

HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES

Regular Meeting – March 18, 2014

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the Hartford Board of Education (hereinafter “Board”) met on Tuesday, March 18, 2014 at the Journalism and Media Magnet Academy, 150 Tower Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06120.

I. Call to Order

Mr. Poland called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m. A quorum was present.

<u>Present:</u> Richard Wareing, Chairman Jose Colon-Rivas Michael Brescia Craig Stallings Beth Taylor	<u>Absent:</u> Matthew Poland Robert Cotto, Jr., Secretary Honorable Mayor Pedro Segarra
Dr. Kishimoto, Superintendent	

II. Public Participation

Shonta Browdy, parent, raised concerns for the creation of more charter schools, for the District paying management fees for those schools, in addition to providing them with the building and paying tuition per student. She stated that this is unfair as the neighborhood schools do not have enough resources.

Tim Goodwin, Dejah Rice, and Melissa Drayton from Weaver School, spoke to the Board regarding Weaver High School and the move of the Culinary Arts Academy to the Lincoln Culinary Arts. They recommended including a student member in the committee that will oversee the construction of the new building.

Ms. Drayton also spoke regarding a meeting of the City Council in support of moving the school to a temporary location. She stated that there have been several meetings regarding this item, but there has not been any step moving forward.

Mr. Goodwin, Weaver’s Culinary Arts Academy principal, stated that this year the school had a 77% decrease in behavior problems.

Dr. Kishimoto stated that the timeline for construction has not changed. She encouraged students and parents to continue being fully engaged. She explained that an enrollment study was necessary as is a legitimate request and also part of the requirements to get the money from the State. She concluded stating that the district is in a great position for this construction.

Hyacinth Yennie, resident, spoke regarding the Kennelly building. She raised concerns for the condition of the building. She stated that the building needs maintenance. She requested conducting a study to learn what is needed in that building.

Ms. Yennie also raised concerns for having three principals at Hartford High. She stating that the District is paying for three principals in one building and eliminating Arts in the nursing academy. She concluded stating that the media center in that school has only 18 computers that work and the printer is not working either.

III. Organizational Meeting

1. Election of Officers – Vice Chair, Second Vice Chair, and Secretary

Mr. Wareing entertained a motion to open the nominations for the office of First Vice Chair. Dr. Taylor nominated Dr. Colon-Rivas to the Office of First Vice-Chair, Mr. Brescia seconded; hearing no other nomination, nominations were closed.

Mr. Wareing entertained a motion to open the nominations for the office of Second Vice-Chair. Mr. Wareing nominated Dr. Taylor to the Office of Second Vice-Chair, Mr. Stallings seconded; hearing no other nomination, nominations were closed.

Mr. Wareing entertained a motion to open the nomination for the office of Secretary. Mr. Wareing nominated Mr. Wareing to the Office of Secretary, Dr. Taylor seconded; hearing no other nomination, nominations were closed.

All written ballots were collected. Ms. Vivian Dorfman, BOE Support Administrator, announced the results of the written ballots: Dr. Colon-Rivas was elected to the office of First Vice-Chair, Dr. Taylor was elected to the office of Second Vice-Chair, and Mr. Stallings was elected to the office of Secretary.

IV. Oath of Office

The Oath of Office was administered by Ms. Melinda Kaufmann, Assistant Corporation Counsel.

V. Business Agenda

A. Items in Order of Importance

1. Resolution: Recognition of Walter J. "Doc" Hurley (The Board)

Chairman Wareing tabled the item to a later time due to recent news regarding Mr. Hurley's family tragedy.

Resolved: That the Hartford Board of Education hereby recognizes and gives thanks for the service of Walter J. "Doc" Hurley and declares he was an unparalleled inspiration and an example of good character, whose service to Hartford and its young people will long be remembered;

Be it Further Resolved: that this resolution shall be presented to Mr. Hurley's family by the Chairman of the Hartford Board of Education.

2. School Administrative Appointment (Superintendent Kishimoto)

Dr. Colon-Rivas moved; Mr. Stallings seconded, that the Hartford Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation to appoint Jose Colon to the position of Executive Principal at Expeditionary Learning Academy at Moylan, effective July 1, 2014.

VOTE

In favor: Brescia, Colon-Rivas, Stallings, Taylor

Opposed: 0

Absent: Cotto, Poland, Mayor Segarra

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

3. First Reading: Revised Policy No. 6140 – Graduation Requirements (Policy Committee)

That the Hartford Board of Education accepts the first reading of the revised policy on Graduation Requirements.

The Board accepted the first reading.

A vote was not required at this time.

4. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding: Goodwin College (Supt. et al)

In 2009 Hartford Public Schools and Goodwin College entered into a partnership to provide the Pathways Academy of Technology and Design a permanent home. Through the passage of Public Act 09-6, the Connecticut General Assembly approved the transfer of the grant commitment to Goodwin College in East Hartford.

Mr. Stallings moved; Dr. Colon-Rivas seconded, that the Hartford Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to enter into an agreement with a term of no less than 20 years with Goodwin College as it pertains to the Pathways Academy of Technology and Design.

VOTE

In favor: Brescia, Colon-Rivas, Stallings, Taylor

Opposed: 0

Absent: Cotto, Poland, Mayor Segarra

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

5. Approval of Operational Support for Hartford Promise Program Start up (Superintendent Kishimoto, Chairman Wareing, Mayor Segarra, Board Member Poland)

Dr. Taylor moved; Mr. Brescia seconded, that the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute a 3-year agreement with the Hartford Consortium for Higher Education for purposes of operational support of the Hartford Promise Program including the Executive Director.

VOTE

In favor: Brescia, Colon-Rivas, Stallings, Taylor

Opposed: 0

Absent: Cotto, Poland, Mayor Segarra

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

6. Approval of Contracts for E-Rate Funding Application FY 2014-15 \$515,400 (Supt. et al)

Federal E-Rate rules along with state and local regulations require open competitive bids for contracts to be used to purchase IT equipment and telecommunications services

under the E-Rate program. As part of the FT 14-15 funding application cycle MHIS and Procurement Services have tendered six RFPs for these products/services. These contracts provide essential IT services to the district for telephone service, cellular phones, telephone equipment (internal), network equipment and data cabling.

Dr. Taylor moved; Mr. Brescia seconded, that the Hartford Board of Education Authorizes the Superintendent to execute contracts with AT&T, Windstream, The Ergonomic Group, American Messaging, Total Communications, Red Thread Spaces and Verizon Wireless, for the term to end June 30, 2017; and Fiberteach Networks for the term to end June 30, 2019; at a cost not to exceed \$515,400 per year which is the Hartford Public Schools share to match the Federal E-Rate funding share.

The E-Rate is a Federal funding program. Hartford as a district has received funding for the last 8 years. Hartford receives 90% funding for the dollar. The process requires competitive bidding contracts for the services in order to finalize the application process.

VOTE

In favor: Brescia, Colon-Rivas, Stallings, Taylor

Opposed: 0

Absent: Cotto, Poland, Mayor Segarra

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

B. Consent Agenda

7. Resolution: Appointment of School Building Committee Members (The Board)

Dr. Colon-Rivas moved; Chairman Wareing seconded, that the Hartford Board of Education appoints Chairman Richard Wareing and Board member Michael Brescia to serve on the Hartford School Building Committee, effective March 19, 2014.

VOTE

In favor: Brescia, Colon-Rivas, Stallings, Taylor

Opposed: 0

Absent: Cotto, Poland, Mayor Segarra

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

8. School Acting and Interim Administrative Appointments (Superintendent Kishimoto)

Chairman Wareing moved; Mr. Stallings seconded, that the Hartford Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation to appoint the following individuals to the positions indicated:

- a. Richard Quinn, to the position of Interim Principal at Batchelder Elementary School, effective February 11, 2014 through June 30, 2014.
- b. Sherri Tanner to the position of Acting Principal at Early Reading Lab at Betances School, effective February 24, 2014.

VOTE

In favor: Brescia, Colon-Rivas, Stallings, Taylor

Opposed: 0
Absent: Cotto, Poland, Mayor Segarra

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

VI. Executive Session (Personnel Matter: Ms. Karen Lott)

At 7:08 PM, Chairman Wareing accepted a motion from Dr. Taylor to enter into executive session; Mr. Brescia seconded.

VOTE

In favor: Brescia, Colon-Rivas, Stallings, Taylor

Opposed: 0

Absent: Cotto, Poland, Mayor Segarra

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Ms. Cutler-Hodgman, Chief Labor Relations, and Ms. Kaufmann, Assistant Corporation Counsel, joined the executive session.

The executive session adjourned at 7:38

VII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.