

# CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION Hartford

Minutes

February 3, 2010, Meeting

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the State Board of Education (hereinafter "Board") met on Wednesday, February 3, 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 10:40 a.m. The meeting was delayed due to inclement weather.

Present: Allan Taylor, Chairperson  
Janet Finneran, Vice Chairperson  
Lynne Farrell  
Theresa Hopkins-Staton  
Hunter Kodama  
Linda McMahon  
Kathleen O'Connor  
Jay Voss

Absent: Beverly Bobroske  
Patricia Luke  
Hannah Klein  
Michael Meotti, Ex-Officio

## **II. Public Participation**

1. John Donahue, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Joan Venditto, Director of Education Programs, both from Albertus Magnus College, expressed concerns regarding the draft certification regulations. Their written testimony can be found in the official file of this meeting.
2. Andrea Comer, Achievement First Parent Advocate, gave testimony regarding all children having the right to a great education. Ms. Comer's testimony can be found in the official file of this meeting.

3. Alex Johnston, Chief Executive Officer, ConnCAN, thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend the Legislative and Bylaws Committee Workshop regarding Charter School Funding and Race to the Top. Mr. Johnston stated that while the Board might want to consider funding for charter schools within a more comprehensive discussion of public school education funding, he felt that the proposal in Connecticut's Race to the Top application does not fully meet the requirements of the application.
4. Danielle Smith, Connecticut Black Alliance for Educational Options, stated that the Board has the opportunity to equitably fund education and encouraged the Board to do everything in its power to expand opportunities for children of color.

**XI.B. Presentation by the Connecticut Chapter of the National Honor Society**

Donald Gates, Executive Director, Connecticut Association of National Honor Society (CANHS) and Justin Torok, President of CANHS, presented a summary of the CANHS's accomplishments and the Society's 2009 project, "Generation to Generation." Discussion followed.

**IV. Consideration of Minutes of January 6, 2010, State Board of Education Meeting**

Ms. Finneran moved, Mrs. O'Connor seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the January 6, 2010, State Board of Education meeting.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

**V.A. Appointment of Superintendent of Schools, Connecticut Technical High School System**

Mrs. O'Connor moved, Ms. Finneran seconded, that the Board, pursuant to Section 10-3a of the Connecticut General Statutes and Article IV of its Bylaws, approves the following appointment: Patricia A. Ciccone, Superintendent of the Connecticut Technical High School System, effective February 3, 2010; 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. Intent to Adopt Regulations Concerning Educator Certificates, Permits and Authorizations**

Ms. Finneran moved, Dr. Farrell seconded, that the Board declares its intent to adopt sections 10-145d-806 through 10-145d-981, inclusive, and repeal sections 10-145d-400 through 10-145d-619, inclusive, and 10-145d-566a through 10-145d-566f, inclusive, of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, and directs the Commissioner to take necessary action.

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

Motion carried.

**V.C. Adoption of Connecticut's 2010 Common Core of Teaching Foundational Skills Standards**

Ms. Finneran moved, Dr. Voss seconded, that the Board adopts the 2010 *Common Core of Teaching: Foundational Skills* standards, 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.D. Charter School Funding**

Commissioner McQuillan gave an overview of a meeting held by the Legislative and Bylaws Committee on January 27 regarding Charter School Funding. Discussion followed. (No vote was taken.)

Mrs. O'Connor moved, Mrs. McMahon seconded, that the Commissioner develop a proposal for the formation of and charge to an Ad Hoc Committee on Funding for Public Education.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

**VI. Report of the Chair** - Mr. Taylor distributed a written report, which is in the official file of this meeting, and includes the following:

- Mr. Taylor and Ms. Finneran attended the Education Committee Information Forum on the Connecticut Technical High School System. Mr. Taylor commended Mrs. Bobroske, Commissioner McQuillan and Mrs. Ciccone for giving excellent testimony.
- NASBE issued a press release noting that Theresa Hopkins-Staten is serving on the NASBE Study Group on Education and the Military.
- Mr. Taylor will be attending a pre-conference session on "Extending the Reach of School Improvement Initiatives: Scaling Teacher and Leader Effectiveness to Promote Student Learning," on March 17, 2010 (funded by Wallace Foundation), and then attending the NASBE Legislative Conference.
- NASBE has issued its annual "Call for Nominations" for the Distinguished Service Award, Friend of Education Award, and Policy Leader of the Year Award Nominations are due by April 30.
- Hunter Kodama and Hannah Klein are scheduled for their hearings before the Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee on February 18, 2010, at noon.

- The search for the Board's 2010-11 student members of the State Board of Education will begin within the next week.
- Mr. Taylor will report back to the Board at its March meeting on Connecticut's participation at the Northeastern Common Core Regional Meeting to be held in Philadelphia on February 18-19. In addition to Mr. Taylor, Lynne Farrell, Jay Voss and Bob Lucco, Bureau Chief, Student Assessment, Division of Assessment, Research and Technology, will attend.

**VII. Report of Commissioner** -- Commissioner McQuillan distributed a written report, which is in the official file of this meeting, and includes the following:

- Comprehensive Plan Priorities

- Priority 1: Early Childhood Education

- Staffing and preparation for new Early Childhood Cabinet
    - Preparation of Head Start grant application

- Priority 2: Academic Achievement, Achievement Gaps

- Continued preparation of revised certification regulations
    - Completion of search for Affirmative Action Officer

- Priority 3: Secondary School Reform

- Ad Hoc Committee meetings for future of Wright Technical
    - Weekly meetings with CTHSS Superintendent and Central Office
    - Completion of CTHSS Superintendent's Search
    - Monthly Council Meeting of New England Secondary School Consortium

- Sheff Comprehensive Management Plan

- Transition Planning for Director of the Regional School Choice Office (RSCO)

- Internal Operations

- Biweekly meetings on ARRA Guidance Committee
  - Regular meetings with HR on SDE and CTHSS Staffing
  - Organizational meetings Race to the Top Application
  - Cabinet and Administrative Council Meetings
  - Race to Top Department Recognition

- Statewide Meetings
  - P20 Council Planning with Commissioner Meotti
  - Preparation for Results-Based Accountability presentation to General Assembly on February 16, 2010
  - Testify at Education Committee meeting on Technical High Schools

### **VIII. Quarterly Financial Report**

The Quarterly Financial Report was provided by Brian Mahoney, Chief Financial Officer.

[Mrs. Hopkins-Staten left at 12:20 p.m.]

### **IX. Consent Agenda**

Dr. Farrell moved, Mrs. McMahon seconded that the Board approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: IX.A., Summer Food Services State Plan; IX.B., Charter School for Young Children on Asylum Hill: Pilot Program for Inclusion of Data to Determine Host District Adequate Yearly Progress; IX.C., Position Statement on Creating a Learning Environment That is Physically, Emotionally and Intellectually Safe; IX.D., Position Statement on Early Childhood Education; IX.E., Eastern Connecticut State University NCATE Accreditation-- Continuing Approval; IX.F., Eastern Connecticut State University: Approval of New Programs (102 and 097); and IX.G., Application for Funds: NASBE HIV Prevention.

#### **IX.A. Summer Food Services State Plan**

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 13 of the National School Lunch Act of 1946, as amended by P.L. 108-265, P.L. 110-246, and P.L. 111-80 approves the State Plan for Fiscal Year 2010 - Summer Food Service Program for Children, for submission to the United States Department of Agriculture, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

**IX.B. Charter School for Young Children on Asylum Hill: Pilot Program for Inclusion of Data to Determine Host District Adequate Yearly Progress**

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-223f of the Connecticut General Statutes, approves the agreement between the Hartford Board of Education and the Charter School For Young Children on Asylum Hill Board of Directors to take part in a pilot program for the inclusion of charter school data to determine Hartford Public School's adequate yearly progress (AYP), and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

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

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education adopts the Position Statement on Creating a Healthy Learning Environment that is Physically, Emotionally and Intellectually Safe dated February 3, 2010, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

**IX.D. Position Statement on Early Childhood Education**

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education approves the Position Statement on Early Childhood Education dated February 3, 2010, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

**IX.E. Eastern Connecticut State University NCATE Accreditation—Continuing Approval**

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-145d-9(g)(1)(A) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, grants continuing program approval for the period September 30, 2010, through September 30, 2015, for the purpose of certifying graduates from Eastern Connecticut State University in the following areas:

<u>Program</u>	<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Program Level</u>	<u>Program Type</u>
Early Childhood Education	N - 3	initial	undergraduate/graduate
Elementary Education	K - 6	initial	undergraduate/graduate
English	7 - 12	initial	undergraduate/graduate
History & Social Studies	7 - 12	initial	undergraduate/graduate
Mathematics	7 - 12	initial	undergraduate/graduate
Biology	7 - 12	initial	undergraduate/graduate
Earth Science	7 - 12	initial	undergraduate/graduate
Physical Education	PK -12	initial	undergraduate/graduate

and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

**IX.F. Eastern Connecticut State University: Approval of New Programs (102 and 097)**

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-145d-9(g)(2)(A) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, grants new program approval for the period January 6, 2010, through September 30, 2015, with an interim report documenting implementation progress due during spring 2012, for the purpose of certifying graduates from the Eastern Connecticut State University Remedial Reading and Remedial Language Arts program and the Reading and Language Arts Consultant program, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

**IX.G. Application for Funds: NASBE HIV Prevention**

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 317(k)(2) of the Public Health Services Act, 242 U.S.C. Section 247b(k)(2), approves the 2010-2011 grant application entitled "HIV Prevention Policy Initiative" for submission to the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

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

Motions carried unanimously.

[Mrs. Hopkins-Staten returned 12:25 p.m.]

## **X. Connecticut Technical High School System**

Patricia Ciccone thanked the Board for their support and stated it was an honor to accept the position of Superintendent of the Connecticut Technical High School System. She is looking forward to working in the following areas: 1) Curriculum and Assessment; 2) School Climate; and 3) Working on Task Force regarding role to bring Connecticut more closely in line with energy green technology.

### **XI.A. Regulations Concerning Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)**

Associate Commissioner Charlene Russell-Tucker, Division of Family and Student Support Services; Anne Louise Thompson, Bureau Chief, Bureau of Special Education; and Theresa DeFrancis, Consultant, presented the report to the Board. Discussion followed.

## **XII. Committee Reports**

- **Policy Development Committee.** Ms. Finneran reported that two position statements were approved at today's meeting. There will be a short meeting following the regularly scheduled meeting held today to discuss the draft Position Statement on Nutrition and Physical Activity and the draft Position Statement on Student Support Services.
- **NASBE.** Mrs. Hopkins-Staten reported that she attended a NASBE/US Army-sponsored meeting on the Common Good Study Group on January 22 and 23 in Virginia. She stated that they reviewed military techniques to see if they can be replicated in public schools to increase student performance.
- **Ad Hoc Committee on Accountability:** Mr. Voss stated that a meeting needs to be scheduled this month to hear the Hartford Public Schools issue regarding seniority.
- **Ad Hoc Committee on J.M. Wright Technical High School –** Three meetings have been conducted so far. Discussion is underway regarding building renovations, trade and technology offerings, and how best to meet the needs of the Stamford community. Mrs. Hopkins-Staten stated that there is a need to discuss efforts to ensure that the school is open to students throughout the area.

By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mark K. McQuillan, Secretary