

CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford

Minutes of September 2, 2009, Meeting
(As corrected and approved 10.07.09)

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the State Board of Education (hereinafter "Board") met on Wednesday, September 2, 2009. The meeting was held at the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Allan B. Taylor at 9:35 a.m. The Board adopted the revised agenda, including the addition of agenda items VIII.A. and VIII.B.

Present: Allan Taylor, Chairperson
Janet Finneran, Vice Chairperson
Lynne Farrell
Hannah Klein
Hunter Kodama
Patricia Luke
Linda McMahon
Kathleen O'Connor
Jay Voss

Absent: Beverly Bobroske
Theresa Hopkins-Staton
Michael Meotti, Ex Officio

II. Public Participation

1. Clark Sterns, First Selectman, Scotland, spoke about the Regional School District No. 11 Study Report (agenda item V.A.) and requested that the Board accept the report.
2. Ken Henrici, Superintendent of Regional School District No. 11, expressed concerns about the contents of the Regional School District No. 11 study report, noting that it is based on out-dated data and is not factual. A copy of Mr. Henrici's prepared remarks is contained in the official file of the September 2, 2009, meeting.
3. Kate Donnelly, a resident of Hampton and parent of three former Parish Hill High School students, stated that she did not think it would be a good decision to dissolve Regional School District No. 11. A copy of Ms. Donnelly's prepared remarks is contained in the official file of the September 2, 2009, meeting.
4. George Askew, Chairman, Board of Education Region 11, stated that the Dissolution Report is lacking and the data is biased. A copy of Mr. Askew's prepared remarks is contained in the official file of the September 2, 2009, meeting.
5. Dr. Selase W. Williams, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU), spoke in support of agenda item IX.C., Approval of Educator Preparation Program at SCSU. A copy of Dr. Williams' prepared remarks is contained in the official file of the September 2, 2009, meeting.

XI.A. H1N1 Virus: Implications for Connecticut's Public Schools

Charlene Russell-Tucker introduced Matthew L. Cartter, M.D., M.P.H., State Epidemiologist, Connecticut Department of Public Health. Dr. Cartter gave a PowerPoint presentation titled, "H1N1: A Framework for Discussing Outbreaks of Illness in School Settings." Discussion followed. (A copy of the presentation can be found in the official file of this meeting).

III. Executive Session

None.

IV. Consideration of Minutes of the July 1, 2009 State Board of Education Meeting and August 5, 2009 Retreat

Mrs. Luke moved, Mrs. McMahon seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of July 1, 2009, State Board of Education meeting and the August 5, 2009, State Board of Education Retreat. Commissioner McQuillan noted that the first sentence of the last bullet under the Commissioner's Report in the July 1, 2009, draft minutes, should read: The New England Consortium was recently organized, and Connecticut is considering becoming a member of the Consortium. Mrs. Luke noted that under XII.A, Committee Reports, Finance Audit and Department Matters, Sharon Gaddy's title, Affirmative Action Administrator, should be noted.

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

The minutes of the July 1, 2009, meeting, as corrected, and the August 5, 2009, Retreat were approved unanimously.

V. Items Requiring Action

V.A. Study Report on the Dissolution of Regional School District No. 11

Mrs. Finneran moved, Mrs. Luke seconded, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-63c of the Connecticut General Statutes, accepts the Report of the Study Committee for the Dissolution of Regional School District 11, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

V.B. Authorization of Revised Charter School Enrollments

Mrs. Luke moved, Mrs. Finneran seconded, that the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-66bb(c) of the Connecticut General Statutes, approves the distribution of 49 additional seats among the existing charter schools for the 2009-10 school year pending final state budget authorization, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

VI. Report of the Chair – Mr. Taylor reported on the following: (A copy can be found in the official of this meeting).

- On September 10, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Connecticut Convention Center, **H1N1 for Municipal Officials** conference will be held. The conference will be attended by school officials, healthcare providers, First Responders) and is being sponsored by the Governor and the Department of Public Health.
- Board members are invited to contribute to the silent auction being held during the October 2009 NASBE Annual Convention, to support the NASBE Foundation.
- Theresa Hopkins-Staton will attend the **“Strong Students, Strong Future, Strong Nation Conference, 9/15-18** at Fort Jackson in South Carolina. The Conference is being sponsored by the U.S. Army, NASBE, NGA and CCSSO and will focus on partnerships to strengthen secondary school achievement and post-secondary success.
- **CABE Back-to-School Session** will be held September 23, 2009, at 5:00 p.m. at the CABE office in Wethersfield. Board members are invited to attend to meet with the CABE Board of Directors. To date, Mr. Taylor, Ms. Hopkins-Staton, Mrs. Luke and Commissioner Meotti will attend.

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

Comprehensive Plan Priorities

Priority 1: Early Childhood Education

- Meetings with Janice Gruendel on ECE Accountability Plan
- Meeting with Janice Gruendel, Barbara Beaudin on IES Longitudinal Data Grant Application for ECE
- Meetings with Janice Gruendel, George Coleman on Race to the Top Application

Priority 2: Academic Achievement, Achievement Gaps

- Release of CMT and CAPT Results and Press Release
- Meetings on ARRA Race to the Top Application
- Meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee on Teacher Certification

Priority 3: Secondary School Reform

- Suspension of Operations at Wright Technical High School
- Meetings with Naugatuck Community College on Shared Equipment with CTTHS
- Release of SAT and ACT, and AYP Results; follow-up Press Release
- Membership Application Meeting with the New England Secondary School Consortium

Sheff Comprehensive Management Plan

- Meetings with Hartford Area Superintendents on Magnet Funding, Parent Choice
- Completion of Revised Contracts with Hartford and CREC
- Weekly Communication with Hartford Area Parents on Magnet School Funding

Internal Operations

- Weekly Meetings of Communication Committees
- Biweekly Meetings on ARRA Guidance Committee
- Regular Meetings with Human Resources on Department and Connecticut Technical High School System Staffing
- Implementation of Department Reorganization
- Organizational Planning for Race to the Top Application
- Cabinet and Administrative Council Meetings

Statewide Meetings

- P20 Council Follow-up Planning with Commissioner Meotti
- Back-to-School Conference for Superintendents
- New England Secondary School Consortium Meeting
- Race to the Top Meetings with Senator Lieberman and other Connecticut Stakeholders
- Meeting of New England Chiefs on “Race to the Top” Competitive Grants
- Speaker:
 1. Somers Public School Convocation
 2. Milford Public School Convocation
 3. CREC Public School Convocation
 4. Wilcox Technical High School Convocation

VIII. Financial Matters –

A. Fiscal Year 2009 End-of-Year Financial Report

Chief Financial Officer Brian Mahoney presented the report to the Board. Discussion followed.

B. Update on 2009-2010 Staffing

Chief Financial Officer Brian Mahoney and Interim CTHSS Superintendent Patricia Ciccone reported on the status of staffing in the Department central office and the technical high schools.

C. Update on 2009-2010 Budget

Chief Financial Officer Brian Mahoney presented an update on the status of the budget for 2009-2019. Discussion followed.

IX. Consent Agenda

Mrs. Luke removed item IX.C., Approval of Educator Preparation Program: Southern Connecticut State University from the consent agenda. She requested that a representative of NCATE attend a future State Board of Education meeting to discuss the rating of NCATE standards.

Mrs. Finneran moved, Mrs. O'Connor seconded, to approve the following consent agenda items: IX.A. Approval of Teach for America Program as Alternate Route to Certification; IX.B. Approval of Educator Preparation Program: Western Connecticut State University; IX.D. Adoption of Position Statement on a Coordinated Approach to School Health; IX. E. Reappointment of Special Education Hearing Officers; IX. F. Receipt of Condition of Education Report; IX.G. Middletown Board of Education Plan to Address Racial Imbalance; IX.H. Membership of the Legislation and Bylaws Committee.

IX.A. Approval of Teach for America Program as Alternate Route to Certification

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education pursuant to Section 10-145d-9(g)(1)(B) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, grants provisional program approval for the period September 30, 2009, through September 30, 2010, with a report due and visit to take place by spring 2010, for the purpose of certifying graduates from Teach For America's (TFA) Alternate Route to Certification (ARC) program leading to recommendation for the Connecticut temporary 90-day teaching certificate, or resident teacher certificate in the following endorsement areas:

Program	Grade Level	Program Level
Elementary Education	K – 6	Initial
Secondary Education:		
General Science	7-12	Initial
Biology	7-12	Initial
Chemistry	7-12	Initial
Physics	7-12	Initial
English	7-12	Initial
History/Social Studies	7-12	Initial
Mathematics	7-12	Initial
World Languages:		
French	7-12	Initial
Spanish	7-12	Initial

and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

IX.B. Approval of Educator Preparation Program: Western Connecticut State University

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-145d-9(g)(1)(A) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, grants full program approval for the period September 30, 2009, through September 30, 2016, for the purpose of certifying graduates from Western Connecticut State University in the following areas:

<u>Program</u>	<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Program Level</u>	<u>Program Type</u>
Elementary Education	K-6	Initial	Undergraduate
Secondary Education:			
Biology	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate
Chemistry	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate
Earth Science	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate
English	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate
History	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate
Mathematics	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate
Social Science	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate
Spanish	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate
Music Education	K-12	Initial	Undergraduate
Health Education	K-12	Initial	Undergraduate
School Counseling	K-12	Advanced	Graduate
Intermediate Administrator	PK-12	Advanced	Graduate
Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) Program:			
Mathematics	7-12	Initial	Graduate
Biology	7-12	Initial	Graduate
Spanish	7-12	Initial	Graduate

and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

IX.D. Adoption of Position Statement on a Coordinated Approach to School Health

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education adopts the Position Statement on a Coordinated Approach to School Health, dated September 2, 2009, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

IX.E. Reappointment of Special Education Hearing Officers

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-76h(c) of the Connecticut General Statutes, reappoints Elisabeth Borrino and Janis Jerman as members of the impartial hearing board for special education due process hearings for a four-year term beginning September 7, 2009; authorizes the Commissioner to appoint a hearing officer to conduct a hearing upon receipt of a request for such hearing; and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

IX. F. Receipt of Condition of Education Report

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-4(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes, receives *The Condition of Education in Connecticut*, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

IX.G. Middletown Board of Education Plan to Address Racial Imbalance

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-226d of the Connecticut General Statutes, conditionally approves the Middletown Board of Education’s “Proposed Plan to Address Racial Imbalance” as its plan to correct racial imbalance in Macdonough School, contingent upon the following:

- o the Middletown Board of Education adopting a specified course of action based upon the architectural firm’s fall 2009 report with a implementation to begin in the fall of 2010; and
- o this course of action being detailed in a revision to the plan, which the Middletown Board of Education shall submit to the State Department of Education for approval no later than February 6, 2010;

and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

IX.H. Membership of the Legislation and Bylaws Committee

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 4 of its Bylaws, approves the membership of the Legislation and Bylaws Committee, effective September 2, 2009, as follows:

Theresa Hopkins-Staten, Chairperson
Janet M. Finneran
Kathleen O’Connor
John Voss

and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

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

Motions carried unanimously.

IX.C. Approval of Educator Preparation Program: Southern Connecticut State University

Mrs.Luke moved, Mrs. O’Connor seconded, that the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-145d-9(g)(1)(B) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, grants provisional program approval for the period September 30, 2009, through September 30, 2011, with an interim report due and on-site visit required before September 30, 2011, for the purpose of certifying graduates from Southern Connecticut State University in the following areas:

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<u>Program</u>	<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Program Level</u>	<u>Program Type</u>
Art Education Undergraduate/graduate	PK-12	Initial	
Comprehensive Special Education Undergraduate/graduate	K-12	Initial	
Graduate Early Childhood	Early Childhood		B-K Initial
Early Childhood Undergraduate/graduate	N-3	Initial	
Elementary Education Undergraduate/graduate	K-6	Initial	
Elementary/Bilingual Dual	K-6	Initial	Undergraduate
Elementary/Special Education Dual	K-6	Initial	Undergraduate
Health Education Undergraduate/graduate	PK-12	Initial	
Physical Education Undergraduate/graduate	PK-12	Initial	
Middle Grades:			
Biology Undergraduate/graduate	4-8	Initial	
Chemistry Undergraduate/graduate	4-8	Initial	
Earth Science Undergraduate/graduate	4-8	Initial	
English Undergraduate/graduate	4-8	Initial	
History/Social Studies Undergraduate/graduate	4-8	Initial	
Mathematics Undergraduate/graduate	4-8	Initial	
Physics Undergraduate/graduate	4-8	Initial	
Secondary Education:			
Biology Undergraduate/graduate	7-12	Initial	
Chemistry Undergraduate/graduate			7-12 Initial
Earth Science Undergraduate/graduate	7-12	Initial	
English Undergraduate/graduate	7-12	Initial	
French Undergraduate/graduate	7-12	Initial	
German Undergraduate/graduate	7-12	Initial	

Italian	7-12	Initial	
Undergraduate/graduate			
History/Social Studies	7-12	Initial	
Undergraduate/graduate			
Mathematics	7-12	Initial	
Undergraduate/graduate			
Physics	7-12	Initial	
Undergraduate/graduate			
Spanish	7-12	Initial	
Undergraduate/graduate			
Remedial Reading/Language Arts	PK-12	Advanced	Graduate
School Counseling	PK-12	Advanced	Graduate
School Library Media	PK-12	Advanced	Graduate
School Psychologist	PK-12	Advanced	Graduate
Speech & Language Pathology	K-12	Advanced	Graduate
Reading/Language Arts Consultant	PK-12	Advanced	Graduate
Intermediate Administration	PK-12	Advanced	Graduate
Superintendent of Schools	PK-12	Advanced	Graduate

and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

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X. Connecticut Technical High School System - Interim Superintendent of Schools Patricia Ciccone provided an update to the Board on the status of J.M. Wright Technical High School staff members, former students and students who would have entered Grade 9 in August 2009. Mrs. Finneran commended Interim Superintendent Patricia Ciccone and her staff for a successful opening of the school year.

XI. Items for Discussion

B., Draft Position Statement on Public School Choice

Associate Commissioner Charlene Russell-Tucker, Division of Family and Student Support Services, presented the report to the Board. Discussion followed.

C., Update on ARRA/Race to the Top (RTTT) Application

Commissioner McQuillan presented an overview on Connecticut's plans for the RTTT application. Discussion followed.

XII. Committee Reports

- **Finance, Audit and Departmental Matters** – Mrs. Luke reported that the committee is scheduled to meet on September 10, 2009.
- **Legislation and Bylaws** – Mrs. Finneran reported that the committee members were presented with a list of proposed legislative proposals. The Legislative Committee and Policy and Development Committee will meet on September 21, 2009, to review the proposals. All Board members will receive a copy of the priority list of proposals.
- **Policy Development** – Mrs. Finneran reported that the Committee will meet one half hour after the conclusion of this meeting to review the draft statements on Measuring Success; School, Family and Community Partnerships for Student Success; and the Education of English Language Learners.
- **Connecticut Technical High Schools** – The next meeting is on September 9, 2009.
- **NASBE** – no report.
- **Ad Hoc Committee on Accountability-** Mr. Voss noted that the Committee will review reports on Ansonia, Danbury and Stamford next month.
- **Ad Hoc Committee on Educator Certification** –Commissioner McQuillan reported that the Committee will meet on September 23, 2009, to review preschool certification. The first draft of regulations will be presented to the Board in October.

By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Prepared by: _____
Mark K. McQuillan, Secretary