

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford**

Minutes – Approved February 3, 2010

January 6, 2010, Meeting

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the State Board of Education (hereinafter "Board") met on Wednesday, January 6, 2010. The meeting was held at the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

I. Call to Order

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

Present: Allan Taylor, Chairperson
Janet Finneran, Vice Chairperson
Lynne Farrell
Theresa Hopkins-Staton
Hannah Klein
Hunter Kodama
Linda McMahon (arrived at 10:15 a.m.)
Kathleen O'Connor
Michael Meotti, Ex-Officio (arrived at 11:55 a.m.)
Jay Voss

Absent: Beverly Bobroske
Patricia Luke

II. Public Participation

1. Dacia Toll, Achievement First, spoke to the Board regarding the need to ensure appropriate and sustainable funding for Charter School Funding.
2. Patrice McCarthy, Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) urged the Board to reject the charter school funding proposal. A copy of Ms. McCarthy's testimony can be found in the official files of this meeting.
3. Joseph Cirasuolo, Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents, expressed concern regarding charter school funding. A copy of Dr. Cirasuolo's testimony can be found in the official files of this meeting.

4. Kachina Walsh-Weaver, Connecticut Conference of Municipalities, spoke to the Board regarding Race-to-the-Top Legislative Proposals. A copy of Ms. Walsh-Weaver's testimony can be found in the official files of this meeting.
5. Marilyn Scanlan White, Legislative Chair, Connecticut Reading Association, spoke to the Board regarding the Connecticut Education Association's (CEA) Position on Proposed Literacy Specialist and Teacher Leader Certificate. A copy of Ms. White's testimony can be found in the official files of this meeting.
6. Andrea Comer, former Hartford Board of Education Member, spoke on behalf of Hartford students, and noted that Hartford is proud to be able to offer choices to its students (i.e., charter schools).
7. Alex Johnston, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) ConnCAN, spoke to the Board regarding the legislative proposals and the need to consider rationale for funding for Charter Schools. Mr. Johnston noted that Charter Schools play an important role in helping to close the achievement gap.

IV. Consideration of Minutes of December 2, 2009 State Board of Education Meeting

Mrs. Hopkins-Staten moved, Ms. Finneran seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the December 2, 2009, State Board of Education meeting.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

[Mrs. McMahon arrived at 10:15 a.m.]

V.A. Authorization to Submit Application for Funds: Race to the Top

Mrs. O'Connor moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, that the Board approves the submission of the Application for Race to the Top Funds to the U.S. Department of Education and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

V.B. Race to the Top Legislative Proposals (substitute resolution)

Mrs. O'Connor moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, that the Board adopts the Legislative Proposals for the Race to the Top application, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner McQuillan noted that the Board will hold a Workshop on Charter School funding on January 27, 2010 from 9:00 am to noon, State Office Building, Room 307, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT.

By unanimous consent, the Board recessed its meeting at 11:20 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 11:38 a.m. Present: Ms. Finneran, Dr. Farrell, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten, Mrs. McMahon, Mr. Kodama, Ms. Klein, Mrs. O'Connor, Mr. Taylor, Dr. Voss and Commissioner Meotti. Mrs. Bobroske and Mrs. Luke were absent.

II. Public Participation (continued)

8. Dr. Vivian Cross, Foundation for Educational Advancement, supported the proposal for the elimination of tracking in school districts in Connecticut.

V.C. Substitute Resolution Concerning Tracking of Students

On a motion by Mrs. Hopkins-Staten, seconded by Dr. Voss, the board unanimously adopted the following substitute resolution:

WHEREAS, over the past several months, the State Board of Education (SBE) has received numerous presentations from superintendents and other school officials on plans to improve academic performance in their respective districts in accordance with the No Child Left Behind Act; and

WHEREAS, during these presentations the SBE has learned that some school districts engage in the practice of tracking students, and that there is a strong correlation between ethnicity, social class and track placement; and

WHEREAS, research has consistently shown that when schools track students, low- and limited-income, Black, and Hispanic students are disproportionately placed in low-track, non-college preparatory courses, which limits achievement and stifles expectation and opportunity for college and successful competition in the workplace; and

WHEREAS, the SBE believes that such a practice contributes to class- and race-linked differences in educational opportunities and performance, further widening an achievement gap in the state that is the largest in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the SBE disapproves of any policy or practice that permanently groups students for instruction that neither encourages nor even allows students to increase their level of academic challenge and performance; and

WHEREAS, the SBE believes that every student in the State of Connecticut has a right to be offered a high-quality education regardless of social class, race or ethnicity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that effective immediately, any school district that engages in the practice of permanently assigning students for instructional purposes to an instructional group that denies voluntary association and instruction with higher achieving students, based on assessed or perceived readiness, shall make full disclosure to parents or guardians of students whose level of course work would not allow them to enter credit-bearing courses at the Connecticut State University System; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that any school district engaged in instructional placements that deny students assigned or voluntary access to instruction with higher performing peers shall: (1) make an annual filing to the State Department of Education, detailing such placements and the data and scientific research base that supports such placements; and (2) indicate the time period for which such access to assigned or requested instructional assignment with higher performing peers will be denied. Also, the local school district shall report the basis for determining students' placements, and the demographic characteristics of the students assigned to each placement, including the percentage of the various racial and ethnic groups, students eligible or not eligible for free and reduced price lunches, females and males.

Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science; IX.K., Educator Leaders of the Year; IX.L., Milken Awardee; IX.M., Connecticut Technical High School System Teacher of the Year; IX.N., Application for Funds to the Institute of Education Sciences for the Longitudinal Data Systems Grant and IX.O., Appointment to the Connecticut Technical High School Committee.

IX.A.1 Teacher of the Year Finalists

WHEREAS: Laura Maria Binder, a social studies teacher at Norwich Free Academy in Norwich, has demonstrated exemplary teaching skills;

WHEREAS: She was selected as a finalist in the 2010 Connecticut Teacher of the Year competition; and

WHEREAS: She has brought great honor to her community, her state and her profession.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION HONORS LAURA MARIA BINDER WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ART OF TEACHING.

IX.A.2 Teacher of the Year Finalists

WHEREAS: Brandy Segar Gadoury, a first grade teacher at West Stafford School in Stafford, has demonstrated exemplary teaching skills;

WHEREAS: She was selected as a finalist in the 2010 Connecticut Teacher of the Year competition; and

WHEREAS: She has brought great honor to her community, her state and her profession.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION HONORS BRANDY SEGAR GADOURY WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ART OF TEACHING.

IX.A.3 Teacher of the Year Finalists

WHEREAS: Kristas Bialowas, a kindergarten teacher at John Stanton Elementary School in Norwich, has demonstrated exemplary teaching skills;

WHEREAS: She was selected as a finalist in the 2010 Connecticut Teacher of the Year competition; and

WHEREAS: She has brought great honor to her community, her state and her profession.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION HONORS KRISTAS BIALOWAS WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ART OF TEACHING.

IX.B. Teacher of the Year

WHEREAS: Kristi M. Luetjen, an early childhood special education teacher at Whiting Lane School in West Hartford, has demonstrated exemplary teaching skills;

WHEREAS: She has been chosen to represent her colleagues as the 2010 Connecticut Teacher of the Year;

WHEREAS: Her accomplishments will receive national attention as Connecticut's representative in the 2010 National Teacher of the Year Program; and

WHEREAS: She has brought great honor to her community, her state and her profession.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION HONORS KISTI M. LUETJEN WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ART OF TEACHING.

IX.C. High School Principal of the Year

WHEREAS: Dr. Timothy Breslin, Principal at Farmington High School in Farmington, has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills;

WHEREAS: He has been chosen by his peers at the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) as Connecticut's 2009 High School Principal of the Year;

WHEREAS: He has brought great honor to his community, his state and his profession; and

WHEREAS: He served as Connecticut's representative to the 2009 National High School Principal of the Year Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION HONORS DR. TIMOTHY BRESLIN WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EDUCATION PROFESSION.

IX.D. High School Assistant Principal of the Year

WHEREAS: Tim Salem, Assistant Principal at Danbury High School in Danbury, has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills;

WHEREAS: He has been chosen by his peers at the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) as Connecticut's 2009 High School Assistant Principal of the Year;

WHEREAS: He has brought great honor to his community, his state and his profession; and

WHEREAS: He served as Connecticut's representative to the 2009 National Assistant Principal of the Year Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION HONORS TIM SALEM WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EDUCATION PROFESSION.

IX.E. Elementary School Principal of the Year

WHEREAS: Dr. Marcia Elliott, Principal of West Stafford School in Stafford Springs, has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills;

WHEREAS: She has been chosen by her peers at the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) as Connecticut's 2009 Elementary School Principal of the Year/National Distinguished Principal of the Year;

WHEREAS: She has brought great honor to her community, her state and her profession; and

WHEREAS: She served as Connecticut's representative in the 2009 National Distinguished Principal of the Year Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION HONORS DR. MARCIA ELLIOTT WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EDUCATION PROFESSION.

IX.F. Middle School Principal of the Year

WHEREAS: Dr. Jeanne Camperchioli, Principal of Bristow Middle School in West Hartford, has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills;

WHEREAS: She has been chosen by her peers at the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) as Connecticut's 2009 Middle School Principal of the Year;

WHEREAS: She has brought great honor to her community, her state and her profession; and

WHEREAS: She served as Connecticut's representative in the 2009 National Middle School Principal of the Year Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION HONORS DR. JEANNE CAMPERCHIOLI WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EDUCATION PROFESSION.

IX.G. Middle School Assistant Principal of the Year

WHEREAS: Candace Morell, Assistant Principal of Mansfield Middle School in Mansfield, has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills;

WHEREAS: She has been chosen by her peers at the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) as Connecticut's 2009 Middle School Assistant Principal of the Year;

WHEREAS: She has brought great honor to her community, her state and her profession; and

WHEREAS: She served as Connecticut's representative in the 2009 National Assistant Principal of the Year Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION HONORS CANDACE MORELL WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EDUCATION PROFESSION.

IX.H. Superintendent of the Year

WHEREAS: Dr. David Title, Superintendent of Bloomfield Public Schools, has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills;

WHEREAS: He has been chosen by his peers at the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents (CAPSS) as Connecticut's 2010 Superintendent of the Year;

WHEREAS: He has brought great honor to his community, his state and his profession; and

WHEREAS: He will serve as Connecticut's representative in the 2010 National Superintendent of the Year Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION HONORS DR. DAVID TITLE WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EDUCATION PROFESSION.

IX.I.1 School Business Officials of the Year

WHEREAS: Philip Russell, Deputy Superintendent of Operations for Milford Public Schools, consistently demonstrates his commitment to his profession;

WHEREAS: He works continuously to elevate his profession and support his colleagues through his long-standing membership in the Connecticut Association of School Business Officials (CASBO);

WHEREAS: He mentors his CASBO peers and colleagues, and served as CASBO President;

WHEREAS: He was selected as CASBO's 2009 Celebrated Connecticut School Business Official;

WHEREAS: He provides outstanding service to the Connecticut State Department of Education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Connecticut State Board of Education honors Philip Russell for his commitment to his profession, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

IX. I.2 School Business Officials of the Year

WHEREAS: William Stowell, former School Business Manager for Regional School District 16, consistently demonstrated his commitment to his profession;

WHEREAS: He worked continuously to elevate his profession and support his colleagues through his membership in the Connecticut Association of School Business Officials (CASBO);

WHEREAS: He was selected as CASBO's 2009 Celebrated Connecticut School Business Official;

WHEREAS: He provided outstanding service to the Connecticut State Department of Education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Connecticut State Board of Education honors William Stowell for his commitment to his profession, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

IX.J.1 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science

WHEREAS: Edward DePeau, a mathematics teacher at Newington High School in Newington, has demonstrated exemplary teaching skills in mathematics;

WHEREAS: He has been chosen as a 2009 Connecticut state finalist for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching;

WHEREAS: His accomplishments will receive statewide attention as one of Connecticut's representatives for excellence in mathematics teaching as he is considered for the 2009 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching; and

WHEREAS: He has brought great honor to his community, his state and his profession.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION HONORS EDWARD DEPEAU WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ART OF SECONDARY MATHEMATICS TEACHING.

IX.J.2 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science

WHEREAS: Kristen Record, a science teacher at Bunnell High School in Stratford, has demonstrated exemplary teaching skills;

WHEREAS: She has been chosen as a 2009 Connecticut state finalist for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching;

WHEREAS: Her accomplishments will receive statewide attention as Connecticut's representative for excellence in science teaching as she is considered for the 2009 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching; and

WHEREAS: She has brought great honor to her community, her state and her profession.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION HONORS KRISTEN RECORD WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ART OF SECONDARY SCIENCE TEACHING.

IX.J.3 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science

WHEREAS: Wendy Milson, a mathematics teacher at John Winthrop School in Bridgeport, has demonstrated exemplary teaching skills in mathematics;

WHEREAS: She has been chosen as a 2009 Connecticut state finalist for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching;

WHEREAS: Her accomplishments will receive statewide attention as one of Connecticut's representatives for excellence in mathematics teaching as she is considered for the 2009 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching; and

WHEREAS: She has brought great honor to her community, her state and her profession.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION HONORS WENDY MILSON WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ART OF SECONDARY MATHEMATICS TEACHING.

IX.K.1 Educator Leaders of the Year

WHEREAS: Dr. Joseph Renzulli has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills;

WHEREAS: He has been chosen by his peers at the Connecticut Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (CASCD) as Connecticut's 2010 Education Leader of the Year; and

WHEREAS: He has brought great honor to his community, his state and his profession.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION HONORS DR. JOSEPH RENZULLI WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EDUCATION PROFESSION.

IX.K.2 Educator Leaders of the Year

WHEREAS: Dr. Sally Reis has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills;

WHEREAS: She has been chosen by her peers at the Connecticut Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (CASCD) as Connecticut's 2010 Education Leader of the Year; and

WHEREAS: She has brought great honor to her community, her state and her profession.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION HONORS DR. SALLY REIS WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EDUCATION PROFESSION.

IX.L. Milken Awardee

WHEREAS: James Flynn, a social studies teacher at Platt High School in Meriden, has demonstrated exemplary teaching skills;

WHEREAS: He has been selected by the Milken Family Foundation for the 2009-10 National Educator Award;

WHEREAS: His accomplishments will be recognized at the Milken Family Foundation National Education Conference as Connecticut's National Milken Educator; and

WHEREAS: He has brought great honor to his school, his community, his state and his profession.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION HONORS JAMES FLYNN WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EDUCATION PROFESSION.

IX.M. Connecticut Technical High School System Teacher of the Year

WHEREAS: Isabel Barnett, a Social Studies Teacher at Henry Abbott Technical High School, Danbury, CT, has been selected as the 2009-10 Teacher of the Year for the Connecticut Technical High School System; and

WHEREAS: She serves as a model of accomplished leadership for other educators in the Connecticut Technical High School System and State of Connecticut; and

WHEREAS: She has brought honor to her school, the Connecticut Technical High School System, her community and her profession.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education honors Isabel Barnett with great appreciation for her contributions to strengthening the education profession.

IX.N. Application for Funds to the Institute of Education Sciences for the Longitudinal Data Systems Grant

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education approves the application to the Institute of Education Sciences for “The Connecticut State Department of Education Connecticut State Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems Grant Phase III” for the period 2010-2013, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

IX.O. Appointment to the Connecticut Technical High School Committee

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 4 of its Bylaws, approves the membership of Lynne S. Farrell to the Connecticut Technical High School Committee, effective January 6, 2010, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

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

Motions carried unanimously.

IX.B. Draft Position Statement on Creating a Learning Environment That is Physically, Emotionally and Intellectually Safe

Dr. Martinez, Associate Commissioner, Division of Teaching, Learning & Instructional Leadership; Paul Flinter, Bureau Chief, Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education; and Bonnie Edmondson, Education Consultant, Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education, Division of Family and Support Services, presented the report to the Board. Discussion ensued.

IX.C. Position Statement on Early Childhood Education

Dr. Martinez, Associate Commissioner, Division of Teaching, Learning & Instructional Leadership, presented the report to the Board. Discussion ensued.

IX.A. Regulations Concerning Educator Certificates, Permits, and Authorizations

Dr. Martinez, Associate Commissioner, Division of Teaching, Learning & Instructional Leadership, Nancy Pugliese, Bureau Chief, Bureau of Educator Standards and Certification; and Georgette Nemr, Education Consultant, Bureau of Educator Standards and Certification presented the report to the Board. Discussion ensued.

XII. Committee Reports

- **Connecticut Technical School System** -- The next meeting will be on January 13 at Wilcox Technical High School in Meriden.
- **Ad Hoc Committee on Accountability:** The committee met with representatives from Hartford regarding their District Improvement Plan.
- **Ad Hoc Committee on J.M. Wright Technical High School** – Mrs. Hopkins-Staten reported that the committee met in December and that Jack Condlin will chair the Committee. The next meeting will be on January 11, 2010.

By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Prepared by: _____
Mark K. McQuillan, Secretary