

**TOWN OF EAST HAVEN, CT
EAST HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
35 WHEELBARROW LANE EAST HAVEN, CT 06513
TUESDAY NOVEMBER 24, 2009
7:00 P.M.**

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

**ALSO PRESENT: MR. ANTHONY SERIO, SUPERINTENDENT
MR. FRANK MEOLI, ASSISTANT SUPT.
MRS. ERICA FORTI, ASST. SUPT. OF
CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION
MR. JOSEPH TRAVAGLINO, DIRECTOR OF
BLDGS. & GROUNDS
MRS. MARY ACQUARULO, DIRECTOR OF
PUPIL SERVICES
MR. JASON LATHROP, BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATOR**

1. CALL TO ORDER (by Superintendent)

Mr. Anthony R. Serio, Superintendent of Schools, called the regular Board of Education meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Boardroom at the High School.

1.1 Election of Officers

Mr. Meoli handed out ballots to the Board members. Mr. Serio requested nominations for the Chairman of the Board. Mr. Pompano made a motion for Nick Palladino as Chairman of the Board. There were no other nominations for this position. The Board members filled out their ballots and handed them forward to the Superintendent. Ballots were added. Vote was unanimous in favor of Nick Palladino as the new Chairman of the Board.

The meeting was then handed over to Mr. Palladino. Mr. Palladino thanked all of the Board members.

Mr. Palladino passed out the ballots for the position of Vice-Chair of the Board. Mr. Palladino asked for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair.

Mrs. Kluth made a motion to nominate Kristen Vineyard. Motion was seconded by Mr. Pompano. There were no other nominations for this position.

The Board members filled out their ballots and forwarded them to the Superintendent. Mr. Serio added the ballots. Vote was unanimous in favor of Kristen Vineyard as the Vice-Chair of the Board.

Mr. Palladino asked for nominations for Secretary of the Board.

Mrs. Vineyard made a motion to nominate Ray Pompano and it was seconded by Mrs. Kluth. There were no other nominations for Secretary of the Board.

The Board Members filled out their ballots and forwarded them to the Superintendent. Mr. Serio added the ballots. Vote was unanimous in favor of Ray Pompano as Secretary of the Board.

2. MINUTES

Mr. Palladino asked for a motion for the approval of the minutes for the Special Board meeting of November 9, 2009.

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

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 November 17, 2009.

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.

3. CORRESPONDENCE

- **Chairperson, Nicholas Palladino**

Mr. Palladino stated he had no correspondence.

- **Superintendent, Mr. Anthony Serio**

Mr. Serio stated he would forward any correspondence to Mr. Palladino in the future. He would save his comments for reports and communications.

4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Palladino asked if any of the previous Board members had any reports. There were none.

- **Athletic Oversight**
- **Buildings and Grounds**
- **Curriculum & Instruction**
- **Finance**
- **Food Service**
- **Grants**
- **Legal/Negotiations**
- **Policies and Bylaws**
- **Personnel**
- **PTA/PTO Advisory Committee**
- **Special Education**

5. REPORTS/COMMUNICATION

- **Student Representative**

Albert DeCaprio and Gabby Caruso introduced themselves to the new Board Members and spoke about themselves and the activities/clubs that were taking place at the high school. The Board Members felt they were excellent leaders and set a good example. The Board stated they could come to them at any time. They were here for them and their education.

Both Albert and Gabby spoke in-depth about their activities and the importance of the clubs not only for college applications but for the students' overall development.

The Board thanked them and wished them well in their endeavors.

- **Superintendent and Central Office Administration**

Mr. Serio wanted to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving holiday. We try to think of these times as a joyous time for everyone, but they were trying times for some families. He wanted to extend this on behalf of himself and Central Office.

6. COMMUNICATION FROM PUBLIC

Marianne Ceasar, 8 Felicia Drive, spoke about her years of coming to the Board meetings and she hoped with this new Board she did not see what she saw here a few weeks ago. She was humiliated as a parent and an employee. She wished them the best of luck. This should not be about politics but about the kids of this school system. That has to come first. Mr. Palladino stated this Board agreed with her wholeheartedly.

Any other comments? There were none.

7. SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS – None.

8. OLD BUSINESS

8.1 Any questions or comments on the Board Briefs – None.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Ratification of Appointments

- **Freshmen Girl’s Basketball Coach (New Hire)**

Mr. Serio requested the Board ratify the appointment of Cathy Celotto as the Freshmen Girl’s Basketball coach.

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

Any discussion on the motion?

Mr. Palladino requested a roll call vote.

Mr. DeNuzzo – yes
Mrs. DePalma – yes
Mr. Hennessey – yes
Mrs. Kluth – yes
Mrs. Maisano – yes
Mr. Pompano – yes
Mr. Scalesse – yes
Mrs. Vineyard – yes

Vote was unanimous in the affirmative. Motion carries.

- **High School Secretary II – Main Office & Discipline**

Mr. Serio requested the Board ratify the appointment of Kirstin Franzman as the high school secretary II for the main office and discipline position. This was a Civil Service position to start at the first step of the contract with a salary of \$29,317.07.

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

Any discussion on the motion?

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

9.2 Request for Approval of the Payment of Invoices:

- **Dated November 25, 2009 for Fiscal Year 2009-10 in the Amount of \$660,031.81**

Mr. Serio requested the Board approve the payment of invoices dated November 25, 2009 for Fiscal Year 2009-10 in the amount of \$660,031.81.

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

Any discussion on the motion?

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

9.3 Financial Report – Jason Lathrop

- **General Fund**
- **Food Services**

9.4 Adoption of a Social Security Alternative Plan

Mr. Lathrop spoke about the Social Security Alternative Plan and what it entailed. Mr. Lathrop stated they were asking the motion be that the Board of Education request the administration enter into an agreement for a Social Security Alternative Plan.

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

Any discussion on the motion?

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

9.5 Request for Approval of Payroll Slots for ING 457 Plan and AFLAC Disability Insurance

Mr. Serio requested the Board approve the payroll slots for ING 457 Plan and AFLAC Disability Insurance.

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

Any discussion on the motion?

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

9.6 Request for Approval of EHHS Field Trip to Six Flags, Agawam, MA on May 21, 2010

Mr. Serio requested the Board's approval of the EHHS field trip to Six Flags, Agawam, MA on May 21, 2010.

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

Any discussion on the motion?

This field trip was for the high school chorus group.

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

9.7 Request for Approval of Board of Education Meeting Dates for Calendar Year 2010

Mr. Serio requested the Board approve the Board of Education meeting dates for Calendar Year 2010. Mr. Serio explained that

one date in April was left out because this was during a vacation week. Board members could hold a Special meeting anytime during any month if they so desired.

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

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

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

9.8 Request for New Appointment of Representative & Alternate to ACES Governing Board

Mr. Serio requested the Board appoint one of the Board members as a representative and one as an alternate to the ACES Governing Board.

There was discussion on Board Member availability in order to attend this once a month lunch at ACES in Hamden. **Mr. Serio would check into whether a different Board member could attend each time. There was discussion on whether to table this item until information was brought back to them.**

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

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

There were no abstentions or objections made to the motion. Motion carries. This item has been tabled.

Mrs. DePalma stated she wanted to add an item to the agenda this evening. She wanted to address the Board regarding the decision that was made at the last Board meeting on November 9, 2009 including the extension of the contracts and for the contract of the Assistant Superintendent. She would like to have discussion on this.

Motion to add 9.9 to the agenda was made by Mrs. DePalma and seconded by Mrs. Maisano.

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

There were no abstentions or objections made to the motion. Motion carries. This item added to agenda as 9.9

9.9 Discussion Regarding Legal Opinion on Extension of Contracts and Formation of a New Position of Assistant Superintendent on November 9, 2009 Agenda

10. INFORMATION ITEMS

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

10.1 Correspondence

10.1.1 Resignations/Retirements - None

10.1.2 School Newsletters

10.1.3 School Enrollment – November 2009

10.1.4 School Calendar for December 2009

10.1.5 Athletic Department Checkbook – Regular Account – October 2009

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION – None.

There was no Executive Session this evening.

12. ESTABLISHMENT OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING

THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION – DECEMBER 8, 2009 – EAST HAVEN HIGH SCHOOL, 35 WHEELBARROW LANE, EAST HAVEN, CT 06513, at 7:00 p.m.

13. ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR MEETING

Mr. DeNuzzo made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting and Mrs. Vineyard seconded the motion.

There was no discussion on the motion, no objections, and no abstentions. Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

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