

**East Hampton
Board of Education
East Hampton, CT 06424**

MINUTES: March 8, 2010

1. The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson, Mr. Vasquenza, at 6:30 p.m. in the East Hampton High School Library/Media Center.
2. Motion by Ms. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Laraia, to enter Executive Session in the High School Library/Media Center at 6:31 p.m. to discuss personnel matters. Voted unanimously.

Members present: Mr. Vasquenza, Mr. Laraia, Mr. Piteo, Ms. Robinson, Mr. Gemma, Ms. Wall, Ms. Barmasse and Ms. Lane

Members absent: Mr. Coolican

Administration

Present: Dr. Golden, Superintendent of Schools

- 2.1 Motion by Ms. Robinson, seconded by Ms. Barmasse, to leave Executive Session at 7:00 p.m. Voted unanimously.

- 2.2 The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by the Chairperson, Mr. Vasquenza, at 7:05 p.m. in the High School Library/Media Center.

Members present: Mr. Vasquenza, Mr. Laraia, Mr. Piteo, Ms. Robinson, Mr. Gemma, Ms. Wall, Ms. Barmasse, Ms. Lane and Mr. Coolican (arrived at 7:30 p.m.)

Administration

Present: Dr. Golden, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Reich, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Reas, Director of Support Services
Ms. Asetta, Business Services Coordinator
Dr. Berry, Principal of East Hampton High School
Mr. Fidler, Principal of East Hampton Middle School
Ms. Turchi, Principal of Center Elementary School
Dr. Fitzsimmons, Principal of Memorial Elementary School
Dr. Ryan, Assistant Principal of Memorial Elementary School

East Hampton High School Student Council Representative: Walid Ahmad

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Motion by Mr. Laraia, seconded by Ms. Robinson, to add agenda item 14.3 under Personnel Actions.

4. Inter-Board Liaisons - None

5. Audience of Citizens - None

6. Consent Agenda

6.1 February 22, 2010 Minutes

6.2 February 22, 2010 Budget Workshop Minutes

6.3 Resignations as stated in 14.1 & 14.2

Motion by Ms. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Laraia, to approve the Consent Agenda.

Voted unanimously.

7. Student/Staff Recognition

7.1 Josh Gustine

7.1.1 Mr. Vasquenza noted that Joshua Gustine has been chosen to receive the Connecticut Soccer Coaches Association (CSCA), Dr. Valerio Moretti 2010 Scholar-Athlete Award. Josh was among 138 All-State players recognized at the CSCA's 23rd annual banquet on January 24, 2010. Joshua will receive a \$500 scholarship from the CSCA.

7.2 East Hampton Girls Indoor Track Team Shoreline Conference Champions

7.2.1 Mr. Vasquenza noted that the Shoreline Conference Indoor Track Championships were held on Saturday, February 6th in New Haven. Under the excellent coaching by coaching staff Bill Wilkie, Roger Abraham and Joe Holloway, the East Hampton Girl's were 2010 Shoreline Conference Champions with a team score of 100 points. Runner-Up Old Saybrook High School had a team score of 74 points.

7.3 Erik Guy Harper

7.3.1 Mr. Vasquenza noted that Erik Guy Harper is appointed to the United States Air Force Academy as a member of the Class of 2014. He will be joining a select group of our nation's finest young people as he takes this challenging and rewarding step towards becoming a professional Air Force officer. Erik has earned a rare opportunity to participate in one of this country's finest officer training programs. This appointment is awarded to only about 1,500 of the 10,000 applicants. It is equivalent to a scholarship valued at \$414,000.

7.4 Special Recognition

7.4.1 Dr. Golden noted that March has been designated as Board of Education Appreciation Month and while she and all the staff appreciate the time and commitment Board members have to the school district all year round, they would like to take this time to honor Board members tonight. She gave Board members a small token to show appreciation for all of the work that they do which helps the children of East Hampton.

The Board took a brief recess at 7:15 p.m. for refreshments.

The Board reconvened at 7:25 p.m.

8. Committee Reports

8.1 Student Council

8.1.1 Walid Ahmad, Student Council Representative for East Hampton High School reported the following:

- The long anticipated Winter Carnival for Haiti was held on Thursday. With 210 people coming through the door, and over \$4600 of profit raised from donations, entrance fees, raffle tickets, and sales the event was a huge success. It was phenomenal seeing staff, parent, and student volunteers mingling with the younger kids, who seemed to be having the time of their lives playing with the baby chicks, making spin art, or any of the other host of activities available. The money will be put to good use helping families and individuals in the country of Haiti; and the cohesive community effort was a pleasure to experience.
- The spring blood drive will be held on Tuesday, March 16 in the gymnasium. In all hopes, it will be just as, if not more, successful than the one held earlier this year.
- Dr. Gasper is holding a fundraiser in which raffle tickets are being sold so that students may park in his parking spot for a week. With \$1 for one ticket, \$3 for five tickets, and \$5 for ten tickets, the event should raise a healthy amount of money to donate towards a good cause; benefiting children's cancer patients.
- The winter sports banquet will be held next Tuesday, March 16; which is the same day as the blood drive.
- Signups for the annual NHS sponsored Walleyball tournament will be held on Wednesday March 17th. The event, in the past, has involved intense competition in one of the most renowned games of EHHS gym class. This year should be no exception.

8.2 Personnel Committee

8.2.1 Ms. Robinson noted that the Personnel Committee met on March 1, 2010.

8.3 Policy Committee

8.3.1 Mr. Laraia noted that the Policy Committee met prior to tonight's meeting and reviewed outstanding policy revisions and policy revisions to be considered.

8.4 Curriculum Committee

8.4.1 Ms. Barmasse noted that the Curriculum Committee will meet on Monday, March 15th.

8.5 Transportation, Buildings and Grounds Committee

8.5.1 Mr. Gemma noted that the Transportation, Buildings and Grounds Committee hasn't met.

8.6 Financial Reports

8.6.1 Ms. Robinson noted that there was a Budget Workshop on March 18th and that there is a financial report in tonight's Board packet. Dr. Golden noted that Mrs. Asetta has provided a cover memo to Mr. Jylkka's spreadsheet showing how successful our food service program has been. It is the Board's intent to purchase a point of service system and equipment for the cafeterias. Mrs. Pulaski is here tonight and is to be commended for the fine job she has done these past three years.

Mr. Piteo noted that he thinks it is fantastic that the cafeterias are changing the menu to be healthier.

8.7 East Hampton Education Association – None

8.8 Liaison Reports

8.8.1 Mr. Vasquenza noted that the Board of Education will be presenting its budget to the Board of Finance Friday evening.

9. Communications

9.1 Dr. Golden reviewed the student enrollment figures as of March 1, 2010.

9.2 Dr. Golden reviewed the following communications for the Board:

- The Middle Ground, March 2010.
- The Center School Chronicle, February 26, 2010.
- Memorial's Bulletin Board.
- Dr. Golden noted that there was an article in the Hartford Courant listing Nichols Bus Service as the 3rd worst bus company in the state. Mr. Reich met with Mr. Nichols to discuss the matter. She stated that a complete review would take place and that they were not taking this lightly. She also stated that she and Mr. Reich would meet with Mr. Nichols.

Mr. Reich noted that he reviewed the list of vehicles and their violations. He reviewed the process that Mr. Nichols follows. Mr. Reich will maintain a file on inspections and violations.

Dr. Golden thanked Mr. Reich for following up on this matter. This topic will be placed on the March 22nd Board agenda.

10. Program Presentation - None

11. Unfinished Business - None

12. New Business

12.1 Request to Town Council Regarding East Hampton Education Association Contract

12.1.1 Mr. Vasquenza noted that the East Hampton Education Association has been reluctant to open the contract due to a discomfort that once the Board of Education approves any negotiated changes, the Town Council may not honor those changes. The Town Council, at the February 23rd Tri-Board meeting stated that they would honor the contract as submitted and that the Board of Education should send a request for them to approve.

12.1.2 Motion by Mr. Laraia, seconded by Ms. Robinson, to instruct the Chairman of the Board of Education to submit a formal request to the Town Council requesting that the Town Council vote on a motion to agree to accept the changes to the EHEA contract as submitted by the Board of Education and that further, they will vote to accept and close the contract on the nearest possible meeting date following the submission of the contract by the Board of Education. Voted unanimously.

13. Future Business – None

14. Personnel Actions

14.1 To accept Elaine Lodyko's resignation effective June 30, 2010.

14.2 To accept Curtis Weybright's resignation effective June 30, 2010.

14.3 Motion by Mr. Laraia, seconded by Ms. Robinson, to appoint Mrs. Nancy Briere to the position of Assistant Principal of East Hampton Middle School effective July 1, 2010. Voted unanimously.

15. Goal Report - None

16. Audience of Citizens

16.1 Mr. Kyle Dostler congratulated Mrs. Briere on her appointment as Middle School Assistant Principal. He also questioned what assurances do parents have that the buses are safe and what kind of process is in place to insure the children's safety?

Mr. Jim Berg stated that his child's bus has 11 violations and should be taken off the road. He is concerned that the same violations keep popping up and are not fixed.

Mr. John Fidler applauded the Board's decision to appoint Mrs. Nancy Briere as the Assistant Principal of the Middle School effective July 1, 2010.

Mrs. Susan Harper thanked the Board for recognizing her son's accomplishments and the excellent education he received while attending East Hampton Public Schools.

17. Adjournment

17.1 Motion by Ms. Robinson, seconded by Ms. Barmasse, to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. Voted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Wall
Secretary

SW/JAG/RS