

HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES

Regular Meeting – June 18, 2013

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the Hartford Board of Education (hereinafter “Board”) met on Tuesday, June 18, 2013. The meeting was held at R. J. Kinsella Magnet School of Performing Arts, 65 Van Block Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06103.

I. Call to Order

Mr. Poland called the meeting to order at 5:42 p.m.

<u>Present:</u> Matthew Poland, Chair Lori Hudson, Vice-Chair Cherita McIntye, Second Vice-Chair Robert Cotto, Jr., Secretary Honorable Mayor Pedro Segarra Elizabeth Brad Noel Jose Colon-Rivas Richard Wareing	<u>Absent:</u> Luis Rodríguez-Dávila
Superintendent Christina Kishimoto	

II. Business Agenda

A. Items in Order of Importance

1. School Administrative Appointments (Supt. et al)

Mr. Poland accepted a motion from Mr. Wareing to remove the appointment of Mr. Heredia from agenda item No. 1. Mayor Segarra seconded.

VOTE

In favor: Colon-Rivas, Cotto, Hudson, McIntye, Noel, Poland, Mayor Segarra, Wareing
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: Rodriguez-Davila

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Mr. Poland made a motion to postpone the appointment of Mr. Heredia to the August 27 meeting. Mr. Wareing seconded.

Mr. Poland explained that this is the first time that the Board has been presented with issues with the Teachers Union regarding the appointment of a principal. He stated that delaying the appointment of Mr. Heredia will provide an opportunity for the Superintendent to solve these issues with the Union.

VOTE

In favor: Colon-Rivas, Cotto, Hudson, McIntye, Noel, Poland, Mayor Segarra, Wareing
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0

Absent: Rodriguez-Davila

The motion to table Mr. Heredia's appointment passed unanimously by voice vote.

Mr. Poland made a motion; Mayor Pedro Segarra seconded, that the Hartford Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation to appoint the following individuals to the positions indicated:

- b. Mario Cruz to the position of Principal at Asian Studies Academy Dwight-Bellizzi, effective July 1, 2013.
- c. Leonard Epps to the position of Principal at Journalism and Media/Magnet Academy, effective July 1, 2013.
- d. Guillaume Gendre to the position of Principal at Dr. James H. Naylor / CCSU Leadership Academy, effective July 1, 2013.
- e. Timothy Goodwin to the position of Principal at Culinary Arts Academy at Weaver High School, effective July 1, 2013.

VOTE

In favor: Colon-Rivas, Cotto, Hudson, McIntye, Noel, Poland, Mayor Segarra, Wareing

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Absent: Rodriguez-Davila

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

2. Administrative Appointments (Supt. et al)

Mr. Wareing made a motion; Mayor Segarra seconded, that the Hartford Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation to appoint the following individuals to the positions indicated:

- a. Oliver Barton to the position of Portfolio Director, effective July 1, 2013.
- b. Monica Quiñones to the position of Director of ELL Services, effective July 1, 2013.

VOTE

In favor: Colon-Rivas, Cotto, Hudson, McIntye, Noel, Poland, Mayor Segarra, Wareing

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Absent: Rodriguez-Davila

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Board members requested an organization chart for departments in Central Office including the portfolio directors.

Mr. Poland made a motion to suspend the rules to change the order of the agenda to hold the Executive Session followed by item No. 16. Mr. Wareing seconded.

VOTE

In favor: Colon-Rivas, Cotto, Hudson, McIntye, Noel, Poland, Mayor Segarra, Wareing

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Absent: Rodriguez-Davila

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

III. Executive Session

Mr. Wareing made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss the Superintendent contract extension; Mayor Segarra seconded.

VOTE

In favor: Colon-Rivas, Cotto, Hudson, McIntye, Noel, Poland, Mayor Segarra, Wareing

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Absent: Rodriguez-Davila

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

The executive session adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

The Board reconvened the business meeting at 9:47 p.m.

16. Resolution: Approval of Superintendent Contract Extension (The Board)

Mr. Wareing made a motion; Mayor Segarra seconded, that the Hartford Board of Education approves Superintendent Christina Kishimoto's request to extend her employment contract for an additional two-year term through June 30, 2016.

Board members raised concerns for the pace of reform not moving fast enough, and the process and steps taken. They also raised concerns for issues with communication and engaging parents and community effectively. They expressed their decision not to extend the contract. They thanked Dr. Kishimoto for her leadership during the time served as the leader for Hartford Public Schools.

VOTE

In favor: 0

Opposed: Colon-Rivas, Cotto, McIntye, Noel, Poland, Mayor Segarra, Wareing

Abstained: Hudson

Absent: Rodriguez-Davila

The motion failed.

Dr. Kishimoto expressed her support for the reform. She stated that through reform, Hartford closed the achievement gap by one-third, and has a higher graduation rate since the reform started. She thanked the staff for their work and dedication. She expressed her disappointment for the decision taken by the Board and advised not to slow down the reform work. She expressed her commitment to work for the year remaining under her current contract.

Mr. Cotto made a motion to take a 10-minute recess; Mr. Wareing seconded the motion.

VOTE

In favor: Colon-Rivas, Cotto, Hudson, McIntye, Noel, Poland, Mayor Segarra, Wareing

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Absent: Rodriguez-Davila

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

The meeting reconvened at 10:20 p.m.

3. Approval of New Magnet School Operation Plans and Approval of Submission and Acceptance of Magnet Incubation Funds \$4,965,893 (Supt et al.)

The Hartford Board of Education authorizes the submission of the Magnet Operations Plans to the Connecticut State Department of Education for the schools listed below to open as new *Sheff* Magnet Schools in the 2013-2014 school year:

- a. Montessori Magnet School
- b. Hartford Prekindergarten Magnet School
- c. Journalism and Media Magnet Academy

Furthermore, the Hartford Board of Education approves the submission and acceptance of a Magnet Incubation grant to the State Department of Education in the amount of \$4,965,893 to cover the facilities costs for the schools.

VOTE

In favor: Hudson, Colon-Rivas, Cotto, McIntye, Noel, Poland, Mayor Segarra, Wareing
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: Rodriguez-Davila

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

4. Approval: Share Services Agreement with the Hartford Public Library for the Program for Expelled Students - \$50,000 annually (Supt. et al)

The Hartford Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to negotiate the Memorandum of Understanding with the Hartford Public Library for the use of space for the program. The negotiated compensation for each year of the three year agreement is \$50,000.

Mr. Wareing made a motion to table the item to the August 27 meeting, Mayor Segarra seconded.

VOTE

In favor: Hudson, Colon-Rivas, Cotto, McIntye, Noel, Poland, Mayor Segarra, Wareing
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: Rodriguez-Davila

The motion to table the item passed unanimously by voice vote.

5. Contract Approval: Dattco, Inc. \$6,300,000 (Supt et al.)

Mr. Wareing made a motion; Ms. Hudson seconded that the Hartford Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent's to execute a contract with Dattco, Inc. in the amount of \$6,300,000, for the term delineated in the contract ending June 30, 2016.

VOTE

In favor: Hudson, Colon-Rivas, Cotto, McIntye, Noel, Poland, Mayor Segarra, Wareing
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: Rodriguez-Davila

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

6. Contract Continuation Approval: MRW Connected, LLC \$250,000 (Supt et al.)

Dr. Colon-Rivas made a motion; M.s Hudson seconded, that the Hartford Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to extend the existing contract with MRW Connected, LLC to expand the marketing and recruitment efforts, including developing new print media, radio and other advertising to promote Hartford's Portfolio District of Schools for the 2013 and 2014 Choice Marketing and Recruitment Campaigns. The contract may be extended for a term of two years based on performance and funding availability, at an amount not to exceed \$250,000 annually.

VOTE

In favor: Hudson, Colon-Rivas, Cotto, McIntye, Noel, Poland, Mayor Segarra, Wareing

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Absent: Rodriguez-Davila

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

7. Second Reading and Adoption: Policy No. 5114 – Attendance (Policy Committee)

Ms. Noel made a motion; Mr. Cotto seconded, that the Hartford Board of Education accepts the second reading and adopts the revised Policy on Attendance.

VOTE

In favor: Hudson, Colon-Rivas, Cotto, McIntye, Noel, Poland, Mayor Segarra, Wareing

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Absent: Rodriguez-Davila

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

8. Second Reading and Adoption: Policy No. 1531 – District Accreditation (Policy Committee)

Mr. Cotto moved; Ms. Noel seconded, that the Hartford Board of Education accepts the second reading and adopts the revised Policy on District Accreditation.

VOTE

In favor: Hudson, Colon-Rivas, Cotto, McIntye, Noel, Poland, Mayor Segarra, Wareing

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Absent: Rodriguez-Davila

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

9. Second Reading and Adoption: Policy No. 3140 Transfer of Funds between Categories – Amendments (Finance and Audit Committee)

Mr. Wareing moved, Dr. Colon-Rivas seconded, that the Hartford Board of Education accepts the second reading and adopts the revised Policy on Transfer of Funds between Categories-Amendments – Appropriations Transfers.

VOTE

In favor: Hudson, Colon-Rivas, Cotto, McIntye, Noel, Poland, Mayor Segarra, Wareing

Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: Rodriguez-Davila

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

10. Second Reading and Adoption: School Design Specifications for Maria Sanchez Expeditionary Learning Academy (Supt et al.)

Mr. Wareing made a motion, Dr. Colon-Rivas seconded, that the Hartford Board of Education accepts the second reading and adopts the design specifications for Maria Sanchez Expeditionary Learning Academy.

VOTE

In favor: Hudson, Colon-Rivas, Cotto, McIntye, Noel, Poland, Mayor Segarra, Wareing
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: Rodriguez-Davila

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

11. Second Reading and Adoption: New School Design Specifications for Achievement First Hartford Academy II (Supt et al.)

Mr. Wareing made a motion; Ms. Hudson seconded, that the Hartford Board of Education accepts the second reading and adopts the new design specifications for Achievement First Hartford Academy II.

VOTE

In favor: Hudson, Colon-Rivas, Cotto, McIntye, Noel, Poland, Mayor Segarra, Wareing
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: Rodriguez-Davila

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

B. Consent Agenda

Mr. Poland accepted a motion to move all the items listed on the consent agenda; Ms. Hudson seconded.

12. Interim and Acting Administrative Appointments (Supt. et al)

The Hartford Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation to appoint the following individuals to the positions indicated:

1. Elaine Papas to the position of Acting Principal at L.W. Batchelder Elementary, effective July 1, 2013.
2. Carol Wright to the position of Interim Principal at Dr. Frank T. Simpson-Waverly, effective July 1, 2013.

13. Approval of the Board of Education Meeting Schedule for 2013-14 School Year (The Board)

14. Approval of the minutes of the special meeting held on March 5, 2013 (The Board)

15. Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 19, 2013 (The Board)

VOTE

In favor: Hudson, Colon-Rivas, Cotto, McIntye, Noel, Poland, Mayor Segarra, Wareing

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Absent: Rodriguez-Davila

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

IV. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.