

**HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MINUTES**

**Regular Meeting – April 18, 2017**

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the Hartford Board of Education (hereinafter “Board”) met on Tuesday, April 18, 2017. The meeting was held at the Rawson Elementary School, 260 Holcomb Street, Hartford, CT 06112.

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Roll Call**

Mr. Stallings called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m. There was a quorum present.

<u>Present:</u> Craig Stallings, Chair Tiffany Glanville, Vice-Chair Karen T. Taylor, Second Vice-Chair Julio Flores, Secretary Michael Brescia Robert Cotto, Jr. Juan M. Hernandez Kimberly D. Oliver Richard Wareing	<u>Absent:</u>
Superintendent Leslie Torres-Rodriguez	
Student Representative, Giovanni Jones	Student Representative, Alexa Marotta

**III. Public Participation**

1. Jacqueline Barber, spoke in support of full time teachers at Adult Education, and the care they put in to teaching the adult students, even using their own money to buy bus passes.
2. Hyacinth Yennie, congratulated the scholarship winners. She encouraged parents to keep their kids in Hartford, if they work hard there is always something good. She offered her help to the new superintendent, and asked that we not cut the little people in this new budget.
3. Thomas Smith, came to advocate for the adult education program. There is a focus at the elementary level, but feels there should be a more generational approach. If these adults are learning, the enthusiasm passes on to their children that attend the Hartford Schools
4. Beverne Cordner, asked what the plan was for the north end schools, and that she and other parents wanted to be a part of the process. She understood there may be closings, but transparency is needed, no matter what is decided. She also asked for the historical redistribution of the funding from the closure of Clark School, and any other savings from potential closures.
5. Natalie Langlaise, wanted the board to address the rumors of school closings. The parents are eager and anxious for dialogue on changes that are sure to come. She wants us to have acclaimed neighborhood schools as well as acclaimed magnet schools. As far as the budget, we should focus on ELL and SPED students, and that with care, transparency and parental engagement, we can accomplish great things.

6. Tracy Carter, paraprofessional at HPHS, was here to advocate for her SPED students. Students need a healthy, clean and safe environment, and the SPED students deserve the same treatment as all others. She wants the staff that is already there, to do their jobs.
7. Leonard Basse, advocated for the Adult Education program, and the population that never received their high school diplomas.
8. Kenrick Cameron, Adult Education graduate, came to advocate for full time teachers at Adult Education. His experience was wonderful, and he is now a full time student at Manchester Community College.
9. Stephen Valocchi, Trinity College professor and Hartford resident, came to advocate for adult education. The program has had cuts through the years, and he came in support of the program, as many students have gone through adult education, gone to a community college, and gone on to Trinity college and became his students.
10. Sandra Inga, President of the Hartford Supervisors Union, came to remind us that just because something is legal, does not mean it's ethical. She spoke against keeping Ms. Cutler-Hodgman until the end of the school year, and that Ms. Cutler-Hodgman was not entitled to severance pay because she resigned.
11. Michael Downes, finished reviewing the OCA report and said it was serious, but you cannot balance this on the backs of substitute teachers. After attending a budget meeting with the City, he wanted to point out 2 areas where the City was *owed* money. One being tax waivers given to corporations that have expired, and yet the City has not collected. The other one being worker contributions to the pension that could be increased.
12. Marilyn Jack-Ortique, full time teacher at New Visions, and part time teacher at adult education, came to advocate for full time teachers at Adult Education. She has seen the positive impact it has on the students.
13. Errol Santouse, Adult Education graduate, came to advocate for full time teachers at adult education. It helped him to grow up and realize there is more than just negativity.
14. Kent Ashworth, from Achieve Hartford, came to share a few thoughts: Some priorities should be under enrolled schools; If 50 positions are subject to be eliminated, should it just be 14 cuts at central office? If so, we need to openly share the rationale. With stated reasoning, we can begin to build trust again.

#### **IV. Reports**

1. Report of the Chair
2. Report of the Superintendent
3. Committee Reports

#### **V. Business Agenda**

1. Authorization by the Board of Education: E-Rate Funding Application \$369,972.24 (Supt et al.)

The Schools and Libraries Program of the Universal Service Fund makes discounts available to eligible schools and libraries for telecommunication services, Internet access, and internal connections. The E-Rate program is intended to ensure that schools and libraries have access to affordable telecommunications and information services.

Each year the Universal Service Administrative Company requires that each local school board endorse the applications filed by the district administration and commit to funding its share (the non-discounted portion) of the applications. The Hartford Board of Education has passed similar resolutions since this program requirement was initiated after a recommendation of program auditors.

Mr. Wareing made a motion; and Ms. Glanville seconded, that the Hartford Board of Education, a legally authorized board under Connecticut State Law, authorizes the filing of FCC Form 471, Schools and Libraries Universal Service Program Services Ordered and Certification Form for the services and/or products, for the fiscal year 07/01/2017 - 06/30/2018.

Furthermore, that the board authorizes payment of the applicant's share subject to the following conditions:

- A. Approval of funding of the discounted portion by the Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) of the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) and
- B. Receipt of services during the fiscal year 07/01/2017-06/30/2018.

**VOTE**

In favor: Stallings, Glanville, Taylor, Flores, Brescia, Cotto, Hernandez, Oliver, Wareing  
Opposed: 0  
Abstained: 0  
Absent: 0

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

- 2. Resolution: Acceptance of Minimum Budget Requirement and Increase in the 2016-17 General Budget Appropriation \$1,207,043 (Supt et al.)

Mr. Wareing made a motion; and Mr. Hernandez seconded, that the Hartford Board of Education increase the FY 2016-17 General Budget from \$282,801,144 to \$284,008,187, and approve the increase in funding in the budget categories in the attached agenda item, effective immediately.

**VOTE**

In favor: Stallings, Glanville, Taylor, Flores, Brescia, Cotto, Hernandez, Oliver, Wareing  
Opposed: 0  
Abstained: 0  
Absent: 0

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

**VI. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.