

CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford

Minutes of Meeting
April 1, 2009

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the State Board of Education (hereinafter "Board") met on Wednesday, April 1, 2009. The meeting was held at the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

I. Call to Order

Acting Chairperson Finneran called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

Present: Janet Finneran, Acting Chairperson
Beverly Bobroske
Lynne Farrell
Theresa Hopkins-Staten*
Christine Larson
Patricia Luke
Kathleen O'Connor*
Brandt Smallwood
Jay Voss
Michael Meotti, Ex-Officio*

Absent: Linda McMahon

[Mrs. Hopkins-Staten arrived at 9:40 a.m.]

II. Public Participation

1. Marilyn White, CRA Legislative Chair, invited the Board to the State Capitol for a reception of the Connecticut Reading Association at 4 o'clock today.
2. Paloma Lapuerta, Spanish Professor at Central Connecticut State University, Department of Modern Languages, expressed concern that if a language requirement is not implemented as part of a K-12 curriculum, students will not be prepared to live and work successfully in the world.
3. John Meyers, World Affairs Council of Connecticut, stated that at a World Affairs Council Roundtable, members of the legislature and business community who participated all agreed that study of world languages is critical to the preparation of our high school students. Mr. Meyers' testimony can be found in the official files of this meeting.

[Ms. O'Connor and Mr. Meotti arrived at 9:45 am]

VI. Report of the Chair – Janet Finneran distributed a written report, including the following: (A copy can be found in the official file of this meeting)

- **NASBE LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE:** The Board was represented at the NASBE Legislative Conference, with Mr. Taylor, Mrs. McMahon and Mrs. Hopkins-Staten in attendance. Mrs. Hopkins-Staten spoke to the Board regarding the High School Dropout Prevention Study Group.
- **STUDENT APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP ON SBE:** The State Student Advisory Council on Education met yesterday and a work group reviewed fifty applications submitted by students for membership on the Board in 2009-10. The committee narrowed the pool to 11; these individuals will be invited to an interview with the Council April 28 and 29. Five of those students will be recommended to the Governor's office for her consideration.
- **NEED SBE VOLUNTEERS FOR TWO CHARTER SCHOOL HEARINGS:** The Charter School Hearings on Trailblazer's and Stamford Academy's renewal applications has been rescheduled for April 8 from 6-8 p.m. at J.M. Wright Technical High School in Stamford. Dr. Farrell volunteered for the Elm City hearing on April 13, and Ms. Finneran volunteered for the Amistad hearing on April 30.
- **P-20 COUNCIL:** Allan Taylor will attend the P-20 Council meeting on April 28, 2009.
- **ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION – LEADERSHIP FOR HEALTHY COMMUNITIES:** Dr. Farrell will attend the Leadership for Healthy Communities (LHC) Conference in Washington, D.C. on May 7 and May 8. The summit will bring together elected and appointed officials to discuss innovative healthy eating and active living policy strategies, with an emphasis on collaborative state and community policy approaches that address childhood obesity among vulnerable populations. LHC will cover travel expenses.

VII. Report of the Commissioner – Commissioner McQuillan distributed a written report, including the following. (A copy can be found in the official file of this meeting).

Comprehensive Plan Priorities

- Priority 1: Early Childhood Education
 - Policy Council Meeting
 - Meeting with B-9 Planning Committee
 - Annie Casey/Graustein Literacy Investment Retreat

- Priority 2: Academic Achievement, Achievement Gaps
 - Planning Session with Ad Hoc Committee for Accountability
 - Meeting with CAUS Superintendents on ARRA, Improvement Plans
 - Review of Meriden's Plan to "Untrack" its High School

- Priority 3: Secondary School Reform
 - Ad Hoc Committee for Secondary Reform Meeting
 - Center for 21st Century Skill: Role in Developing Model Curricula
 - Internal Planning for Outreach to 40 Volunteer Districts
 - Connecticut Association of Schools Policy Development on 21st Century Skills
 - Meeting with Carnegie Foundation on Hartford's Opportunity School

- Sheff Comprehensive Management Plan
 - Lottery Preparation
 - Op-Ed Article on *Sheff* Sign Up

- Operations
 - Bureau Meetings to Review Spring Initiatives, Budget
 - Weekly Meetings of Communication Committee

- Statewide Meetings
 - American Recovery and Reinvestment Workshops, Presentations
 - Testimony to Education Committee on Education Legislation
 - Results-based Accountability Presentation to Appropriations Committee
 - Higher Education Admissions Panel with Senator Dodd

IX. Consent Agenda

Mrs. Luke removed agenda item IX.H., CTHSS Tuition and Fees – FY-2010-2011 from the consent agenda.

Mrs. Bobroske moved, Mrs. Luke seconded, to approve the following consent agenda items: IX.A., Racial Imbalance Report; IX.B., Designation of Teacher Shortage Areas; IX.C., Position Statement on Infants and Toddlers and Families; IX.D., Pearson Foundations of Reading Test – Recommended Passing Standard for Early Childhood and Elementary Educators Seeking Initial Connecticut Certification; IX.E., Receipt of Donation of Property from Measurement Incorporated; IX.F., Approval of Graduation Credit Requirement Career Development and IX.G., Approval of Technology Plan.

IX.A. Racial Imbalance Report

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-226a of the Connecticut General Statutes, accepts the Racial Imbalance Report, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

IX.B. Designation of Teacher Shortage Areas

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education acknowledges the receipt of the Designation of Certification Shortage Areas, 2008-09 (Fall Hiring Report), and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

IX.C. Position Statement on Infants and Toddlers and Families

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education approves the Position Statement on Infants, Toddlers and their Families, dated April 1, 2009, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

IX.D. Pearson Foundations of Reading Test – Recommended Passing Standard for Early Childhood and Elementary Educators Seeking Initial Connecticut Certification

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to subsection (d) of Section 10-145f of the Connecticut General Statutes, adopts proposed standards for Evaluation Systems of Pearson *Foundations of Reading Test* for individuals seeking certification as early childhood and elementary educators, as an evaluation of reading instruction knowledge and skills, effective July 1, 2009, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

IX.E. Receipt of Donation of Property from Measurement Incorporated

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-9 of the Connecticut General Statutes, approves the receipt of videoconferencing equipment from Measurement Incorporated, in an effort to reduce out-of-state travel by staff members in the Department, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

IX.F. Approval of Graduation Credit Requirement Career Development

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-95 of the Connecticut General Statutes, approves the revision to the Connecticut Technical High School System's Graduation Requirements to include Career Development, effective for the Class of 2011, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

IX.G. Approval of Technology Plan

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to the ED 616, Section 254(h)(l)(B) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, and FCC Order 97-157, Paragraph 573, Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) P.L. 107-110, approves the Connecticut Technical High School District Technology Plan, as recommended by the Connecticut Technical High School Committee, directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE	In Favor:	Bobroske, Luke, Farrell, Hopkins-Staten, Finneran,
ON		O'Connor, Voss
MOTIONS:	Opposed:	0
	Abstained:	0
	Absent:	McMahon

Motions carried unanimously.

IX.H. CTHSS Tuition and Fees – FY-2010-2011

Mrs. Bobroske moved, Dr. Farrell seconded, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-95e of the Connecticut General Statutes, approves the Connecticut Technical High School System's Tuition and Fee Schedule for fiscal years 2010 and 2011, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

XII. **Committee Reports**

- **Finance, Audit and Department Matters** – Mrs. Luke reported that the minutes of the March 11, 2009 committee meeting, needed to be amended and they will be available for the May meeting.
- **Policy Development** – Ms. Finneran reported that the committee will be meeting this afternoon to discuss the Position Statement on a Coordinated Approach to School Health and the Position Statement on Students Acquiring English as a Second Language.
- **Connecticut Technical School System** -- Mrs. Bobroske reported that the committee will meet on April 7, at 1:30 pm in our Middletown Office.
- **Ad Hoc Committee on Accountability** – Dr. Voss reported that the Ad Hoc Committee will be meeting on May 14 to review Stamford's District Improvement Plan; May 19 to review Ansonia and Danbury's District Improvement Plans; and the committee will meet again on May 22.

By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

Prepared by: _____
Mark K. McQuillan, Secretary