

CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford

POLICY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Janet M. Finneran, Chair
Lynne S. Farrell
Theresa Hopkins-Staten
Patricia B. Luke

Minutes of the Meeting of
January 23, 2009

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Janet Finneran called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. The meeting was held at the State Department of Education, Middletown Office, 25 Industrial Park Road, Middletown, Connecticut. Present were Committee Members Ms. Janet Finneran, Chair; Dr. Lynne Farrell, and Mrs. Patricia Luke. Mrs. Theresa Hopkins-Staten was absent.

Also present were Commissioner Mark McQuillan, Deputy Commissioner George Coleman, Associate Commissioners Marion Martinez, Charlene Russell-Tucker and Barbara Beaudin; Bureau Chiefs Paul Flinter, Barbara Westwater and Mark Linabury; Assistant to the Commissioner Pamela Bergin; and Education Consultant Daniel Gregg.

II. Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Luke moved, Dr. Farrell seconded, that the committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the November 5, 2008, Policy Development Committee meeting.

III. Revised Draft Position Statement on International Education

Committee members discussed the Revised Position Statement on International Education and Exchange. Committee members requested that staff members make several edits, and resubmit the statement to the committee in proposed final form at its meeting on January 28, 2009. The committee will review one final time, before submitting the statement for full Board discussion on February 4, 2009.

IV. Work Plan

This matter will be considered at a future meeting.

V. Review of Existing Position Statements Requiring No Edits

Committee members agreed to place the position statements on Educational Technology and Information Literacy, Adult Education, and Arts Education, on the February 4, 2009, State Board of Education consent agenda.

VI. Position Statement on the Career Pathway Initiative

Board members reviewed the draft Position Statement on the Career Pathway Initiative, and concurred that this should be placed on the February 4, 2009, consent agenda, noting that this statement incorporates a few changes (noted in all capital letters or brackets), and is recommended for adoption by the Board.

VII. Discussion of Use of RESC Indirect Rate Funds

Associate Commissioner Russell-Tucker initiated a discussion of the use of the 6.25 percent indirect rate funds allocated to Regional Educational Service Centers (RESCs), in accordance with Section 10-66j of the Connecticut General Statutes. Discussion ensued regarding the most efficient and effective use of these funds, including a discussion of using the funds solely to enhance minority teacher recruitment efforts.

Funds are presently divided among the RESCs in amounts ranging from \$12,866 to \$24,563. Committee members agreed that it would be more effective to assign to one RESC responsibility for carrying out the Board’s designated use of the funds. In determining which RESC is best suited to fulfill the responsibility, RESC capacity (expertise and financial) should be considered. The statute would require amending, to allow for the indirect rate funds to be assigned to only one RESC. This matter will be referred to the Legislation Committee for further review and follow-up.

The agenda and materials for the Committee’s January 28, 2009, meeting were distributed at the conclusion of the meeting.

VIII. Adjourn

By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at 2:08 p.m.

Prepared by: _____

Pamela V. Bergin,
Assistant to the Commissioner