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**TOWN OF EAST HAVEN, CT  
EAST HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
35 WHEELBARROW LANE, EAST HAVEN, CT 06513  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2024  
7:00 P.M.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. DeLucia called the board meeting to order at 7:08 pm.

- Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. DeLucia requested everyone stand for the Pledge of Allegiance

**2. ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE**

Ms. DeLucia requested roll call attendance

Ms. DePalma	Present ▾	Virtual Attendance
Ms. DiLungo	Present ▾	
Mr. Hennessey	Present ▾	
Ms. Johnson	Present ▾	
Ms. Putney	Present ▾	Virtual Attendance
Ms. Santiago	Present ▾	
Mr. Stacey	Present ▾	
Ms. Torello	Present ▾	
Dr. DeLucia	Present ▾	

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Ms. Erica Forti, Superintendent ▾

Mr. Robert Swan, Director of Pupil Services ▾

Mr. Richard Caponera, Chief of Operations and Fiscal Overs... ▾

Ms. Julie Church, Family Engagement /SEL Coordinator ▾

### 3. REPORTS

- Chair Report:
  - Dr. DeLucia opened the new year and spoke about the continuation of the aviation program and the addition of the maritime program at the high school. She also informed Board members that they should review the Standing committee document given to them and review to make sure they were in agreement with the committee members and appointments.
  
- Standing Committee Reports
  - Athletics: Updated on Girls and Boys Basketball, as well as wrestling and hockey teams. The EHHS Hockey team is undefeated.
  - Personnel: Dr. DeLucia spoke about the secretary negotiations and Administrative personnel.
  - Policy: Dr. DeLucia spoke about policy and making good progress and updates to come.
  
- Superintendent's report
  - Superintendent: Ms. Forti gave an update on the aviation program and updates to come. She spoke about writing the program in a grant that will include an Aviation and Flight Science course that will have 2 sections, as well as a drone technology program that could lead to a personalized drone license. The district is awaiting the approval from the grant that will allow purchases for these classes.
  - Ms. Forti also spoke about meeting with Mr. DeNuzzo and Mr. Caponera met with an executive from Avelo to meet with businesses that will help to secure a jet engine for the High School to be able to prepare for an aviation pathway, that will ensure that students attending the program can attend Vaughn College after high school for a Semester and a half and graduate as an aviation technician.
    - Family Engagement- Ms. Church spoke about an exciting program that herself and Ms. Layedra have been chosen for a state initiative for 2024. The State is hosting an institute and Ms. Church and Ms. Layedra were chosen. The institute is the state's first cohort that they are offering in this field. They are utilizing the funds to work with 25 individuals in the state that will do an action research

project that will span 5 months. Ms. Church is excited to bring this to East Haven and hopes this will help with 10% of student performance.

**4. ACCEPTANCE OF MEETING MINUTES**

- November 28, 2023- No objections were brought forward.

**5. AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS**

- No one came forward.

**6. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Negotiations Update :**

Ms. Santiago ▾ made a motion to go into executive session. Ms. Torello ▾ seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken:

Ms. DePalma	Yes ▾
Ms. DiLungo	Yes ▾
Mr. Hennessey	Yes ▾
Ms. Johnson	Yes ▾
Ms. Putney	Yes ▾
Ms. Santiago	Yes ▾
Mr. Stacey	Yes ▾
Ms. Torello	Yes ▾
Dr. DeLucia	Yes ▾

All in favor. Motion passes.

**Executive Session Began at: 7:26 and ended at: 8:12pm .**

**6.1 Secretary**

**6.2 Assistant Superintendent**

## 7. NEW BUSINESS

### 7.1 Discussion and possible action on the approval of the Board of Education Meeting Dates.

Ms. Santiago ▾ made a motion to approve the Board of Education Meeting dates for 2024. Ms. Johnson ▾ seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken:

Ms. DePalma	Yes ▾
Ms. DiLungo	Yes ▾
Mr. Hennessey	Yes ▾
Ms. Johnson	Yes ▾
Ms. Putney	Yes ▾
Ms. Santiago	Yes ▾
Mr. Stacey	Yes ▾
Ms. Torello	Yes ▾
Dr. DeLucia	Yes ▾

All in favor. Motion passes.

### 7.2 Discussion and possible action on the approval of the Assistant Superintendent Position.

Ms. Santiago ▾ made a motion to approve the creation of the new Assistant Superintendent Position. Mr. Stacey ▾ seconded the motion.

Ms. DePalma stated that she would like to see the overlap in the two positions. Ms. Torello stated that she liked the idea but had concerns about the budget. Mr. Caponera stated that there would be no budget issues.

A roll call vote was taken:

Ms. DePalma	Yes ▾
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Ms. DiLungo	Yes ▾
Mr. Hennessey	No ▾
Ms. Johnson	Yes ▾
Ms. Putney	Ab... ▾
Ms. Santiago	Yes ▾
Mr. Stacey	Yes ▾
Ms. Torello	Yes ▾
Dr. DeLucia	Yes ▾

7 in favor, 1 opposition, and 1 abstention. Motion passes.

**7.3 Discussion and possible action on the approval of the Maintenance Vehicle Capital Leases.**

Mr. Caponera gave a brief overview and update on the leases and stated that due to production issues with the company during covid the order was not placed.

Ms. Santiago ▾ made a motion to approve the Maintenance Vehicle Capital Leases.

Ms. Johnson ▾ seconded the motion.

Mr. Stacey asked if it would be possible to look into another dealer for lower prices. Mr. Caponera stated that he would be able to. Mr. Hennessey stated that the Board is voting on the acceptance of leases not specificity. Mr. Caponera stated he would speak with both Ford and Chevy and select the lowest price of the two.

A roll call vote was taken:

Ms. DePalma	Yes ▾
Ms. DiLungo	Yes ▾
Mr. Hennessey	Yes ▾
Ms. Johnson	Yes ▾
Ms. Putney	Yes ▾
Ms. Santiago	Yes ▾

Mr. Stacey	Yes ▾
Ms. Torello	Yes ▾
Dr. DeLucia	Ab... ▾

8 in favor. Motion passes.

**7. DISCUSSION CONCERNING FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Next Budget Workshop, January 16, 2024

Next Meeting Tuesday, January 23, 2024

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

*Michele DeLucia/mna*

**MICHELE DELUCIA, BOARD CHAIR**