mr. Palladino asked for a motion for the approval of the minutes for the Special Board meeting of February 1, 2010.

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

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

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

3. CORRESPONDENCE

- **Board Chair**

Mr. Palladino stated that he had no correspondence this evening.

- **Superintendent**

Mr. Serio stated that he had no correspondence this evening.

4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Mr. Pompano stated that there would be reappointments of coaches from last year later in the Agenda.

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

There were none this evening.

- **Curriculum & Instruc./Negotiations, Tia DePalma, Chair**

There were none this evening.

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

Mrs. Maisano stated that the budget was approved for \$2.9 Million and were waiting for approval.

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

There were none this evening.

- **Legal, Ronald DeNuzzo, Chair**

There were none this evening.

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

There were none this evening.

- **Personnel, Laura Kluth, Chair**

There were none this evening.

5. REPORTS/COMMUNICATION

- **Student Representatives, Albert DeCaprio & Gabrielle Caruso**

The Student Representatives were not present this evening.

- **Superintendent and Central Office Administration**

Mr. Serio stated that he realized there was a lot of concern, involving the reconfiguration. Last year while they were talking about the budget they talked about having too many buildings to support. First they needed to be educationally sound and then they needed to take a look at the buildings. They need to do the best they could for education moving forward. The Administrators and Central Office worked several months last year on several scenarios. They were asked to save money in the 2010-11 Operating Budget. They needed to see what system fit the best with the Educational needs of the students. The present Board and staff were given a presentation on Professional Development day. Administrative teams met and collected feedback & suggestions. This should answer some questions before Public Comment. They will let you know where they are headed and that there is nothing decided. The Board members and Administration went into the audience for the power point presentation from Mrs. Forti. When this is over then they will take your comments.

Erica Forti presented information regarding the grade reconfiguration. The presentation focused on the research regarding grade configurations and the districts common beliefs about the proposed grade configurations. These beliefs were focused on structured transitions, vertical curriculum alignment, attention to students' developmental needs, equitable resources. Ms. Forti also presented current research on the most nine influential variables of high performing schools. These include clear and shared focus, high standards and expectations for all students, effective school leadership, high levels of collaboration and communication, curriculum instruction and assessments aligned with state standards, frequent monitoring of learning and teaching, focused PD, a supportive learning environment, and high levels of parent and community

involvement. Ms. Noonan followed up with a presentation regarding information on the CSDE Secondary School Reform Plan that incorporates grade 6-12. She elaborated on the grade 6-12 STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) project that will transpire during the 2010-2011 school year. A grant has been written and if awarded will help to meet and support the technological needs for the STEM competition.

6. COMMUNICATION FROM PUBLIC

Kim Lendroth, complimented Mrs. Forti on her wonderful display and she knows what she is talking about and confident which makes her an asset to the Education system. She wants to know if electives would be in place by September, and stated the choices were not what all children like and would like to see something better perhaps Tech Support. She wants to be assured that incoming 6th graders will be safe, mentioning the students who walk the halls with ankle bracelets on which they should not be exposed to. JMMS lost many of their electives and would like to know what will be done about that. Mrs. DePalma stated that the safety of the students were top priority. Mr. Pompano stated that Tech Ed and Health Ed were part of the plan. Mrs. Lendroth stated that they lost wood shop, sewing and home economics, and when teachers were laid off JMMS was swept under the rug and forgotten. She thanked the Board and they thanked her.

Lena Travers, wants to know if they could get detailed information like this before the Board makes their decision. Mr. Palladino stated that they will get the information out to the parents, and they will be having more meetings. She wants to be sure there will be enough room in JMMS. Mrs. DePalma asked them to give the Board time to go over all the material before they make their decision as they will not put children in an overcrowded School. They are still in the planning process. Ms. Travers stated that she didn't want to hear them propose something and an hour later vote on it. Mr. Serio stated that they would set up times to go to individual schools as they move forward. Mrs. Maisano stated that she will use her honest perspective and will not vote for making it more difficult for a child. She believes that the Middle School needs other things before the approval of the reconfiguration will happen. She mentioned that the Middle School needed to be cleaned. JMMS has compassionate teachers who are wonderful and receptive to doing what's best for the students and commends the teachers. Mrs. Travers stated that

there were so many cuts last year and our students deserve to get back what they lost.

Tom Murtaugh, wanted to know when students are being moved, to what buildings, for what grades and class size. Is this something they want to have in place by September and could they post the information on the BOE website. Mrs. DePalma stated that nothing was finalized. Mr. Serio stated that the plan is there would be K-2, 3-5 schools in the North end of town and the same thing in the South end and Center of Town. DC Moore will be K-2, Momauguin will be, 3-5, Deer Run will be, K-2, Ferrara will be 3-5; Overbrook will be K-2 and Tuttle will be 3-5. Pre-K will be in Deer Run and DC Moore as they are the largest schools or Hays. They are moving out of Tyler & Carbone and the 6th grade is being moved to the Middle School. There is nothing definite; the plans change as they are going through, making sure it is safe and that the numbers work. They are not pushing forward unless it is doable. Would like to have public forums and the first should be at the Middle School. Will try to do for September but if there are obstacles then they can't do it. He stated that times are economically bad and he would like everyone to attend the meeting between him and the Board of Finance while going over the Budget to support the Education of the Town. If schools are funded adequately they could start the 21st Century Learning now. This town is budget driven which makes it difficult to do things that need to be done. **Mr. Meoli stated that he thought it was a good idea to put the information up on the BOE website.**

Fred Mascola, Grade 3 parent of a Carbone student. He was concerned about the welfare of Middle School students, and that the current plan does not seem the best. His calculations came out to 35 students per class. JMMS is already crowded, and as a coach he does what's best for all and as a manager does what's right for all customers. He does not feel current proposal does all that and wouldn't be able to sleep at night. He recommends the Board of Education to reconsider the proposal. He suggested starting a working group. He was concerned about the average class room size; and if we had any alternative proposals. What will determine what school, why can't the EHA be fixed, and why can't EHA students be distributed to other schools and go to the classes 2 times a week?

Dawn Lynch, Ferrara parent who understands redistricting. She is concerned that in the K-2 schools the children on level, above and below level can they sit in with an older class. She wants to know how to match that in all schools with the new configuration, as her child sits in with an older class. Mrs. Forti stated that they target the students' needs where they are on level and the instruction to meet those needs and is currently being done in schools using literacy aides, reading and math coaches.

Donna Palmer, has a question on the Middle School. She would like to know why it is so dirty and when it will be addressed. **Mr. Palladino stated that they would have a Buildings and Grounds Subcommittee meeting in the future.** It was brought to Mr. Prato's attention and he stated that it was cleaned by an outside company on a weekly basis. Mr. Serio stated that all the schools will be stripped, waxed and cleaned during Winter Recess. He stated that he walked the schools with Mr. Travaglino and it is not uncommon during this time of year to have sand in the buildings. The cleaning contract was reduced due to fiscal restraints. Mr. Serio stated that it was not brought up during their Cabinet meetings.

Patrick Madley, is currently a sophomore at EHHS, who went to DC Moore, and JMMS. He agrees JMMS is in need of some assistance. He had a good experience at JMMS and stated that the staff was remarkable. He really enjoyed being there and learned a lot. He agrees that 6th Grade should be with the 7th and 8th graders but he doesn't think they will fit. He stated how 8th Grade would not be very nice to 6th Grade and that every grade they go up they feel superior to the lower grade. He is concerned for the welfare of the 6th graders, but they should be at the Middle School level and it is the Board's call. He thanked the Board.

Lori DellaRocca, has a student in Grade 7 at JMMS, and in Grade 6 at Deer Run. She stated her son had some issues going into 7th Grade. She stated Mr. Prato said they only had 8 available rooms but they need 10. Where are they going to get the extra rooms they need? She stated that teachers on carts were tacky. She doesn't have a problem with 6th, 7th, and 8th as she went to North Branford and it was 5th-8th. She doesn't like the maturity level of the students. Carbone at one time was 6th grade and why is this not on the table? Why is it not being considered to use JMMS for grade 6, 7, 8 and close the Academy for a year? Put the students back into the school system and see the test scores go up. Go back to kids being challenged. Redistrict saving money for 1 year and put

that back into the schools. Mrs. DePalma stated that this was not the place to talk about the Academy issue; it should be discussed during subcommittee meetings. Mrs. DellaRocca stated that the Board some times has secret meetings. Mrs. Maisano stated that she wasn't sure which website it had to be posted on by law. Mrs. DellaRocca only knew about the meeting because the Principal happened to say by the way there was a meeting of the BOE. Mrs. Kluth stated that it was sent out to the schools. Mrs. DePalma stated that if you gave it to the kids you would still never know about the meetings, **but maybe a Connect Ed could be sent the day before a meeting.** Mr. Palladino stated that they go by the laws of the State of Connecticut Federal government laws. The charter said that it needs to be posted at Town Hall and in schools 24 hours when a Special Meeting. He stated that the meetings are on the Town's website under BOE meetings. They don't meet secretly as the meetings are televised. He understands that this is complicated but they are trying to make it better for the children. There is a lot of expertise on this Board with School Teachers, Business People who are all working for the betterment of the children. They don't have all the answers 100%; they are not voting on anything tonight but need to work toward a total plan to move forward with, which should have been done several years ago. He asked if they could give them an opportunity to work out what is best for every child. It is a great school system and they would not do anything underhanded, illegal, or improper. **They are doing the best that they can and may be able to send out a Connect Ed.**

Jim Monico, has a daughter in Middle School and Ferrara and would like to know why they jamming the reconfiguration down everyone's throat. He also stated that the Academy had to move out of Tyler Street and why are they moving other children to make room for them. He stated he spoke with Mr. Palladino and said this would be a 3 to 4 year project. Mr. Palladino stated that the project they discussed was the rebuilding of the Middle School which would cost \$35 million and take 3-5 years. Mrs. DePalma stated that the Academy did not have to move out of Tyler Street. Mr. Monico stated the school was condemned. Mrs. DePalma stated that the part of the school where the Academy is located is not condemned or else they couldn't be there. The reconfiguration did not start because of the Academy and that it is hurtful. The Stigma is with the parents who portray it onto their children. There is 0 tolerance for bullying and harassment in the Academy and there are consequences to these actions. She stated that they are offending good children and was interrupted before she could state that every child

is good at all schools. This is not about having to move the Academy. It is about saving money. 6th grade moved out of the Middle School due to a flooding of another school. They had to put the children somewhere so they opened Carbone School. There were over 1,000 students and so they opened DC Moore. Branford has 6 Elementary Schools our district has 11. Instead of spending the money heating the Academy put these dollars on Education.

Ralph Bunce, has children in Grade 2 and 5 at Carbone and the biggest issue he has is the safety of Grade 6 in the Middle School. There were 25 incidents of police being called to the Middle School since the year began. There were hazing, breach of peace, threatening, harassment, drug possession, stealing and physical threats, theft in the building charges. He had a multi-page police report in his possession. The students should be punished more severely. The other issue was the cleanliness of the Middle School and wanted to know if it was just dirty or does it have health violations, etc. He would like to see the documentation proving the numbers are going to work out. He asked where the spreadsheet was. He is all for advanced and higher learning and wants to make sure kids are going to be safe. If they condense the buses how many students would be on a bus?

Maria DeTerone, stated that the Board says the Academy is a “choice” school and it irritates her. It is not a “choice” school and feels that the word “choice” is used loosely. It is not a choice school as a parent or taxpayer. Mr. Scalesse stated that you could choose to put your name in a lottery for your child to go to the Academy. Mrs. DeTerone asked how it is her choice if her child has to get “picked”. There has been no notification of the Academy testing sent to other schools. Put money back in the budget and make it a tuition based school. She has no faith in EHHS and is paying to send her son to Notre Dame.

Patrick Madley, stated that he likes EHHS, the education is excellent and the teachers are excellent in this town.

Jennifer, would like to know if K will be all day and what the fate of the Little Jackets were. Mr. Serio stated that the Little Jackets would be housed in an appropriate area convenient for all parents which is currently in the center of town.

Pam Cofrancesco, wants to know how many kids can fit into the Middle School. Mrs. Vineyard stated that NESDEC findings were 750 kids could fit into the Middle School. Mrs. Cofrancesco stated that they would have to share classrooms with that figure. She inquired about the DARE program being taken away. Giving it back to the students will help with keeping the incidents down because of the DARE program, there is nothing for them now. Mr. Palladino stated that the program is not run by the BOE. It was started in 1980 and run by the police department. They lost the officer who was doing the program and the officer at the High School because of the military. No one else was properly trained. He is working on having DARE put back in place in September.

Mrs. Cofrancesco stated that Middletown, Ansonia, North Branford went to a new configuration and the test scores went down. Mrs. Forti stated that the test scores went down but the findings are inconclusive as there are other factors to take into consideration.

Mrs. Cofrancesco stated that if the Academy's way of teaching the students is working why not bring that type of teaching to all the other schools. Since we know that this is working why aren't we doing the "Academy way" in all the other buildings? Mrs. Forti stated that there will be a lottery now so all students will be able to go to the Academy when they are selected randomly. Mrs. DePalma stated that the Academy is one way but doesn't mean that one way is good for everyone. Some children may not like the style of the Academy. They have high expectations, and wear uniforms so all are on the same level which makes it easier. It is up to the Principal's on what type of curriculum they want for their school. There was a question about the TAG program being in the schools and was confirmed that it still is in the school system, but it was stopped at the Academy. There was a question about uniforms in the other schools. This was tried already and parents complained so they didn't pursue it.

Mary Mascola, she wanted to know how the students get into the Academy. Mr. Palladino stated through the lottery. They want to move the kids from Carbone who are not the best of the best and move the Academy kids who are the best of the best into Carbone; this doesn't make the rest of the schools look good. She stated that the Board of Education and Mr. Serio created this problem. Mr. Palladino stated that Mr. Serio was not the Superintendent at the time the decision was made to test kids for the Academy and neither were any of the current Board

members. Mrs. Mascola stated that it has taken a long time for the Academy to be closed. Mr. Serio stated that they were not closing the Academy, he has been Superintendent for 3 years and every Board has supported the Academy and they will continue to have the Academy for the gifted and talented. He just follows the direction of the Board and stated that the Academy is a Blue Ribbon School. Mr. Palladino stated that in 2nd grade there is no way to determine whether a child is above and beyond. It is a style of learning and not for everyone. He reiterated that there is no way in 2nd grade you will know whether your child is destined to be a superstar. Every 2nd grader has that potential.

Michele DeLucia, stated that her DC Moore child was tested and should have been taken out of class for Reading but it hasn't happened yet. Mrs. Acquarulo told her that she needed to call her to discuss this with her.

Heather, stated that she didn't envy any of the Board. She has a 4th grader at the Academy and a 2nd grader at DC Moore. She appreciates the Academy for her 4th grader but would not send her 2nd grader there. The school is good for some but not for all. She also was concerned as at this time of the year the PTO orders planners for next year. They still have money in the account and don't know how to proceed. There are a lot of people who are misinformed and have no idea what is going on and wanted to know if the minutes were posted. Mr. Palladino stated that the minutes are posted, and that they do not meet in private except for legal and personnel issues. The subcommittee meetings are also open to the public and that there is no secrecy in the BOE. Heather stated that she couldn't find the information on the website. Mr. Palladino stated that she could call the Superintendent's office for help. Mrs. Kluth stated that the meetings go on ETV. Mr. Palladino stated that the previous Mondays meeting went on the following Monday. There has been lots of meetings and has been discussed for years. They are trying to put something in place for September, which will be in the best interest of the children. Heather would like the Board to give the parents and kids time to prepare if they integrate schools together with new teachers and Principals. Mr. Palladino stated that it starts at the first step. Heather believes August is too soon.

Barbara Speers, she wanted to know on their walkthrough was there room for the 6th grade, and wanted to be reassured that no teachers would be on carts. Mr. Meoli stated that last year there were 10 more teachers in

the Middle School so they would just be going back to the staff at a year ago. They went from 3 teams per grade to 2 teams per grade so this would not be an issue. They need 5 additional teachers for Unified Arts, they found spaces for example in the wood shop, an art room not being used. No core teachers will be on a cart. Mrs. Speers wanted to know if wood shop would be back in and was told that the project STEM may occupy that space which will be a fun activity. Mr. Meoli stated that there wasn't enough for the kids there now.

Christine Lastomirsky, states that she feels like we are biting off too much. How come we are not doing a little at a time? Can there be some separation/activities for younger and older students. Mr. Serio stated that intramurals could not be run this year and specials like home economics had to be cut. They will be replaced with Tech courses – 21st Century tech which are higher level skills for more electives. They are discussing staggering the passing time for 6th grade, which they are still discussing. Mr. Meoli stated that changes in East Haven are difficult. They tried to get Carbone's starting time changed and they couldn't even do that. The reconfiguration does take into consideration everyone that is affected. This move is an educationally good move. Mr. Serio stated that the Regular Board meeting is a lengthy agenda and they need direction on what to do to move forward, and need to sit at a table to discuss items, where questions are not fired at them in which they are not prepared to answer. Public session was taking a long time as it is for comments only, they are just supposed to listen and not respond. They should follow up in individual schools for more people to attend to voice their opinion.

Anthony Purcell, parent of a child at Overbrook and Pre-K, and Little Jackets. He stated that if it's not broke don't fix it. He wanted to know where the research on the reconfiguration came from; there were no definitive answers or basis on wanting to do this. Mrs. Forti stated that she conducted the research including grade impacts that the 9 characteristics will reside in. She researched other variables not just grade reconfiguration. Mr. Purcell stated that all the research was inconclusive and Mrs. Forti stated that it was inconclusive in that one area and not in the other variables.

Mr. Purcell wanted to know how much more besides the \$2.9 would it cost to do the reconfiguration. Mr. Serio stated the first year there would be a savings of 400,000 to move out of Tyler Street. It would cost \$300,000 for the project to make it work. Down the road in years to come

they would have one less building to operate. It is not based on dollars and cents as they could effectively run it with a 0 increase. The Board of Finance and the Town Council support some of the initiatives they are talking about. It is a sound educational system and is financially doing their job to help taxpayers. The priorities here are no different than any other district. The state cut back on funding and they have an \$800,000 decrease in state funding for next year.

Pam Cofrancesco, stated that they should put the Academy at the High School and 5th grade in Carbone. Mr. Palladino stated that this is still a work in progress and nothing has been decided. Mrs. Cofrancesco wanted to have a committee of parents to be involved to bring different ideas to them. Mrs. Kluth stated that in past years the PTO's had their own subcommittee themselves and that they could do it themselves. Mr. Pompano stated that it is a very delicate situation but we need to move forward, once the budget of \$2.9 is approved. The Board only receives \$1.5 from the taxpayers out of the \$2.9. They are trying not to burden the taxpayers with an increase in taxes. They are trying to come up with the best plan and not be a tax burden for the taxpayers.

Marilyn Vitale, stated that there is a planning committee that has been working on this for a year and maybe they could reactivate that team. The committee consists of a good mix of people. There is a delicate balance between what the public is willing to pay for and what they want for their kids. Their job is to make sure there is enough money to run the schools for the benefit of the taxpayers.

7. SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS

There were none this evening.

8. OLD BUSINESS

8.1 Any questions or comments on the Board Briefs (1-26-10)

Mrs. Maisano asked Mr. Lathrop how the General Ledger is reconciled. Mr. Lathrop stated that it is reconciled on a monthly basis, on the 29th of the month. The Board of Ed General fund and Food Service are done at the same time. It has not been reconciled to the Balance Sheet. **He will have the information for them at the next Board Meeting.** It is not reconciled to the town, he requested the figures but they were unable to

present the report to him as they are working on the audit. Mrs. Maisano asked if they were in balance on July 1st then why are they way off base now. Mr. Lathrop stated they do not balance the cash to the town and that he is working on fixing that problem.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Ratification of Appointments

- **Special Education Paraprofessionals (4)**

Mr. Serio asked the Board to ratify the following appointments and asked Mrs. Acquarulo to speak on the Paraprofessionals.

Mrs. Acquarulo stated that 2 were replacements and 2 new positions. All of the positions were grant funded.

Mrs. Acquarulo requested the Board ratify the appointment of Erica Pantano for JMMS as the Special Education Paraprofessional for children with Autism Birth to 3 which they have to provide for. This is a replacement position.

Mrs. Acquarulo requested the Board ratify the appointment of Rebecca Collins for Overbrook School as the Special Education Paraprofessional. This is a new position.

Mrs. Acquarulo requested the Board ratify the appointment of Sally Mucka for the Academy as the Special Education Paraprofessional. This is a replacement position.

Mrs. Acquarulo requested the Board ratify the appointment of Christina DeLeone for Hays ELC as the Special Education Paraprofessional. This is a new position for Little Sea Stars.

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

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

Mrs. Kluth stated that she thought the Academy did not have Special Education there. Mrs. Acquarulo stated that there were some part time that needed Speech and Language, but there weren't many.

Mrs. Maisano stated that she knows Christine DeLeone and that she will be an asset to the Little Sea Stars.

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

- **Spring Coaching Reappointments**

Mr. Serio requested the Board ratify the following Spring Coaching Reappointments.

Raymond (Butch) Johnson	- EHHS Head Baseball
Fred Parcesepe	- EHHS Asst. Baseball
Gary Brasile	- EHHS Freshman Baseball
Chris Bonagiuso	- JMMS Baseball
Ed Crisafi	- EHHS Head Softball
Dave Spano	- EHHS Asst. Softball
Kristen Varunes	- EHHS Freshman Softball
Rusty Dunne	- EHHS Head Boys Track
Anthony Russell	- EHHS Head Girls Track
Jeffrey Cretella	- EHHS Asst. Girls Track
Chuck Turcio	- JMMS Boys Track
Chuck Turcio, Jr.	- JMMS Girls Track
Dave Augustine	- EHHS Head Golf
Jason Soares	- EHHS Head Girl's Tennis

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

Any discussion on the motion?

Mr. Pompano asked Mr. Marone why there was no Asst. coach for Boy's Track. Mr. Marone stated that he is waiting for 4 positions. They are already certified but they need the 5 year permit which is 5 CEU's and they are working on

them now. He will have them put on the Agenda when they complete the course. They already had First Aid and CPR.

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

9.2 Request for Approval of the Payment of Invoices:

- **Dated February 10, 2010 for Fiscal year 2009-10 in the Amount of \$1,299,307.33**

Mr. Serio requested the Board's approval of the Payment of Invoices dated February 10, 2010 for Fiscal year 2009-10 in the Amount of \$1,299,307.33.

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

Any discussion on the motion?

Mrs. Maisano stated that she had a few questions.

GMAC – Leases of Van and Truck, Finance agreement, one of two payments left. It will be going down.

HESS CORP – Natural Gas provider to Town and Board of Ed. The Town picks the provider.

RELIABLE PROTECTION – Monitoring Services for Fire Alarms.

DEPT. OF POLICE – Overtime billing – services base at end of street to change the light for the students and buses to leave from the High School. This is one thing that is cross charged with the Town. Mrs. DePalma stated that they were there for 1 ½ hours a day, 45 minutes in the morning, and 45 minutes at night. The checks go back and forth.

HESS BILL – Mr. Hennessey stated that we spend \$41.00 per student at the High School for Natural Gas and only \$27.00 at Deer Run. Big Schools are not always cheaper to run.

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

9.3 Discussion and Possible Approval of Little Jackets Tuition Rate Increase

Mrs. Vineyard requested to table the Discussion and Possible Approval of Little Jackets Tuition Rate Increase and was seconded by Mrs. DePalma.

Any discussion on the motion?

There were no objections or abstentions made to the motion.
Motion carries. The motion was tabled.

9.4 Discussion and Approval of 2010-2011 Universal Service Fund Contract

Mr. Meoli stated that if they wanted to move forward they would have to make a motion to change the name on 9.5 from Universal Service Fund Contract to Fiber Tech Contract.

Mrs. DePalma made a motion to change 9.5 to read Discussion and Approval of Fiber Tech Contract and seconded by Mrs. Vineyard.

Any discussion on the motion?

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

9.4.1 Discussion and Approval of the Fiber Tech Contract.

Mr. Osborne stated that the Data Network connects local area networks in each school building, ACES, and is the first web server and e-mail system. The current network is a filtered connection to Internet, connection to e-mail server, user authentication, user documents, remote management and DSL cost-effective. Fiber Optics will service the needs of the schools and the entire community and parents could login to the system. The Technology needs are Increased bandwidth, Standardized

testing, PowerSchool, other data, and Robust technology. He looked into Cable Television, a Cell tower, Microwave tower, and expanding fiber network. He would like to propose a High speed fiber Network that is Robust, and can have future growth. He showed a slide how the current network runs and a slide on the proposed network. He did research on 5 different vendors to see what the cost would be for each of them over the 5 year contract.

Mr. Osborne explained that Universal Service Fund would extend rural telephone service to schools and libraries. They would reimburse telecommunications expenses at 59%. There is a strict government timetable, with the reimbursement predicted for the future the net would be less than what is budgeted for, but the contract has to be approved to be eligible for the reimbursement. Fibertech has built much of CT education networks, they have a large build-out in East Haven, and are in 70 plus school districts, and are USF contingent. If they abandon a building they would not have to pay for it. There are clauses in the contract where they will not pay a thing until the contract is agreed upon; he needs to send the paperwork in as soon as possible to be eligible for their reimbursement.

Mr. Meoli stated that the Mayors office endorsed it as there is a harmless clause in the contract for the Mayor and they would like the Board to add the Superintendent to that clause.

Mr. Lathrop stated that there was some risk, only if the Federal government did not give them the grant.

Motion to table Discussion and Approval of the Fiber Tech Contract was made by Mrs. Kluth and seconded by Mr. Pompano.

A vote was taken and there were 5 to the affirmative and 3 to the negative.

Mrs. DePalma	- yes
Mr. Hennessey	- no
Mrs. Kluth	- no

Mrs. Maisano - yes
Mr. Pompano - yes
Mr. Scalesse - no
Mrs. Vineyard - yes
Mr. Palladino - yes

Any discussion on the motion?

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

9.5 Discussion of School Reconfigurations

Mr. Hennessey asked Mrs. Forti if a child in Kindergarten would stay with the same class to 1st grade. She answered yes; they would stay with the same kids, and also in 2nd and 3rd grade. The same kids will be in the same building.

Mr. Hennessey asked where they would stand with AYP with the reconfiguration of schools. Mrs. Forti stated that she did not have an answer on that yet as NCLB discusses this on a case by case basis. She would like to see what the State Representative thinks after she presents the plan.

Mr. Hennessey asked if a principal is strong with K-2 rather than 3-5 will they be put in the best possible school. This was also answered with a yes.

9.6 Possible Action on Secretarial Grievance 11.1 Anita Mancini

Mr. Serio requested the Board withdraw this grievance as it was settled and they would discuss the outcome in Executive Session.

9.7 Possible Action on Secretarial Grievance 11.2 Gina Fronte

Mr. Serio requested the Board withdraw this grievance as they are not prepared to go forward and would be ready to go forward either the next Board meeting or the first meeting in March.

9.8 Possible Action on Secretarial Grievance 11.3 Renee Butler

Mr. Serio requested the Board withdraw this grievance as it was settled.

Mr. Serio requested that they adjourn to executive session to discuss 11.1.

Mr. Pompano made a motion to adjourn to executive session and was seconded by Mrs. Vineyard.

Adjourned Regular Session at 11:27 p.m.
Executive Session convened at 11:40 p.m.

In attendance: Serio, Meoli, Lathrop and all Board members present.

9.9 Possible Action on Carbone vs. EH Board of Education et al Litigation Case

This was discussed in Executive Session.

10. INFORMATION ITEMS:

10.1 Correspondence

10.1.1 Resignations/Retirements – None.

10.1.2 School Newsletters

10.1.3 School Enrollment Report for February 2010

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

11.1 Possible action concerning a grievance appeal pursuant to Article 19.3 of the Collective Bargaining agreement. Discussion in executive session concerning the appointment, employment, performance, evaluation or dismissal of Anita Mancini.

This grievance was settled prior to Executive Session.

11.2 Possible action concerning a grievance appeal pursuant to Article 19.3 of the Collective Bargaining agreement. Discussion in executive session concerning the appointment, employment, performance, evaluation or dismissal of Gina Fronte.

This grievance was discussed prior to Executive Session and a continuance was granted.

11.3 Possible action concerning a grievance appeal pursuant to Article 19.3 of the Collective Bargaining agreement. Discussion in executive session concerning the appointment, employment, performance, evaluation or dismissal of Renee Butler.

This grievance was settled prior to Executive Session.

Discussion concerning strategy and negotiations with respect to a pending claim or litigation; Carbone v. East Haven Board of Education.

The Board discussed the strategy and negotiations with respect to a pending claim or litigation; Carbone v. East Haven BOE.

12. ESTABLISHMENT OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING

THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION – FEBRUARY 23, 2010 – 35 WHEELBARROW LANE, EAST HAVEN, CT 06513

13. ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR MEETING

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Pompano and seconded by Mrs. Vineyard at 12:13 a.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

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