

AGENDA

ITEM # 15

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Hartford Board of Education Regular Meeting – Tuesday, March 22, 2011 Hartford Public High School Media Center – 55 Forest Street

I. Roll Call and Call to Order

5:56 p.m. Mr. MacDonald called the meeting to order. A quorum was present.

Present:	Absent:
Mr. David MacDonald, Chairperson	Ms. Pamela Richmond, Vice Chair
Ms. Lori Hudson, Secretary	
Mr. Robert Cotto	
Mr. Israel Flores	
Ms. Ada Miranda	
Ms. Brad Noel	
Ms. Sharon Patterson-Stallings	
Mr. Luis Rodriguez-Davila	

Mr. MacDonald opened the meeting with an opening statement.

II. Dialogue Session

1. Parent and Student Comment

Marlon Greenwood, parent, stated his main concern is the achievement gap. He believes that students can be learning at a faster rate. There needs to be more commitment to education or many children will be lost. Mr. Greenwood also stressed his support for a comprehensive civics curriculum because many young people do not know the basics. His daughter attends West Middle, and his son attends Salisbury.

Dr. Adamowski commended Mr. Greenwood for speaking and supporting a higher bar of excellence for his children and all Hartford students.

Giselle Feliciano, parent, stated her concern for the upcoming budget deficits and the possible layoffs of teachers and paraprofessionals. She requested that the teacher layoffs be minimized and suggested that Central Office be looked at in regards to cuts. She also suggested that the City and Board of Education consider combining services. Ms. Feliciano also raised concern with the GTSI contract agenda item. She would like to know how that will benefit her child. She thanked Mr. McDonald for his work on the playground issue.

Dr. Adamowski stated that the budget has not been finalized; however, major layoffs are not anticipated. School budgets will increase at a net of 2%; this is dependent upon the ability to reduce Central Office by \$4 million.

Corrine Blake, President of the West Middle Elementary School PTO, commended the Board and Superintendent for placing the educational specifications for the renovation of West Middle Elementary School on the agenda. She lauded Ms. Garrison and Ms. Estey for leading the success of the school in spite of the overcrowded school.

2. Public Comment

Martin Edgar, substitute teacher, raised concern with the bonuses given to staff in Central Office in these difficult economic times. He stated that sacrifice has to be shared with the district administration. Mr. Edgar is concerned with the hiring practice of the district to hire only substitute teachers that have been recommended by each school's principal. It sounds like an obstacle to hire

new substitute teachers. Lastly, he stated his concern with the Chief Labor and Legal Relations Officer speaking with the Hartford Federation of Teachers (HFT) President regarding the number of FOI requests being submitted by the Hartford Federation of Substitute Teachers (HFST). Mr. Edgar suggested that the Chief Labor and Relations Officer should have spoken with the HFST President.

Tony Mein, resident, stated his support of the proposed educational specifications and proposed renovation and expansion of the West Middle Elementary School. Many parents had planned to attend the meeting, which was originally scheduled for March 15, but were not able to attend this evening's meeting. This school is a flagship in the neighborhood, and renovations have not been made in over 30 years. Mr. Mein encouraged the support of this agenda item and thanked the Board of Education for their commitment to the neighborhood and school.

Dr. Adamowski stated his appreciation for Mr. Mein's support and indicated that the proposed educational specifications will allow for the enrollment of 600 students. This is a bit smaller than it is now and will allow for ½ mile walk zone, so it will be a true neighborhood school.

Bernie Michel, Chair of the Asylum Hill Neighborhood Revitalization Zone, spoke in support of the proposed renovation and expansion of the West Middle Elementary School. The neighborhood rises and falls with the success of the school. Mr. Michael encouraged the Board of Education to approve the agenda item.

Dr. Adamowski asked Dr. Nardone to please clarify the proposed enrollment in the educational specifications of West Middle Elementary School, as a question had been raised by Ms. Noel. Dr. Nardone clarified that the state grant will allow for the reimbursement of up to 750 students.

Joe Bumpers, Unit Director of the Asylum Hill Boys & Girls Club, stated that he has forged a significant relationship with the West Middle Elementary School. The proposed renovation will provide much needed space, so students will be able to receive a well-deserved education. The technology proposed for the school will enhance the technology knowledge of students and help the school to compete with the other schools in the district that already have technology.

Jackie McKinney, Vice Chair of the Asylum Hill Neighborhood Revitalization Zone, spoke in support of the West Middle Elementary School renovation. She would like the school to take her breath away like when she visited SMSA. Ms. McKinney would like people to move into the neighborhood because they would like their children to attend West Middle. She would also like to see the Mark Twain branch of the Hartford Public Library to be included in the renovation.

Dr. Adamowski replied that the district is actively pursuing the prospect of the library branch being located in the school.

Courtney Bourns member of the Asylum Hill Congregational Church, supports the renovation of the West Middle Elementary School. The AHCC believes that the school can be a community campus to the neighborhood, community, and students.

Carroll Mathews, resident, is a Hartford native and always wanted to live in the Asylum Hill neighborhood. She is glad that the support is being given to the West Middle Elementary School.

III. Reports

1. Report of the Chair

Mr. MacDonald presented his first report as Board Chair. He is pleased that the Board has selected the incoming Superintendent and commends the outgoing Superintendent on a well-deserved retirement. Mr. MacDonald commended Mayor Segarra on his state of the city address and agrees with Mayor Segarra's call for more collaboration between the City and the Board of Education.

- o Appointment of School Choice and Facilities Committee Chair
 - Sharon Patterson-Stallings, Chair

Mr. MacDonald recommended the appointment of Ms. Patterson-Stallings as Chair of the School Choice and Facilities Committee.

- Appointment of Special Education Instruction and Student Achievement Task Force Chair and Additional Member
 - Lori L. Hudson, Chair
 - Robert Cotto, Jr., Member

Mr. MacDonald recommended Ms. Hudson as Chair of the Special Education Instruction and Student Achievement Task Force. Mr. MacDonald asked for the Special Education Task Force to look at the Modified Assessment System to ensure that students' needs are being met. After speaking with Mr. Cotto, Mr. MacDonald has decided not to appoint Mr. Cotto to the Task Force but encourages Board members to attend task force meetings.

2. Report of the Superintendent

- Five Magnet Schools Recognized by Magnet Schools of America
 - Hartford Magnet Middle School and R.J. Kinsella School of Performing Arts - Named Magnet School of Excellence
 - Classical Magnet School and Sports and Medical Sciences Academy - Named Magnet School of Distinction
 - Sport and Medical Sciences Magnet School – Named Magnet School of Distinction
 - University High School of Science and Engineering - Honorable Mention

Dr. Adamowski reported that there are several staff recognitions this evening. He is proud of all of these schools, especially Hartford Magnet Middle School and the R.J. Kinsella School of Performing Arts for receiving the 2011 Magnet Schools of Excellence Award, which is the highest honor from the Magnet Schools of America. Classical Magnet and University High School of Science and Engineering received honorable mentions. Dr. Adamowski stated that is the first time that two schools have received such an honor. He stated that the schools' students receive an education that is unique to Connecticut and much of the nation.

Ms. Biggs stated that the recognition is that of the students, staff, and parents. It is a family, and she died and went to heaven when she came to HMMS as Principal. She stated that the ongoing support from the Board of Education and administration makes everything that they accomplish possible. She expressed her appreciation for Janice Andrews, HMMS Magnet Theme Coach.

Ms. Totten-Alvarado praised HMMS for its distinctive honor and the 3 other schools. She stated that the fabulous staff, wonderful students, and families of R.J. Kinsella Magnet School make the school wonderful. She also commended Dr. Tracy Saperstein for her recognition as Regional Magnet School Teacher of the Year. All of the hard work has paid off, and she thanked the Board of Education for their support.

- Report of the Task Force on After School Standards – Mr. Kelvin Roldan

Dr. Adamowski explained that the purpose of the Task Force, chaired by Mr. Roldan, Director of Strategic Partnerships, and Dr. Ralph Muller, Dean of the College of Education, Nursing, and Health Professions at the University of Hartford, is to design, draft, recommend, and implement standards for quality after school programming that aligns with certain goals in the Strategic Operating Plan. Mr. Muller was unable to attend the meeting because of a previous commitment.

Mr. Roldan, Director of Strategic Partnerships, introduced Enid Ray, Hartford Office for Youth Services Director, and Chad Williams of the Boys and Girls Club. In Mr. Muller's absence, Mr. Roldan stated the Chair's thanks for the support in leading this Task Force. Penny MacCormack, Chief Academic Officer, was the third partner in developing the recommendations and was unable to attend the Board meeting. Mr. Roldan recognized the participation of Sandra Ward, Director of Community Schools; Madeline Vasquez, Office of Strategic Partnerships; Sandra Inga, Director of Science; Jim Starr, Achieve Hartford; Jackie Colman, Advisor for the Arts; and, Joan Chow, Public Allies/AmeriCorps volunteer in the Office of Strategic Partnerships.

Mr. Roldan explained that the report presented this evening is a draft, and community input is welcome. The formal recommendations will be presented to the Board at the May meeting. The Task Force was formed by the Office of Strategic Partnerships, Office of Academics, and Office of

Youth Services in collaboration with the City of Hartford. The Task Force included community partners, program operators, and instructional leaders, as well.

In the methodology and process the Task Force looked at the local, state, and national context. A great deal of literature and data review was conducted. Hartford's current after school programming and funding was reviewed. Discussions were had with community service providers. The standards and recommendations strongly endorse quality programming that is aligned with the District's Theory of Action.

Ms. Rey provided a brief overview of the recommendations:

1. The Hartford Board of Education should adopt a policy whereby all district-supported school-based after-school programs adhere to the program standards recommended by this Task Force within three years.
2. The Hartford Public Schools' Office of Strategic Partnerships should work closely with district partners, at all levels to ensure the alignment of technical assistance to support professional development/capacity-building for all service providers selected to operate school-based district-supported after-school programs, to ensure their ability to meet adopted standards.
3. Hartford Public Schools and the City of Hartford should jointly develop a partnership vehicle to oversee ongoing funding and operations of all Hartford school-based district-supported after-school programming, consistent with recommendations and proposed standards in this report.
4. The Hartford Public Schools' Office of Strategic Partnerships should revise the Hartford Public Schools Policy on School-Community Partnerships to ensure consistency with the recommendations in this report, for submission to and approval by the Hartford Board of Education.
5. The Hartford Public Schools' Office of Strategic Partnerships and Hartford Office of Youth Services jointly should convene and coordinate a work group to:
 - a. Define operational-level data requirements, reporting procedures and accountability protocols for all school-based district-supported after-school programs, consistent with the Hartford Public Schools' *3-Year Strategic Operating Plan* and relevant district policy.
 - b. Propose a resource development strategy to support implementation of resulting data management and reporting requirements.

The Superintendent of Schools should designate oversight responsibility for the resulting data collection and reporting system to a specific Hartford Public School's cabinet member (or, alternatively, to a designated leader of the proposed partnership entity).

6. Hartford Public Schools (through the Office of Strategic Partnerships) and the City of Hartford (through the Hartford Office of Youth Services) should jointly develop a plan to implement a comprehensive, district-wide/city-wide summer/early start-program, aligned with the regular school year, guided by the recommendations and proposed standards in this report.
7. The Hartford Public Schools' Office of Strategic Partnerships and Hartford Office of Youth Services jointly should map out and implement an outreach and communications campaign to inform the broad Hartford community about the implications of the district's adoption of these recommendations and program operating standards.
8. The Hartford Board of Education should adopt the after-school program standards proposed by the Task Force and contained in this report as operating policy to guide operation of all school-based district supported after-school programs.

Mr. Roldan stated that the adoption of rigorous program standards is an important next step in the district's after-school program improvement efforts. The proposed standards are organized among the following six (6) categories to help describe practices that are consistent to high-quality after-school programs: Safety, Health and Nutrition; Program Administration; Human Relationships; Reporting and Measuring; Indoor and Outdoor Environment; and, Specialized Programs.

Mr. Williams briefly commented on the process of the Task Force. He stated that it's critical for the standards to be adopted. It is vital for programs to be evaluated to ensure return on investment and that services the services offered are in the best interest of children.

Mr. MacDonald asked how recommendation 8 is different from the State standards. Ms. Rey replied that the proposed standards are aligned with the State standards. The concepts and values are aligned; the contextual nuances are different. Mr. Roldan added that the nuances reflect the distinctive portfolio of schools.

Mr. Rodriguez-Davila asked the number of the students who will benefit from the programs. Mr. Roldan stated that he didn't have specific numbers. It is approximately 5,000 to 8,000 students. Ms. Rey stated that these standards provide a qualitative benchmark for the after school initiatives.

Mr. Rodriguez-Davila asked how many programs will be provided in the schools. Mr. Roldan replied that there are a significant number of programs provided by community providers in the schools. Twenty-six out of twenty-nine elementary schools provide after school programming. Mr. Roldan stated that there are multiple funders. Ms. Rey stated that funders are asking for a formalized process to standardize after school programming.

Ms. Noel stated her concern with the small number of students participating in the after school programs. She is concerned with the decline of after school sport programs because of the lack of facilities. She is concerned that some of our new buildings do not provide these facilities.

Mr. Roldan stated that his office is compiling the data to determine how many students have been provided after school programming this year.

Ms. Patterson-Stallings asked if an evaluation of the effectiveness of these programs will be considered. Mr. Roldan replied that the suggested approach is that there are 3 levels of practice (evidence). Ms. Rey added that some standards can be implemented readily, while others will take time to implement.

Mr. MacDonald asked if there will be a correlation to student achievement. Dr. Adamowski responded the evaluations will demonstrate the correlation between programming and student achievement.

Mr. MacDonald asked for more detail and clarification on Recommendation 3. Mr. Roldan replied that the partnership will allow for alignment without duplication.

Mr. Rodriguez-Davila commended Ms. Rey on her leadership. He asked if there is a cost estimate and where it will be allocated. Mr. Rodriguez-Davila suggested that this be part of a workshop.

- Appointment of Weaver High School Design Task Force

Dr. Adamowski stated that the redesign project cannot move forward without public support. The Board of Education will consider the recommendations at the December 2011 meeting. The Blue Hills Civic Association was commended for their willingness to support and participate in the Task Force.

- RSCO Application Results for 2011-12 – Mr. Genao

Mr. Genao congratulated the magnet schools recognized earlier. Mr. Genao reviewed the number of Regional School Choice Office applications from SY 2010-2011 and SY 2011-2012.

The number of magnet school applications submitted by Hartford students decreased by 608 from 5,188 in 2010 to 4,580 in 2011. The number of magnet school applications submitted by suburban students increased by 795 from 7,222 in 2010 to 8,017 in 2011. The total number of applications increased from 12,410 in 2010 to 12,597 in 2011.

The number of open choice applications submitted by Hartford students increased by 1,038 from 2,545 in 2010 to 3,583 in 2011. The number of open choice applications submitted by suburban students increased by 292 from 1,512 in 2010 to 1,804 in 2011. The total number of applications increased by 1,330 from 4,057 in 2010 to 5,387 in 2011.

The total number of Hartford applications decreased by 563 from 5,320 in 2010 to 4,757 in 2011. The total number of suburban applications increased by 852 from 7,282 in 2010 to 8,134 in 2011.

The number of Not Latino applicants (listed as White and White Multiracial) is 3,773. The number of Latino applicants (White and White Multiracial) is 2,674.

Mr. Genao reviewed the number of applications to Hartford host magnet schools. Sport & Medical Sciences Academy received the most applications – 836. Pathways to Technology had the greatest percentage of White applicants from Tier 1 towns. Hartford Magnet Middle had the greatest percentage of White applicants from Tier 1 and 2 towns.

Mr. Rodriguez-Davila asked if the racial reporting meets the federal guidelines. Mr. Genao stated that the information meets the new federal guidelines, and he reviewed the new guidelines. Mr. Rodriguez-Davila asked why the *Sheff* complainants and State need to meet. Mr. Genao replied that the groups need to negotiate how to integrate the new guidelines to meet the *Sheff* agreement.

Mr. MacDonald asked if there has been an increase in the number of White applications. Mr. Genao responded that there has been a slight decrease in all applications, including White. All indications show that the compliant measurements will be met.

- o Early Start 2011 – Dr. Thompson

Dr. James Thompson, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education, and Darren Schwartz, Early Start Coordinator, provided an overview of the State of Connecticut policy on summer school for priority school districts:

- Offer a summer reading program to children enrolled in kindergarten who are determined by their teachers to need additional reading and reading readiness instruction
- Require students in grades 1-3 who are determined to be substantially deficient in reading based on the May administration of the DRA2 to attend summer school
- May require, within available appropriations, students in grades 4-6 who fail to make progress with additional instruction provided in their personal reading plans, to attend summer school

Dr. Thompson stated that the goals of the program:

- Students in grades K-7 will improve in the academic areas of reading and math as evidenced by the results of the pre and post Early Start assessments
- Students will participate in enrichment learning opportunities provided by Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and other summer learning organizations.

The Early Start 2011 will be a 4 week program; all schools will be open Monday through Friday from July 18 – August 12. Each school will be in session for 3 and ½ hours, dedicating 120 minutes to language arts and 90 minutes to math. Breakfast and lunch will be served daily. The Student to Teacher Ratio will be 15:1.

Mr. Schwartz detailed the student who are mandated to attend, including:

- All students in grades K-3 who score substantially deficient in reading on the May Developmental Reading Assessment 2 (DRA2). According to the January administration of the DRA2, a total of 1,335 students in grades K-3 are substantially deficient.
- All students in grades 4-7 who score below proficient on the May Cycle 3 Degrees of Reading Power (DRP) Assessment. According to the January administration of the DRP, a total of 3,107 students in grades 4-7 are below proficient.
- Special education students (including pre-k) in accordance with their Individual Education Plan (IEP).

Mr. Schwartz provided a curriculum overview:

- Intervention/Redesign schools will work in collaboration with The Office of Academics and The Office of Elementary Education to determine scientifically research-based programs that align with state standards and address students' needs.

- Each Early Start classroom will dedicate 120 minutes to language arts instruction and 90 minutes to math instruction.
- Autonomous Schools are able to determine their own curriculum for Early Start students. These schools will have the option to select the program designed by the Office of Academics.

Mr. Schwartz detailed the program assessments:

- All students in grades K-2 who attend Early Start will take the Developmental Reading Assessment 2 (DRA2) in May and September as a pre/post assessment.
- All students in grades 3-7 who attend Early Start will take the Degrees of Reading Power (DRP) Assessment in May and September as a pre/post assessment.
- All students in grades K-7 will take a math pre/post assessment at the beginning and end of Early Start.

Support services will include nurses, security, and paraprofessionals.

Ms. Noel raised her concern about high school retrieval summer school courses. Dr. Adamowski asked Dr. Kishimoto to provide some information on the high school summer school program.

Mr. MacDonald asked if there is a consequence for the mandated students who do not attend summer school. The committee is developing a consequence or alternative. Dr. Adamowski added that the same rules apply to summer school as to the regular school year.

Mr. Schwartz that early notification to parents is helpful to getting students into the Early Start program.

Ms. Miranda asked if special education students will be provided with the resources required. Mr. Schwartz answered affirmatively.

- Recognition of Dr. James Thompson

Dr. Adamowski recognized Dr. Thompson for his work in the Hartford Public Schools. The district's greatest gains are in the existing neighborhood schools. Dr. Adamowski regards him as a pre-eminent educator in Connecticut.

Dr. Thompson stated that he is leaving Hartford with a very heavy heart. HPS has become his family. His experience in Hartford has become his lifeline. Dr. Thompson thanked Dr. Adamowski for his confidence in him. His hope is that they have created a strong foundation that will continue to endure and benefit the academic performance of all Hartford students.

3. Committee Report

- Policy Committee

Ms. Noel reported that there are new State guidelines on restraint of students. The proposed policy is being considered by the Board this evening.

IV. Business Agenda

A. Items in Order of Importance

1. Administrative Appointment (Supt. et al)

The Hartford Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation to appoint Dr. Tina Jeter to the position of Director of Adult Education, effective March 28, 2011.

Ms. Miranda made a motion; Ms. Noel seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Dr. Kishimoto introduced Dr. Jeter to the Board of Education. The School Governance Council strongly endorsed Dr. Jeter.

Dr. Jeter thanked the Board for their support. The Adult Education program has exceeded the state expectations on most benchmarks.

2. Approval of School Design Specifications for Capital Preparatory Magnet School Expansion to include Pre-K through Grade 12 (Supt. et al)

This thirteen year educational experience will more effectively serve student needs within an instructionally consistent, rigorous educational experience guaranteeing college success. Therefore, this proposal is being submitted so that The Capital Preparatory Magnet School, Grades 6 through 12, may be granted the opportunity to convert to Grade Pre-kindergarten through Grade 12.

Mr. Flores made a motion; Ms. Miranda seconded the motion.

Mr. Cotto asked if the expansion is needed to meet the Innovation School design specifications.

Ms. Noel asked how the recruitment will be handled. Dr. Perry answered that it will be done all at once.

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

3. Approval of School Design Specifications for Capital Preparatory Magnet School as an Innovation School (Supt. et al)

Every faculty and administrator at The Capital Preparatory Magnet School voted in favor of the conversion of this school, for the purpose of improving school performance and student achievement, to an Innovative School so that it may more effectively serve student needs. This proposal is being submitted so that The Capital Preparatory Magnet School, Grades 6 through 12, may be granted the opportunity to convert to an Innovation School and include expansion grades Pre-kindergarten through Grade 5.

Mr. Flores made a motion; Ms. Miranda seconded the motion.

Mr. Cotto asked if the school population will remain. Dr. Perry answered that the school will expand to 700.

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

4. Approval of New School Design Specifications for Montessori Erdkinder (Supt. et al)

The HPS Montessori Erdkinder will focus on a continuation of the Montessori philosophy to students ages 12-15 at a farm-based site. Based on the writings of Dr. Maria Montessori in her book From Childhood to Adolescence and grounded in the implementation model of the Hershey Montessori School Adolescent Program in Huntsburg, Ohio, the HPS Montessori Erdkinder will provide the next phase of the HPS Montessori Pathway. The school will be affiliated with Association Montessori Internationale (Amsterdam) and accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.

Ms. Miranda made a motion; Mr. Flores seconded the motion.

Mr. Cotto asked if the enrollment will be larger. Mr. Freeman responded that the enrollment will increase to 340. Mr. Cotto asked if administration will be shared between the 2 schools. Mr. Freeman responded that the current administration will oversee both in the beginning. Mr. Cotto asked if there is a location for the new school. Mr. McCaskill responded that there are talks with another district. Mr. Cotto stated that the item should be tabled until the location is confirmed. Dr. Adamowski responded that the Board's commitment is required to move forward with our

potential partners. Dr. Kishimoto added that this project has been a multi-year development and is based on the internationally acclaimed program in Ohio. In order to move forward, the Board will need to support this. Mr. Cotto asked if this will require any funds at this time. Dr. Kishimoto replied that there is not any money being provided; many people are volunteering their time. Mr. Freeman added that the new school is not intended to open until September 2013. Ms. Noel asked how many students will be able to come to the school. Mr. Freeman responded that the school is based on the pyramid model, so there will be a natural attrition to fill the building.

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

5. Approval of New School Design Specifications for the Expeditionary Learning Academy at Moylan (Supt. et al)

The Expeditionary Learning Academy at Moylan School will be a PreK-5 Expeditionary Learning School. Students will engage in in-depth learning through "learning expeditions" which are interdisciplinary, project-based units of study that require students to engage in research, use the community in authentic ways and communicate what they have learned through a culminating presentation of their final product to outside audiences. The Expeditionary Learning Academy at Moylan is planned as a pathway to the Expeditionary Learning School at McDonough. Upon successful completion of Grade 5 at Moylan, students will transition into the Expeditionary Learning School at McDonough, Grades 6-8.

Ms. Hudson made a motion; Ms. Miranda seconded the motion.

Ms. Noel asked if the district is interviewing for a new principal and teachers. Mr. McCaskill answered yes. Ms. Noel stated that she has heard from some community members that they do not like the proposed changes.

Mr. Cotto echoed the concerns that he has heard from community members. He doesn't support the redesign plan for this school.

Dr. Kishimoto responded that the attrition rates are high in grades 6, 7 and 8. There have been several meetings with the school parents. The overwhelming response is that the academic rigor is not there for students in those grades and those parents will opt out of the school.

Mr. MacDonald reminded the Board that they have voted to approve the redesign of the school. If the Board does not approve this plan, there will not be a plan for the school.

Ms. Noel asked if there is a cost to the district. Dr. Kishimoto responded that the professional development will be provided next year at a cost of approximately \$50,000. The funding for the redesign is being funded by grants and contributions.

Mr. McCaskill responded that teachers have had an opportunity to interview for positions at McDonough. The principal positions have been posted. Dr. Kishimoto added that the interviews will be held after spring recess.

Dr. Adamowski stated that this redesign will be on the low side in regards to cost.

Mr. Rodriguez-Davila supports the expeditionary model.

The motion passed by a voice vote; Mr. Cotto opposed.

6. Approval of the Educational Specifications for the Expansion of Hartford Magnet Middle School to a 9-12 Hartford Magnet Trinity College Academy (Supt. et al)

The Hartford Magnet Middle School, in partnership with Trinity College, will be expanding to a college preparatory program, grades 9-12, beginning in the 2011-2012 academic year. A construction grant application to cover the alterations and addition is required to support this program. The application needs to be submitted before June 30, 2011.

Ms. Miranda made a motion; Mr. Flores seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

7. Approval of the Educational Specifications for Roof Replacement at Milner School (Supt. et al)

The roof of Milner School exceeds twenty years of age and is failing. A construction grant application to cover this work will be submitted before June 30, 2011. The project carries a budget of \$950,000 and is projected to receive a state grant of 80% of eligible project costs.

Mr. Flores made a motion; Ms. Hudson seconded the motion.

Dr. Nardone explained that this is part of the capital improvement plan.

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

8. Approval of the Educational Specifications for the Renovation of West Middle Elementary School (Supt. et al)

The facility will be altered and expanded to serve a PK-8th grade population of approximately 750 students. A construction grant application to cover this work will be submitted before June 30, 2011. The project carries a budget of \$54.6 million and is projected to receive a state grant of 80% of eligible project costs.

Ms. Miranda made a motion; Mr. Flores seconded the motion.

Dr. Nardone explained that this is part of the facility plan. He explained that this is an opportunity to work with the community to define the needs of the school and the community. The first priority is a library media center. The second priority is a large meeting area because of the many community organizers who meet in the area.

Ms. Garrison stated that the school has pride in the school, and this is an opportunity to bring more pride to the school.

Dr. Nardone added that it is an historical building, so it cannot be torn down.

She recommends that the educational specifications include a guidance office. She praises the music and arts facilities. She asked what happens if the State denies the funding.

Dr. Adamowski replied that the school will have to wait; however, it is important to get the school in the cue for consideration by the State. If there is a moratorium, the district will want to be on the priority list.

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

9. Approval of Affiliation Agreement with the University of Hartford (Supt. et al)

This agreement establishes a formal affiliation by and between the Hartford Public Schools and the University of Hartford. The agreement provides a means for cooperative efforts by both institutions, particularly in the areas of faculty and student related matters, hiring practices, academic and research information, educational programming, economic development, and

other activities that serve to advance the mission of each institution. The agreement shall be for a period of five year with an additional five year renewal.

Mr. Flores made a motion; Ms. Hudson seconded the motion.

Ms. Noel raised concern with the district being strapped too thin. Mr. Roldan responded that the scope goes beyond the immediate neighborhood, as it is intended. There are assurances from the University that they remain extremely committed to working with the Weaver community. Ms. Noel asked if there will be representation from the community. Mr. Roldan responded that the intent is for representation at large from the community.

Mr. Cotto has a number of concerns, specifically the term of renewal. He believes that this is too long. The commitment to all entities seems to be too large.

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

10. First Reading: Policy 5173 – Physical Restrain and Seclusion (Policy Committee)

All students requiring special education, or a student being evaluated for special education and awaiting determination, enrolled in Hartford Public Schools who exhibit behaviors that result, or may result, in immediate or imminent injury to the student or to others may be subject to physical restraint and/or seclusion in accordance with Public Act No. 07-147 and Connecticut General Statutes Section 46a – 150 through 46a – 154.

Mr. Flores made a motion; Ms. Miranda seconded the motion.

Mr. Rodriguez-Davila asked how this policy came to be. Ms. Taylor replied that the district has to follow new laws. Dr. Nardone responded that this is in response to a student in Connecticut not being restrained properly.

Mr. Rodriguez-Davila asked if the Special Police Officers have to be trained in this new technique. Dr. Nardone responded yes.

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

11. Acceptance of Funds: Magnet Schools Assistance Program - \$4,739,052 (Supt. et al)

The Magnet Schools Assistance program provides grants to eligible local educational agencies to establish and operate magnet schools that are operated under a court-ordered or federally approved voluntary desegregation plan. This grant will assist four magnet schools: Pathways to Technology, Mary M. Hooker of Environmental Sciences, STEM at Annie Fisher, and Hartford Magnet Middle.

Mr. Flores made a motion; Ms. Hudson seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

12. Acceptance of Funds: Department of Public Health - \$2,760,453 (Supt. et al)

The Hartford Public Schools have been awarded \$2,760,453 to expand medical mental health and dental services and for the purchase of equipment, supplies and educational resources.

Ms. Miranda made a motion; Ms. Hudson seconded the motion.

Ms. Taylor stated this provides funding to three school-based clinics. It is an annual grant and varies from year-to-year.

Ms. Noel asked if this funding is used for Medicaid services. The clinics do not service enough students to be self-sustaining. Dr. Adamowski said that the long-term solution is to have services provided by an outside provider. This funding helps to sustain the clinics.

Mr. Rodriguez-Davila strongly opposes Dr. Adamowski's comments. Ms. Taylor responded that the general budget funds had been previously utilized to sustain the clinics.

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

13. Contract Approval: Kronos Workforce Solution - \$423,322 yearly/4years (Supt. et al)

GTSI Corp. will contract with the Hartford Public Schools to implement the Kronos Workforce Management solution. The Kronos Workforce Management Solution will provide the district with the necessary time and attendance, scheduling, absence management, and attendance related reporting capabilities currently not available to the district. The Workforce Central suite will help ensure that time and labor data is consistent, accurate, and available when an employee or school needs it.

Mr. Flores made a motion; Ms. Hudson seconded the motion.

Dr. Adamowski stated that MUNIS doesn't currently account for time and attendance reporting, which leads to fraud. KRONOS is a MUNIS-endorsed addition. This will allow for automatic processing of time/attendance, substitute payments, etc.

Ms. Cutler Hodgman stated the district needs a more sophisticated system to meet the varied needs. This will get rid of the stand alone systems and create efficiency.

Ms. Allen stated that Central Office is in service to the schools. We should be able to provide the teachers and principals with data and tools that they need.

Mr. DeLaPaz stated that this will save \$500,000 per year.

Ms. Noel raised concern with the reputation of GTSI. She said that we should work with the City. She suggests that the item should be tabled.

Mr. Rodriguez-Davila recommended that this item be tabled.

Mr. MacDonald asked for a motion to table the item.

Mr. Flores made a motion; Ms. Hudson seconded the motion.

Mr. Flores asked if there is a financial setback to waiting. Ms. Cutler Hodgman answered no.

Ms. Miranda added that there should be a meeting with the City.

Dr. Adamowski asked the staff to provide the quote from PeopleSoft.

Mr. Cotto asked that the claimed lawsuit be researched.

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

14. Approval of Assistance to the City of Hartford \$266,550.63 (Mr. David MacDonald, Ms. Richmond)

The Hartford Board of Education will assist the City of Hartford in the amount of \$266,550.63 to settle litigation related to its lease of 2550 Main Street as requested by Mayor Segarra.

Improvements to school playgrounds and auditoriums budgeted for 2010-11 will be deferred and the funds reallocated.

Mr. Flores made a motion; Ms. Hudson seconded the motion.

Ms. Noel raised concern with the wording of the agenda item. She offered an amendment: "In order to settle litigation filed by the owners of 2550 Main Street that the City offer to pay 40% of the amount owed to date. The Board of Education is authorizing a payment o \$266,550.63 from this year's budget to pay the rent and recognizes that money will have to be placed in the budget for next year because the lease runs through June 2012."

Ms. Patterson-Stallings offered an amendment to strike, "will assist the City of Hartford" and insert, "will authorize the Superintendent to pay."

Mr. Davila seconded the motion to amend the agenda item.

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

B. Consent Agenda

Ms. Miranda made a motion; Mr. Flores seconded the motion.

15. Contract Approval: Hasler / Neopost New England - \$178,022 (Supt. et al)

Hasler / Neopost will contract with Hartford Public Schools to provide a lease for up to 34 postage machines for up to 34 different schools/departments. The lease is for 63 months (5.25 years) and costs \$997.32 per machine per year. These new 34 machines (or less) will replace 34 old machines whose leases have expired. The new machines are more economical to operate, have maintenance and support charges built in to the lease and are feature rich providing the user with significant enhancements.

16. Contract Approval: Connecticut Public Broadcasting Network at America's Choice at SAND - \$90,000 (Supt. et al)

The Connecticut Public Broadcasting Network has agreed to partner with the America's Choice at SAND School to establish an after-school program to expose 7th grade students to the media industry. The primary goal of this program is to provide students with a dynamic and unique educational opportunity that is tightly integrated with their regular academic curriculum as well as to assist teachers to improve student performance through innovative media skills training.

17. Contract Approval: Central Connecticut State University - \$75,470 yearly/3 years (Supt. et al)

Central Connecticut State University (CCSU) will contract with the Hartford Public Schools (Mary M. Hooker Environmental Sciences Magnet School) to provide a series of professional development workshops for preK-8 teachers over a three year period (2010-2013). The services that are included in this contract are: school based themes of hydrology, atmosphere, water, energy, and living things.

18. Board of Education Representative Assignment to the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (The Board)

The Hartford Board of Education assigns David MacDonald as the Hartford Board of Education representative to the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education. Ms. Ada Miranda is appointed to serve as alternative for Mr. MacDonald as necessary

19. Board of Education Representative Assignment to the Capitol Region Education Council (The Board)

The Hartford Board of Education assigns Elizabeth Brad Noel as the Hartford Board of Education representative to the Capitol Region Education Council.

20. Approval of the minutes of the executive session held on January 25, 2011 (The Board)

21. Approval of the minutes of the special meeting held on January 11, 2011 (The Board)

22. Approval of the minutes of the workshop meeting held on January 4, 2011 (The Board)

23. Approval of the minutes of the workshop meeting held on September 21, 2010 (The Board)

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

V. Adjournment

Mr. Cotto thanked the Board for moving the meeting location to HPHS.

The meeting adjourned at 10:03 p.m.

April 2011 BOE Meeting Schedule

- **Tuesday, April 5 – Workshop:** Budget Task Force Recommendations at Mary Hooker Magnet School, 440 Broadview Terrace, Hartford
- **Monday, April 11 – Budget Workshop** at Capital Preparatory Magnet School, 1304 Main Street, Hartford
- **Tuesday, April 19 – Public Hearing** on 2011-12 Recommended Budget at Capital Preparatory Magnet School, 1304 Main Street, Hartford