

## IV.

### CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Hartford

#### Minutes of Meeting

May 2, 2007

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the State Board of Education (hereinafter "Board") met on May 2, 2007, at the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

**I. Call to Order** -- Chairperson Taylor called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m.

Present: Allan Taylor, Chairman  
Beverly Bobroske  
Alice Carolan  
Edna Chukwurah  
Donald Coolican  
Sloan Danenhower  
Lynne Farrell  
Janet Finneran  
Theresa Hopkins-Staten  
Patricia Luke  
Jay Voss (nominee)

Absent: Valerie Lewis, Ex-Officio

#### **IV.A. Consideration of Minutes of the April 5, 2007, State Board of Education Meeting**

Mrs. Hopkins-Staten moved to adopt the minutes of the April 5, 2007 State Board of Education meeting with the following amendment: on page three of the April 5<sup>th</sup> minutes, move [Mrs. Hopkins-Staten returned at 10:16 a.m.] to before the resolution on the Renewal of Charter: Jumoke Charter School, Mrs. Bobroske seconded.

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

Motion, as amended, carried unanimously.

**IV.B. Consideration of Minutes of the April 6, 2007, Special State Board of Education Meeting**

Mrs. Luke moved, Mrs. Bobroske seconded, that the Board approves the minutes of the April 6, 2007, Special 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.

By unanimous consent, the Board voted to consider agenda item XII.A., Appointment of Deputy Commissioner.

**XII.A. Appointment of Deputy Commissioner**

Mrs. Bobroske moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, that the Board, pursuant to Section 10-3a of the Connecticut General Statutes and Article IV of the Connecticut State Board of Education Bylaws, the State Board of Education appoints George A. Coleman as Deputy Commissioner of Education, effective May 2, 2007, 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.

**V. Financial Matters**

Brian Mahoney, Chief Financial Officer, Finance & Internal Operations, presented the report to the Board. Discussion followed.

**VI. Consent Agenda**

Mr. Coolican removed consent item VI.A., Application for Funds: 2007 Team Nutrition Training Grant; Mrs. Luke removed consent item VI.B., Application for Funds: Yankee Ingenuity Challenge Grant and Ms. Finneran removed consent item VI.C., Establishment of Tuition for the Exploring Careers Recruitment Program.

Mrs. Bobroske moved, Mrs. Luke seconded the Board approves by unanimous consent, agenda items VI.D., Application for Funds: Celebration of Reading (Grasso Technical High School); VI.E., Application for Funds: Voluntary Public School Choice Program and VI.F., Application for Funds: Grant to Integrate Schools and Mental Health Systems.

**VI.D. Application for Funds: Celebration of Reading (Grasso Technical High School)**

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-95 of the Connecticut General Statutes, approves the Celebration of Reading Grant Application for Ella T. Grasso/Southeastern Technical High School for submission to The Community Foundation of Southeastern Connecticut and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

**VI.E. Application for Funds: Voluntary Public School Choice Program**

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to its role as the state education agency (SEA) for Connecticut, approves the submission of the 2007-2012 application titled "Voluntary Public School Choice Program," to the U.S. Department of Education, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

**VI.F. Application for Funds: Grant to Integrate Schools and Mental Health Systems**

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Title V of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, approves the 2007-2009 application entitled "Grant to Integrate Schools and Mental Health Systems" for submission to the U.S. Department of Education and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.



**VI.C. Establishment of Tuition for the Exploring Careers Recruitment Program**

Mrs. Luke moved, Mr. Coolican seconded, that the Board approve the establishment of a tuition fee for the Exploring Careers Recruiting Program in the Connecticut Technical High School System for the Summer of 2007, 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. Educator Continuum**

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

**III. Executive Session**

The Board voted unanimously to move into executive session at 11:58 a.m. for the purpose of discussing matters defined in subsection (e) of Section 1-225a of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.), specifically, pending litigation.

Present at executive session were Board members: Mrs. Bobroske, Mr. Danenhowe, Mr. Coolican, Ms. Finneran, Ms. Chukwurah, Mr. Taylor, Dr. Farrell, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten, Dr. Carolan, Dr. Voss and Mrs. Luke. Also present were: Commissioner Mark McQuillan, Deputy Commissioner George A. Coleman, Mark A. Stapleton, Chief, Office of Legal and Governmental Affairs, Ralph Urban, Assistant Attorney General, and Ms. Karen Flanagan, Attorney for the Department of Education.

By unanimous consent, the Board voted to adjourn its executive session and break for lunch at 12:46 p.m. The Board reconvened in public session at 1:22 p.m. Present: Mrs. Bobroske, Mr. Coolican, Mr. Danenhowe, Ms. Finneran, Ms. Chukwurah, Mr. Taylor, Dr. Farrell, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten, Dr. Carolan, Dr. Voss and Mrs. Luke.

### **VIII.B. High School Exit Examination**

Commissioner Mark McQuillan presented the report to the Board. Discussion followed.

### **IX. Report of the Chair** Mr. Taylor reported the following:

- Commissioner McQuillan and he will be attending a forum on No Child Left Behind sponsored by Senator Joseph Lieberman on May 4<sup>th</sup> in Bridgeport. This event will feature key Connecticut education leaders participating in a roundtable discussion moderated by Senator Lieberman.
- On June 14<sup>th</sup> the State Board of Education will be hosting a recognition award ceremony in the Old Judiciary Room of the State Capitol. The ceremony will begin at 6:00 pm.
- On June 14<sup>th</sup> the Board will have a special meeting including a discussion of Board organization, standing committees, and policy development.
- Janet Finneran, Frances Rabinowitz, Bob Keating of the Office of Workforce Competitiveness and he will be attending a "High School Redesign for State Policy Leaders" meeting in Chicago on May 23-25, 2007.
- Board members are invited to a meeting regarding *Preparing Connecticut Students for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Lives* on May 17<sup>th</sup> at the Mark Twain House, from 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm. The keynote speaker is Ken Kay, President Infotech Strategies Partnership for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills. Mr. Taylor will serve as the moderator at the panel discussion scheduled to begin at 6:00 pm.
- On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, Mrs. Bobroske and Mrs. Luke will be touring the York Correctional Institution in Niantic at 12:30 pm. On May 4<sup>th</sup>, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten, Mrs. Bobroske, Ms. Finneran and Dr. Voss will be touring Manson Correctional Institution in Cheshire at 9:00 am.
- Board members are invited to attend or participate at the Connecticut Technical School System's graduation ceremonies. (List is enclosed in the supplemental materials file.)

- Interim Associate Commissioner Dowaliby, Lee Marcoux and Mr. Taylor met with Connecticut State Treasurer Denise Nappier and her staff, at their request, to discuss the work they have been doing on financial literacy education.
- X. Report of the Commissioner.** Commissioner McQuillan reported that:
- He attended the CCSSO conference regarding the Reauthorization of NCLB.
  - In June, The State Department of Education Administrative Council will look at the reorganization to support a coherent accountability system and assist districts that need further assistance.
  - The Department received a number of letters from the faculty at Highville Mustard Seed Charter School regarding the out-going director. Deputy Commissioner Coleman and he will be meeting with Highville's Board Chair and Attorney on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Following the meeting, we will visit the school.

[Mrs. Bobroske and Dr. Farrell left the meeting at 2:30 pm]

**XI. Committee Reports**

- **Audit and Department Matters Committee** – Mrs. Luke reported that the next committee meeting is scheduled for June 6, 2007.
- **Policy Development Committee** – Mrs. Finneran stated that a Policy Development Committee meeting will be scheduled before the next regular meeting in June.
- **Connecticut Technical High School Committee** – Mr. Coolican reported that a public hearing for J.M. Wright Technical High School was held on April 25<sup>th</sup> in Stamford regarding under enrollment. The next meeting of the Connecticut Technical High School Committee will be on May 9<sup>th</sup> at Norwich Tech.

**XII.B. Adoption of PRAXIS II Assessment for Early Childhood Educators**

Mrs. Luke moved, Ms. Finneran seconded, that the Board, pursuant to Section 10-145f of the Connecticut General Statutes, adopts the Educational Testing Service (ETS) Praxis II tests for individuals seeking certification as early childhood educators—Early Childhood: Content Knowledge, test code 0022; and Education of Young Children, test code 0021—as a satisfactory evaluation of subject area knowledge as well as recommended passing scores, effective January 1, 2008, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

[Mrs. Bobroske returned at 2:50 pm]

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

Motion carried unanimously.

**XI. Committee Reports (continued)**

- **Legislation and Bylaws Committee** – The committee met this morning and reviewed all work underway.
- **NASBE**: Dr. Farrell just returned from the NASBE Adolescent Literacy Conference in Virginia. Mr. Taylor will be attending the NASBE Governmental Affairs Committee meeting in Virginia on June 1-2, 2007. Dr. Carolan and Dr. Voss are invited to attend the NASBE New Board Member Institute in Virginia, July 20-22, 2007.

By unanimous consent, the Board adjourned its meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Mark K. McQuillan, Secretary

