

REVISED

**TOWN OF EAST HAVEN, CT
EAST HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
35 WHEELBARROW LANE, EAST HAVEN, CT 06513
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2009
7:00 P.M.**

**PRESENT: MRS. VITALE, MR. DENUZZO, MR. FINKLE,
MR. HAMMELL, MR. HENNESSEY, MR. INGLESE,
MRS. PADUA, MRS. VINEYARD and MRS. GERACI-
ANASTASIO**

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Vitale, Chairperson of the Board, called the regular Board of Education meeting to order at 7:20 p.m. in the Boardroom at the high school. Mrs. Vitale asked Janice Ball to do a roll call.

Mrs. Vitale – present
Mr. DeNuzzo – present
Mr. Finkle – present
Mrs. Geraci-Anastasio – present
Mr. Hammell – present
Mr. Hennessey – present
Mr. Inglese – present
Mrs. Padua – present
Mrs. Vineyard - present

2. MINUTES

Mrs. Vitale asked for a motion for the approval of the minutes for the Regular Board meeting of August 25, 2009.

Motion was made by Mr. Hammell and seconded by Mr. Inglese.

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, Mrs. Marilyn Vitale**

Mrs. Vitale had no correspondence this evening.

- **Superintendent, Mr. Anthony Serio**

Mr. Serio had no correspondence this evening.

4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Vitale asked if there were any subcommittee reports this evening.

- **Athletic Oversight, Mr. Inglese, Chair**

Mr. Inglese stated at the last meeting they spoke about posting the position for head basketball. The posting ended tomorrow. He asked that the interview process take place as soon as possible.

- **Building and Grounds, Mrs. Geraci-Anastasio, Chair**

Mrs. Geraci-Anastasio had no report this evening. Mr. Travaglino gave a report on the summer projects that had been done which included HVAC and plumbing repairs. There were a few bids that had gone out and were works in progress at the Middle School, Tuttle and the high school. They were late on some of these items

because of the budget constraints. They were down staff by two in maintenance but felt the response had been fairly good.

Mr. Hammell asked about the scoreboard at the middle school. Mr. Travaglino reported nothing had been done on the scoreboard.

Mrs. Vitale questioned the Fire Marshall's report. Mr. Travaglino reported that approximately 90% or more of the items listed had to do with battery or light issues. This work was complete. A couple of the items had to do with the bid items such as the boilers and fire alarms.

- **Curriculum & Instruction, Mr. Finkle, Chair**

Mr. Finkle stated they would be having a presentation tonight on the CMT's by Mrs. Forti. **The Board would like to have a subcommittee to discuss information with Mrs. Forti on virtual learning and on-line classrooms. Mr. Finkle would be attending the first ACES meeting on Thursday and would pick up that information and drop it off to Mrs. Forti.**

- **Finance, Mr. Hennessey, Chair**

Mr. Hennessey reported they had a financial subcommittee this evening to go over the 2008-09 budget close out and it did not look too bad. The data was encouraging.

- **Food Service, Mrs. Vineyard, Chair**

Mrs. Vineyard stated she had heard that children were not getting lunch if they did not have any money. She would like to hear from the principals that if a child has no money that they do get lunch. The principals stated that they do get lunch. Usually they have a choice. Mr. Lathrop spoke about free and reduced lunch being carried over to the 1st of October from the previous year. **Hopefully, at the next Board meeting he would have a draft contract with Whitson's for their approval. The bid process took place back in May but the actual physical contract details had not been worked out. He would be ironing out the details prior to the next Board meeting. They could not receive free and reduced funds unless this was in place.**

- **Grants, Mr. Hammell, Chair**

No report this evening.

- **Legal/Negotiations, Mr. Hammell, Chair**

No report this evening.

- **Policies and Bylaws, Mr. DeNuzzo, Chair**

Mr. DeNuzzo stated they had a subcommittee this evening and there were about 15 policies they had received from CAFE and discussed. They had also discussed eligibility of extracurricular activities which was presented by Principal Vanessa Reale. There would be further discussion on this item later on during the meeting.

- **Personnel, Mr. Hammell, Chair**

Mr. Hammell stated they had some reappointments to approve this evening.

- **PTA / PTO Advisory Committee, Mrs. Padua, Chair**

No report this evening.

- **Special Education, Mr. Inglese, Chair**

No report this evening.

5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION

- **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE/S (Gabrielle Caruso/Albert DeCaprio)**

Albert DeCaprio spoke about the start of school and parking issues. A lot of students had not been prepared to pay for their parking permits when they were given out. They were hoping for a comeback for the football team this year. He was trying recruit students for clubs to pass on the leadership for the next generations.

- **SUPERINTENDENT**

Mr. Serio shared with the Board the initiatives he had shared with his staff on the opening day of school for 2009-10. He spoke about the SRBI Response to Intervention in which they would be dealing with three tier levels of identifying students for special education. They had a year of professional development in order to implement this in all of the schools. They might be hearing the word CALI because they would be doing this with some of their schools, especially schools in need of improvement. They would be continuing their initiatives with the data teams

Mr. Serio spoke about the hiring of new reading and math people. Some were being brought forward tonight and later they would bring forward some math coaches or instructional aides for the Board to approve. He spoke about the administrator/teacher evaluation plan. They were going to be looking at cultural relevant instruction to improve students in the ELL program. These initiatives would pretty much be supported from in-house.

The opening of school started with professional development for our staff and using our own presenters which was very well received. He wanted to thank all who presented. There were minimal problems with buses and overall there were very few problems. He thanked the administrators, staff and Central Office for making this happen.

6. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There was no communication this evening from the public.

7. SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

7.1 District CMT Presentation – Erica Forti and Principals

7.2 Public School Choice/Supplemental Education Services Program – Erica Forti

Erica Forti presented the 2009 CMT results and spoke about public school choice and the supplemental education services program. The presentation highlighted the AYP targets and it was noted that in

2014 100% of all our students will need to be proficient in both math and reading. She stressed the point that the CMT is one test, given on one day and only reflects each individual student's achievement on the day of testing. Therefore, it is our district assessments as well as teachers daily formative assessment of student learning that is of most value to us as educators in order to make instructional decisions and monitor student growth toward expected levels of performance at each grade level.

Mrs. Forti highlighted data that reflected a continued upward trend in achievement by our students in East Haven and made comparisons between the district's performance, the DRG average, and the State average. In most instances East Haven outperforms both the State and the DRG. The presentation also informed viewers of other schools in the same DRG as East Haven and the number of schools in need of improvement as well as the year of in need of improvement. Mr. Inglese asked Mrs. Forti if she felt that it was unrealistic to think that 100% of our students could reach proficiency in 2014. Mrs. Forti's response was that she did not think it was unrealistic, but rather unfair, especially when you have non-English speakers who have been in the country for 10 months required to take the test.

Each principal then reported on their individual schools and the actions they are taking to meet with success. Board members asked questions during the presentation. Mr. DeNuzzo stated they had spoken at the last Board meeting about losing 12 teachers and now they were talking about an increase of 12 special education children. Will this have an effect? Mr. Prato felt it would affect scores when you 10 to 12 special education students in a class. It would affect mostly science and social studies. There was discussion on classroom size and some of the classes were up from 27-30. Mr. DeNuzzo asked how many classes and Mrs. Savo stated many. There were new students coming in and some leaving. There were two classes of 29. The teachers were not complaining about it. They would like to even them out but students were happy where they were and didn't want to move.

8. OLD BUSINESS

8.1 Any questions or comments on Board Briefs of 8-25-09.

Mr. DeNuzzo asked for a summary of class size and how the loss of teaching positions has affected that. Mr. Meoli responded that at Carbone there were 16 teachers and now there are 13 teachers this year. The average class size went up by 4 students; Deer Run had 19 teachers and now there were 16. Class size went up by 3 students; the Academy had no changes in teaching staff with 11 teachers. Class size had not changed; Ferrara had no change in staff with 11 teachers. No change in class size.

Mr. Meoli stated that the data changes daily.

Momauguin grew by one (1) teacher and class size decreased by one (1) student per class. DC Moore staff decreased by one (1) teacher and class size increased by two students per class; Tuttle had no change to the staff or class size. They had 12 teachers with an average of 18 students per class; Hays lost a position and went from 5 to 4 teachers and class size has increased from 15 to 19; Overbrook had no change in staff – they were still at 4 teachers and class size has increased by 5 students per class on average bringing that from 17 to 22.

Out of 23 positions, 12 were from the middle school, 7 from the elementary and 5 at the high school and one of the positions was replaced. The middle school was hit the hardest.

Mrs. Geraci-Anastasio asked for a residency report.

Mr. DeNuzzo asked if we had increased our population. District-wide we had increased the student population by 37 over last year. Mr. DeNuzzo thought they were going to be losing students. Mr. Meoli stated yes, so far they were right on.

9.0 NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Ratification of Appointments

- **Special Education Paraprofessional (Reappointments)**

Mr. Serio recommended the Board approve the reappointment of the following special education paraprofessionals as discussed in subcommittee this evening:

- Cindy Brown - Hays
- Cathy Schneider - Overbrook
- Marisol Hanlon – Overbrook ABA
- Kelly Clough – Overbrook ABA
- Kathy Augustine – Overbrook ABA
- Lisa Garguilo – Overbrook ABA
- Rosalie DeLucia – Overbrook ABA
- Margaret McIntyre – Overbrook ABA (3 days)
- Lauren Albis – Overbrook ABA (2 days)
- Will Mangine - Overbrook ABA
- Marge Venice – Momauguin ABA
- Marianne Hall – Momauguin ABA
- Jan Lane – Momauguin ABA
- LeAnn LaRock - Momauguin
- Jane Chick – Momauguin
- Phyllis Palladino - Momauguin
- Ann Pacelli - Momauguin
- Nancy Tomaselli – EH Academy
- Gina Astarita - Ferrara
- Diana Draper - Ferrara
- Carolyn Gareiss – DC Moore
- Maria Manciero – DC Moore
- Pam Longley – DC Moore
- Lisa Womble – Deer Run
- Kacia Badiali – Deer Run
- Lisa Hollingsworth – Deer Run
- Sue Balakrishnan – Deer Run
- Debbie DeFilippo – Deer Run
- Sue Parker – Deer Run

- Barbara Mannion – Deer Run
- Carol Rubino-Flowers - Tuttle
- Bianca Maresca - Tuttle
- Ralph Elseo - Tuttle
- Cindy Rivera - Carbone
- Dana Bristol - Carbone
- Sue O’Connell - Carbone
- Peg Cuticello - Carbone
- Marissa Ceneri - JMMS
- Barbara Wilcott JMMS
- Ralph Cannicci- JMMS
- Louise Gavigan - JMMS
- Roseann DiBlasi- JMMS
- Susan Alberino- JMMS
- Mike Casale - JMMS
- Judith Tsou - EHHS
- Darby Robinson Rose - EHHS
- Ray Curren – EHHS
- Dave Augustine EHHS
- Steve Bethke - EHHS
- Sharon Brenker - EHHS

Motion was made by Mr. Hammell and seconded by Mrs. Geraci-Anastasio.

Any discussion on the motion?

Mrs. Vitale asked if these people had been laid off. Mr. Serio stated no.

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

• **Literacy Aide (Reappointments)**

Mr. Serio recommended the Board approve the reappointment of the following literacy aides as discussed in subcommittee this evening:

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| • Barbara Naylor | Carbone |
| • Meghan Singleman | Carbone |

- **Sharon Battaglino** **Carbone**
- **Brittany Jones** **D. C. Moore**
- **Maryann D'Auria** **D. C. Moore**
- **Gigi Lombardo** **D. C. Moore**
- **Pat Conte** **Ferrara**
- **Robin Clark** **Ferrara**
- **Sherrie Sheehan** **Momauguin**
- **Terri Sciarra** **Momauguin**
- **Jen Minore** **Momauguin**
- **Barrie Shames** **Deer Run**
- **Pattie Supowitz** **Deer Run**
- **Sandy Carbone** **Deer Run**
- **Cheryl Luzzi** **Tuttle**

Motion was made by Mrs. Geraci-Anastasio and seconded by Mrs. Padua.

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

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

- **ELL Rehires (Reappointments/Appointments)**

Mr. Serio recommended the Board approve the reappointments and new appointment of the ELL aides as discussed in subcommittee this evening:

- **Carole Mendygral** **Momauguin**
- **Cindi Wyllie** **Deer Run**
- **Mary Ann Pacello** **Tuttle/Ferrara (new appointment)**
- **Laurie Bradley** **DC Moore**

Motion was made by Mrs. Padua and seconded by Mrs. Geraci-Anastasio.

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

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

- **Attendance Clerk at JMMS (Rehire from Termination)**

Mr. Serio recommended the Board approve the reappointment of Janet Moscato at JMMS for the attendance clerk position. She was being rehired back from a layoff.

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

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

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

9.2 Request for Approval of the Payment of Invoices:

- **Dated September 9, 2009 for Fiscal Year 2008-09 in the Amount of \$431,465.08**

Mr. Serio requested the Board approve the payment of invoices dated September 9, 2009 for fiscal year 2008-09 in the amount of \$431,465.08. He brought attention to the large expenditure which he explained was for the medical self-insurance.

Motion was made by Mr. Hammell and seconded by Mrs. Geraci-Anastasio.

Any questions on the invoices? There were none.

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

- **Dated September 9, 2009 for Fiscal Year 2009-10 in the Amount of \$878,940.44**

Mr. Serio requested the Board approve the payment of invoices dated September 9, 2009 for fiscal year 2009-10 in the amount of \$878,940.44.

Motion was made by Mr. Hammell and seconded by Mrs. Geraci-Anastasio.

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

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

9.3 Possible Approval of the Following Field Trips:

- **EHHS Marching Band/Choir to Big E, MA on 10-02-09**
- **EHHS Choir to Big E, MA on 9-23-09**

Mr. Serio requested the Board approve the above-mentioned field trips.

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

Any discussion on the motion?

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

9.4 Permission to Approve the Following Policies and Regulations:

Mr. Serio asked for the Board's permission to approve the following Policies and Regulations:

- **5141.4 Reporting of Child Abuse (Revision to Present Policy)**
- **6114.1 Fire Emergency (Drills) (Revision to Present Policy)**
- **6114.1 Fire Emergency (Drills)(Revision to Present Regulation)**
- **3524.1 Pest Management/Pesticide application (Revision to Present Policy)**
- **6141.321 Computers: Acceptable Use of the Internet (Revision to Present Policy)**
- **5131.913 Cyber Bullying (Revision to Present Policy)**
- **5145.4 Nondiscrimination – Americans w/Disabilities Act/Section 504 (Revision to Present Policy)**

- **5145.4 Nondiscrimination Grievance Procedures Under Americans w/Disabilities Act (Revision to Present Regulation)**
- **5124 Report to Parents (Revision to Present Policy)**
- **4000.1 Title IX (Revision to Present Policy)**
- **5117.1 Intra-District Choice/Open Enrollment (Revision to Present Policy)**
- **4118.11/4218.11 Nondiscrimination(Personnel/Non-Certified) (Revision to Present Policy)**
- **4222 Teacher Aides/Paraprofessionals (Personnel – Non-Certified) (Revision to Present Policy)**
- **4222.1 Title I Paraprofessional (Personnel – Non-Certified) (Revision to Present Policy)**
- **6161.3 Comparability of Services (Revision to Present Policy)**

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

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

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

9.5 Possible Approval of EHHS Policy Regarding Eligibility for Extracurricular Activities and Disciplinary Policy

Mr. Serio requested the Board’s approval of the EHHS Policy Regarding Eligibility for Extracurricular Activities and Disciplinary Policy.

Motion was made by Mr. Hammell and seconded by Mrs. Geraci-Anastasio.

Any discussion on the motion?

There was discussion on what changes would be implemented that they were approving. Was it being changed to what they discussed in subcommittee? There was discussion on whether it was to read “with a Failing Core Course” or “no failures at all” and whether this was too drastic a measure to take all at once or not. **Mrs. Vineyard stated if they were to put in they could fail one core course, then**

she wanted to make sure it was brought back to the Board next year.

The Board stated they were accepting the policy as it was presented to them saying that a student could not fail more than one core course throughout the year.

There were no abstentions to the motion. There were two (2) objections made to the motion which were Mrs. Padua and Mr. Inglese. Motion carries.

Mr. Serio stated he would like to add **9.6 Approval of the Bid Award for the JMMS Alarm System** to the agenda.

Mr. Lathrop explained this had just happened on Friday and that was why it was being placed on the agenda now. They had received a response for the bid alarm at the Middle School in the amount of \$10,600 from Reliable Detection Systems. This vendor had worked with the district in the past.

Motion to add was made by Mrs. Geraci-Anastasio and seconded by Mrs. Padua.

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

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

9.6 Approval of the Bid Award for the Alarm System at Joseph Melillo Middle School

Mr. Serio requested the Board's approval of the bid award to Reliable Detection Systems for the alarm system at JMMS in the amount of \$10,600.

Motion was made by Mrs. Padua and seconded by Mrs. Geraci-Anastasio.

Any discussion on the motion? There was none.

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

10. INFORMATION ITEMS

10.1 Correspondence

10.1.1 Resignations/Retirements - None

10.1.2 School Enrollment Report September 2, 2009

10.1.3 School Calendar for September 2009

10.1.4 FYI – EHHS NEASC Evaluation 9/25/11 – 9/28/11

A motion to adjourn to the regular session was made by Mr. Hammell and seconded by Mr. Inglese. Motion carries.

Adjourned Regular Session at 10:16 p.m.
Executive Session convened at 10:25 p.m.

In attendance: All Board Members, Mr. Serio, Mr. Meoli and Mr. Lathrop.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

11.1 Discussion Concerning the Employment, Performance, Evaluation or Dismissal of a School District Employee

There was a discussion concerning issues of the employment of a cafeteria school district employee.

Mr. Hammell made a motion to adjourn executive session and was seconded by Mr. Inglese.

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

Executive Session adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

Mrs. Vitale called the regular meeting back to order at 10:40 p.m.

12. ESTABLISHMENT OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING

THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION – SEPTEMBER 22, 2009 – EAST HAVEN HIGH SCHOOL, 35 WHEELBARROW LANE, EAST HAVEN, at 7:00 p.m.

13. ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR MEETING

Mr. Inglese made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting. Mrs. Padua seconded the motion.

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

Meeting adjourned at 10:41 pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

**MRS. MARILYN VITALE, CHAIRPERSON
EAST HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION**