

HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES

Regular Meeting – October 21, 2014

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the Hartford Board of Education (hereinafter “Board”) met on Tuesday, October 21, 2014. The meeting was held at Parkville Community School, 1755 Park Street, Hartford, Connecticut, 06106.

I. Call to Order

Mr. Wareing called the meeting to order at 5:43 p.m.

<u>Present:</u> Richard Wareing, Chair Jose Colon-Rivas, Vice-Chair Beth Taylor, Second Vice-Chair Craig Stallings, Secretary Michael Brescia Robert Cotto, Jr. Honorable Mayor Pedro Segarra	<u>Absent:</u> Matthew Poland Shelley D. Best
Superintendent Beth Schiavino-Narvaez	
Student Representative T.J. Noel-Sullivan Student Representative Gabriel Hilario	

II. Public Participation

1. David Ionno spoke on his concern over the condition of the HPHS building, and reinstating Veteran’s day.
2. Hyacinth Yennie spoke on money following the student. She felt it did not work, because when a student leaves a magnet school to enter a neighborhood school, the money does not follow that child. Ms. Yennie also spoke on the library at HPHS and no one wanting to take responsibility for it. She also spoke on Martin Luther King School and restoring it to its glory days.
3. Shownta Browdy spoke on an incident that happened with her daughter’s father, who was treated rudely by the staff in the office at her child’s school.
4. Andrea Johnson spoke on an article in The Courant about the transition report, and that it was disappointing that the HFT was not included as being contributors that helped shape the report. She indicated that many members of the HFT were present at meetings, and always have been.
5. Paul Holzer also spoke on the transition report being bracing, and honest, and that now was the time to be bold and make use of the support being offered.
6. Michael Downes spoke on Weaver having been empty for a while now and he has not seen construction begin. He also agreed that Veteran’s day should be reinstated.

III. Reports

1. Report of the Chair - none
2. Report of the Superintendent

- Dr. Narvaez welcomed the new student representatives to the Board, Mr. Gabriel Hilario and Mr. T.J. Noel-Sullivan. She also acknowledged the members of the student senate;
- She also paused to remember Mr. Kevin Bell, Hartford Firefighter who passed away on October 7th. Earlier that day Mr. Bell had visited students at Martin Luther King School and West Middle School to give a talk on fire safety;
- Dr. Narvaez spoke on College & Career Readiness month, as well as Cyber Security Awareness Month;
- HPHS Academy of Green technology was presented with the 2014 Design Award of Merit CT by the CT Chapter of the US Green Building Council presented, wind and solar powered turbine that provided electricity to a school in Nepal;
- Dr. Jose Colon-Rivas, Board Member, recipient of the Champion for Children Award;
- Justin Taylor, teacher at Bulkeley, selected to be one of the 2015 CT Teacher of the Year Finalists;
- Winston Johnson, Leonard Epps, Reggie Hatchet, and Reginald Tucker nominated and honored at the 100 Black Men of Color event at the Bushnell;
- Dr. Sandra Inga honored and inducted into the Connecticut Women's Hall of Fame;
- Dr. Narvaez read to Naylor students for the kickoff of 'Jumpstart Read for the Record';
- Ray Allen, NBA player, donated a 5th computer lab to the Hartford Public Schools;
- Grand opening of the Culinary Arts Academy on October 1st;
- Maria Sanchez Elementary School opened a State of the Art Fitness Center;
- Little Kids Rock, donated around 2,000 instruments to 22 schools, and Modern Band curricula will be provided to teachers;
- Dr. Narvaez presented a summary of the Transition Team Report.

3. Committee Reports

- Parent and Community Engagement Committee

Mr. Stallings spoke on reviewing the School Governance and Parent Organization policies, and having made recommendations to the Policy Committee. They will be holding meetings in the evening, to engage more parents.

- Policy Committee

Dr. Taylor reported on receiving the above recommendations from the Parent Committee, and two of them being on the agenda tonight as a first reading.

- School Choice and Facilities Committee

Dr. Colon-Rivas stated they discussed properties and/or modular for the new Montessori at McDonough, construction at Weaver High School and reviewing district capacity vs. enrollment.

Mayor Segarra recommended having a student report section. Mr. Stallings stated they have been looking at changing policy to do so, and getting the student senate underway so they can report on that.

IV. Business Agenda

A. Items in Order of Importance

1. Approval of Management Operation Agreement: Capital Community College Magnet Academy (Supt et al.)

The Hartford Board of Education and Capital Community College must enter into a mutually agreed upon Management Operation Agreement to ensure appropriate and accurate management of Capital Community College Magnet Academy. This agreement includes a term of 7 years and outlines duties and responsibilities assigned to both parties and costs assumed by Hartford Public Schools and Capital Community College.

Mayor Segarra made a motion; Dr. Colon-Rivas seconded, that the Hartford Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to enter into a Management Operation Agreement with Capital Community College, in the form and substance attached.

Mr. Cotto stated his concern on opening another school with fewer students in the district, and that not making financial sense.

Mr. Stallings asked to be educated on this item, possibly in a workshop.

VOTE

In favor: Colon-Rivas, Taylor, Stallings, Brescia, Cotto, Mayor Segarra

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Absent: Best, Poland

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

2. Contract Continuation Approval: Expeditionary Learning \$248,800 (Supt et al.)

The Hartford Public Schools seeks to continue the contract with Expeditionary Learning to provide ongoing professional development and support in the Expeditionary Learning model at McDonough Expeditionary Learning School, the Expeditionary Learning Academy at Moylan, and at Maria Sanchez School. This includes but is not limited to on-site and off-site professional development and access to Expeditionary Learning designers.

Dr. Colon-Rivas made a motion; and Mayor Segarra seconded that the Hartford Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to execute a contract with Expeditionary Learning for the term delineated in the contract ending June 30, 2015, at a cost not to exceed \$248,800.

Jose Colon, Principal at Moylan; and members of the school staff spoke highly of being an Expeditionary Learning School.

Mr. Stallings expressed his concern over what benchmarks will be used, and he would like to see more background on this.

Discussion over the Implementation Review Scores going down slightly, and part of the reason being they have tweaked the rubric, to make it more effective, which accounts for why the scores may have gone down.

Board members were invited to attend the mid-year review process if it was appropriate.

VOTE

In favor: Colon-Rivas, Taylor, Stallings, Brescia, Cotto, Mayor Segarra

Opposed:

Abstained: 0

Absent: Best, Poland

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

3. Contract Approval: Connecticut Science Center \$200,501 (Supt et al.)

The Hartford Public Schools will contract with the Connecticut Science Center to provide science content professional development to grades 4 and 5 teachers, and to provide engaging inquiry-based science experiences for all grades 4 and 5 students; and to support teachers/students with in-class modeling.

Mayor Segarra made a motion; Mr. Brescia seconded, that the Hartford Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to execute a contract with the Connecticut Science Center, for the term delineated in the contract ending June 30, 2016, at a cost not to exceed \$200,501.

VOTE

In favor: Colon-Rivas, Taylor, Stallings, Brescia, Cotto, Mayor Segarra

Opposed:

Abstained: 0

Absent: Best, Poland

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

4. First Reading: Hartford Public School Policies on Parent Organizations and School Governance Councils (Policy Committee)

That the Board of Education accepts the first reading of the policies on Parent Organizations and School Governance Councils.

No vote was needed at this time.

B. Executive Session (Collective Bargaining - Hartford Educational Support Personnel)

Mayor Segarra made a motion; and Dr. Taylor seconded, to enter into executive session. The Board entered into Executive Session at 7:51 p.m.

<p><u>Present:</u> Richard Wareing, Chair Jose Colon-Rivas, Vice-Chair Beth Taylor, Second Vice-Chair Craig Stallings, Secretary Michael Brescia Robert Cotto, Jr. Honorable Mayor Pedro Segarra</p>	<p><u>Absent:</u> Matthew Poland Shelley D. Best</p>
<p>Superintendent Beth Schiavino-Narvaez Jill Cutler-Hodgman Melinda Kauffman</p>	

The executive session adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

5. Approval of Proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement: The Hartford Educational Support Personnel (Supt. et al)

Mayor Segarra made a motion; and Mr. Stallings seconded, that the Board of Education approves the proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Hartford Educational Support Personnel, Local 82, AFSA, AFL-CIO.

VOTE

In favor: Colon-Rivas, Taylor, Stallings, Brescia, Cotto, Mayor Segarra

Opposed:

Abstained: 0

Absent: Best, Poland

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

C. Consent Agenda

Mr. Wareing made a motion to move all items as listed under the consent agenda. Dr. Taylor seconded:

6. Acceptance of Funds: Connecticut State Department of Education - Cooperating Eligible Entity Grant for Supplemental Adult Education Programs \$256,377 (Supt. et al)

The Cooperating Eligible Entity Grant provides mandated adult education services through a collaborative relationship between the Adult Education Center in Hartford and three Cooperating Eligible Entities: Literacy Volunteers of Greater Hartford, YMCA Read to Succeed Adult Reading Clinic, and Urban League of Greater Hartford. This grant supplements existing adult education services through enhanced activities such as services to special populations, specific literacy education and additional support services.

That the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to accept a total of \$256,377 from the State of Connecticut Cooperating Eligible Entity Grant for the supplemental Adult Education programs described above.

7. Acceptance of Funds: Connecticut State Department of Education K-8 Science Improvement Grant \$62,345 (Supt. et al)

Excelling in Science Using Literacy and STEM is a grant-funded project by the state of Connecticut's Education Reform District K-8 Science Improvement Grant. The purpose of the grant is to increase student knowledge and interest in STEM related content fields.

That the Hartford Board of Education authorizes the superintendent to accept funds in the amount of \$62,345 from the Connecticut State Department of Education Excelling in Science Using Literacy Grant.

8. Contract Continuation Approval: Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth – Capital Preparatory Magnet School \$95,000 (Supt. et al)

Hartford Public Schools will contract with the Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth to provide gifted online curriculum to qualifying Capital Prep students.

That the Hartford Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to execute a contract with Johns Hopkins University – Center for Talented Youth, for the term delineated in the contract ending June 30, 2015, at a cost not to exceed \$95,000.

9. Contract Approval: University of Saint Joseph and Hartford Pre-Kindergarten Magnet School Internship Program \$78,576 (Supt et al.)

Through a partnership with the University of St. Joseph, we have developed an internship program that serves as a pipeline for future Pre-Kindergarten teachers throughout our District and State. Interns learn as they work with certified teachers and child development associates providing high quality Pre-K instruction daily in each PreK3 and PreK4 classroom at the Hartford Pre-Kindergarten Magnet School.

That the Hartford Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to execute a contract with the University of Saint Joseph for the term delineated in the contract ending June 30, 2015, at a cost not to exceed \$78,576.

10. Contract Approval: Sunbelt Staffing – Speech and Language Services \$72,579 (Supt. et al.)

Hartford Public Schools will contract with Sunbelt Staffing to provide speech and language services to special education students who are mandated to receive these services.

That the Hartford Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to execute a contract with Sunbelt Staffing, LLC, for the term delineated in the contract ending June 30, 2015, at a cost not to exceed \$72,759.

11. Contract Approval: COMPASS Youth Collaborative / Dr. James H Naylor/CCSU Leadership Academy - \$59,500 (Supt et al.)

Hartford Public Schools will contract with COMPASS Youth Collaborative to implement an academic intervention afterschool program for students in grades 4-7 who are performing below their grade level.

That the Hartford Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to execute a contract with the University of Saint Joseph for the term delineated in the contract ending June 30, 2015, at a cost not to exceed \$59,500.

VOTE

In favor: Colon-Rivas, Taylor, Stallings, Brescia, Cotto, Mayor Segarra

Opposed:

Abstained: 0

Absent: Best, Poland

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

I. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.