

CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Hartford

**Minutes of Meeting
April 5, 2007**

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the State Board of Education (hereinafter "Board") met on April 5, 2007, at the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

I. Call to Order -- Chairperson Taylor called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

Present: Allan Taylor, Chairman
Beverly Bobroske
Alice Carolan
Donald Coolican
Lynne Farrell
Janet Finneran
Theresa Hopkins-Staten
Patricia Luke
Valerie Lewis, Ex-Officio*

Absent: Edna Chukwurah
Sloan Danenhower

Chairman Taylor introduced Jay Voss, State Board of Education nominee awaiting confirmation. He also stated that the Governor's Counsel Office informed him that Mrs. Bobroske, Dr. Farrell and Ms. Finneran terms carry over and they will continue as full voting members pending Senate confirmation.

II. Executive Session None

By unanimous consent, the Board voted to consider agenda item XII.B., Renewal of Charter: Odyssey Charter School.

XII.B. Renewal of Charter: Odyssey Charter School

Ms. Finneran moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, that the Board, pursuant to subsection (g) of Section 10-66bb of the Connecticut General Statutes, renews the charter of the Odyssey Community School from July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2010, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE: In Favor: Bobroske, Carolan, Coolican, Farrell, Finneran, Hopkins-Staten,
Luke, Taylor
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: 0

Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Consideration of Minutes of the March 7, 2007, State Board of Education Meeting

Mrs. Luke moved, Mrs. Bobroske seconded, that the Board approves the minutes of the March 7, 2007, State Board of Education meeting.

VOTE: In Favor: Bobroske, Carolan, Coolican, Farrell, Finneran, Hopkins-Staten,
Luke, Taylor
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: 0

Motion carried unanimously.

VI. Consent Agenda - Allan Taylor removed VI.A. from the consent agenda.

[Mrs. Hopkins-Staten left at 10:05 a.m.]

VI.A. Approval of Carl D. Perkins Transition Plan

Ms. Finneran moved, Mrs. Luke seconded, that the Board adopts *The Carl D. Perkins State Transition Plan*, pursuant to the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006, Public Act 109-270, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE: In Favor: Bobroske, Carolan, Coolican, Farrell, Finneran,
Luke, Taylor
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: Hopkins-Staten

Motion carried unanimously.

By unanimous consent, the Board voted to consider agenda number XII.D., Renewal of Charter: Jumoke Charter School.

[Mrs. Hopkins-Staten returned at 10:16 a.m.]

XII.D. Renewal of Charter: Jumoke Charter School

Ms. Finneran moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, that the Board, pursuant to subsection (g) of Section 10-66bb of the Connecticut General Statutes, renews the charter of the Jumoke Academy from July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2012, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE: In Favor: Bobroske, Carolan, Coolican, Farrell, Finneran, Hopkins-Staten,
Luke, Taylor
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: 0

Motion carried unanimously.

By unanimous consent, the Board voted to consider agenda number XII.C., Renewal of Charter: Common Ground Charter School.

XII.C. Renewal of Charter: Common Ground Charter School

Ms. Finneran moved, Mrs. Luke seconded, that the Board, pursuant to subsection (g) of Section 10-66bb of the Connecticut General Statutes, renews the charter of the Common Ground High School from July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2010, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE: In Favor: Bobroske, Carolan, Coolican, Farrell, Finneran, Hopkins-Staten,
Luke, Taylor
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: 0

Motion carried unanimously.

VII.A. Approval of School Lunch Fees

Mr. Coolican moved, Ms. Finneran seconded, that the Board, approve the price reduction request for school lunches in the Connecticut Technical High School System for the 2007-08 and 2008-09 school years, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE: In Favor: Bobroske, Carolan, Coolican, Farrell, Finneran, Hopkins-Staten,
Luke, Taylor
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: 0

Motion carried unanimously.

VII.B. Reauthorization of Hotel-Hospitality Technology Plan

Mrs. Luke moved, Ms. Finneran seconded, that the Board, pursuant to subsection (b) of Section 10-95i of the Connecticut General Statutes, approves reauthorization of the Hotel/Hospitality Technology Program through January 2009, to include a change of name to Hospitality and Customer Service Management Program and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE: In Favor: Bobroske, Carolan, Coolican, Farrell, Finneran, Hopkins-Staten,
Luke, Taylor
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: 0

Motion carried unanimously.

VIII.A. Formative Assessment Update

Frances Rabinowitz, Associate Commissioner, Division of Teaching, Learning and Assessment, presented the report to the Board. Discussion followed.

[Ms. Hopkins-Staten left at 11:20 a.m.]

VIII.B. Advanced Placement Results

Frances Rabinowitz, Associate Commissioner, Division of Teaching, Learning and Assessment, presented the report to the Board. Discussion followed.

[Mrs. Hopkins-Staten returned at 12:09 p.m.]

By unanimous consent, the Board recessed its meeting at 12:25 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 1:12 p.m. Present: Mrs. Bobroske, Dr. Carolan, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten, Mrs. Luke, Ms. Farrell, Ms. Finneran, Mr. Taylor and Mr. Coolican. Ms. Chukwurah, Mr. Danenhower and Commissioner Lewis were absent.

VIII.C. Unified School District No. 1

George Coleman, Interim Commissioner of Education, introduced Commissioner of the Department of Corrections Theresa Lantz, Mary Marcial, Director of Programs and Treatment; and William Barber, Superintendent of Unified School District #1. The panel presented a power-point presentation to the Board. Discussion followed.

IX. Report of the Chair

- Mr. Taylor thanked George Coleman for serving as Interim Commissioner and moving the agency forward over the past nine months (early childhood, participated in the areas of budget and legislation; comprehensive plan, etc.)
- Dr. McQuillan greeted the SDE staff last week at Central Connecticut State University, as part of Interim Commissioner Coleman's staff meeting. Accompanying Mr. Taylor to talk about the Comprehensive Plan were Ms. Finneran, Mrs. Luke and Dr. Carolan.
- Statement of Financial Interest: Board members who served during 2006 are required to file this form with the Office of State Ethics by May 1. The Office is in the process of re-automating the online filing system. Should the online system become available prior to May 1, filers will be notified.
- "Closing the Achievement Gap" – series being continued on April 30, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. at the Rocky Hill Marriott.

X. Report of the Commissioner

- The Attorney General issued the report on the Highville Charter School, and we expect to hear a response to the Commissioner's priorities from Highville by April 9th.
- The Department has had on-going discussions with West Hartford regarding their plan to address racial imbalance issue by creating a new school and making improvements to existing schools.
- The agenda and recommendations to you today reflect our focus on "accountability".
- Mr. Coleman thanked the State Department of Education staff and the State Board of Education for their support during his tenure as Interim Commissioner.

XI. Committee Reports

- **Legislation and Bylaws Committee** – Mrs. Bobroske distributed the 2007 Log of Legislative Bills and the Proposed Substitute Bill 7047, on Accountability. She stated that questions should be referred to Mark Stapleton. Mr. Stapleton informed the Board that there is a bill creating a school reform center at NEAG. This is a pilot school similar to a local charter. The State Department of Education will work with the Department of Higher Education to research successful models and help with the implementation of those models.
- **Policy Development Committee** – Ms. Finneran reported that the committee will meet following today's regular meeting.
- **Connecticut Technical High School Committee** – Mr. Coolican reported that the next committee meeting is scheduled for April 11, 2007, and that there will be a public hearing on enrollment at JM Wright Technical School in Stamford.
- **NASBE** – Mr. Taylor, Mrs. Bobroske and Mrs. Hopkins-Staten attended the NASBE Legislative Conference in Virginia, where they heard Margaret Spellings. Dr. Carolan and Dr. Voss are invited to attend the NASBE New Member Conference in July.

XII.A. Receipt of Report on Racial Imbalance

Mrs. Luke moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, that the Board, pursuant to Section 10-226a of the Connecticut General Statutes, accepts the Racial Imbalance Report and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE: In Favor: Bobroske, Carolan, Coolican, Farrell, Finneran, Hopkins-Staten,
Luke, Taylor
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: 0

Motion carried unanimously.

XII.E. Adoption of Education Preparation Program Approval Policies

Ms. Finneran moved, Mrs. Bobroske seconded, that the Board, pursuant to Section 10-145d-9(f)(1) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, proposes the following policies regarding educator preparation program approval procedures, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action:

New Program Proposals:

1. Only Connecticut institutions offering educator preparation programs that are either fully accredited or provisionally accredited will be allowed to submit proposals for new educator preparation programs. Institutions under probationary approval will not be allowed to pursue new program accreditation approval until existing programs are in full compliance.
2. New educator preparation program proposal visits must be conducted separate from continuing accreditation visits.

Educator Preparation Program Termination:

3. Connecticut institutions offering any educator preparation program that has not accepted new candidates during a consecutive three-year period, due to lack of resources needed to sufficiently prepare and ensure the quality of candidates in the program area, will be required to close down the program. If an institution wishes to reinstate a closed program at a later time, the institution will be required to prepare for, and successfully complete a new program proposal accreditation visit.

Alternate Route Program Data Collection:

4. Alternate route programs may be required to continue to collect candidate performance data for the purpose of meeting state accreditation requirements during the 90-day temporary certification period.

By unanimous consent, the Board adjourned its meeting at 3:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

George A. Coleman, Secretary