

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford**

Minutes

July 7, 2010, Meeting

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the State Board of Education (hereinafter "Board") met on Wednesday, July 7, 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
Beverly Bobroske
Patrick Campbell
Lynne Farrell
Theresa Hopkins-Staton
Patricia Luke
Neha Mehta
Jay Voss
Pamela Partridge West
Michael Meotti, Ex-Officio

Absent: Kathleen O'Connor

Laura Anastasio, Attorney, Legal and Governmental Affairs, administered the Oath of Office to Neha Mehta, student member from Suffield and Patrick Campbell, student member from Chester.

II. Public Participation

1. Martin Edgar, Hartford Federation of Substitute Teachers and former substitute teacher at Vinal Technical High School, expressed concerns about not having been called back to substitute teach for over one year. Mr. Edgar's written testimony can be found in the official file of this meeting.

2. Nancy Hoffman, Professor of Teacher Education at Central Connecticut State University, offered her professional opinion on the proposed changes in certification requirements for teachers of students with special needs. She stated that the Department's proposal that special education become a cross endorsement attached to an existing teaching certificate insures that special educators will have a deep knowledge of the content to be taught as well as the required repertoire of specialized strategies. A copy of Dr. Hoffman's testimony can be found in the official file of this meeting.
3. Javarria Sandiford, parent of a child at Molloy School in West Haven, expressed concern regarding the closing and rationale for closing Molloy School.
4. Gwen Samuels, parent and co-founder State of Black CT Alliance, invited the Board to an Age 3 to Kindergarten Curriculum meeting at Central Connecticut State University on July 14th from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Ms. Samuels asked the State Department to intervene regarding the closure of Molloy school in West Haven, which is a high performing school.
5. Sandy Mangan, Ct Reading Association (CRA) President, spoke to the Board regarding the proposed certification for Literacy Specialists, Administrators, Teacher Leaders, and Classroom Teachers. Ms. Mangan's written comments can be found in the official file of this meeting
6. Meg Walsh, Special Education Coordinator in New Britain and a parent of a special needs student with a learning disability, spoke in favor of the proposed regulations. A copy of Ms. Walsh's testimony can be found in the official file of this meeting.
7. Nancy Boyles, Professor of Reading, Southern Connecticut State University, spoke in support for the Proposed Literacy Specialist Certification. Dr. Boyles' written comments can be found in the official file of this meeting.

8. Edward Malin, President, American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education in Connecticut (AACTE-CT) spoke to the Board concerning the proposed new certification regulations. Mr. Malin requested that the Board consider extending the targeted date for the implementation of the regulations. Mr. Malin's written comments can be found in the official file of this meeting
9. Linette Branham, Connecticut Education Association (CEA), presented CEA's response regarding the Department of Education's proposal for special education regulations. Ms. Branham's written comments can be found in the official file of this meeting.
10. Rosemary Russo, parent and former PTA President of Molloy School in West Haven, requested that the Board look into the closing of Molloy School. Ms. Russo's written comments can be found in the official file of this meeting.
11. Laurayne Farrar-James, member of the Bridgeport Community Partners, provided the Board with of copy of the Bridgeport Public Schools Superintendent's Report Card.

IV. Consideration of Minutes of June 2, 2010, State Board of Education Meeting

Mrs. Luke moved, Dr. Farrell seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the June 2, 2010, State Board of Education meeting.

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

Motion carried.

V. Items for Discussion

V.A. Discussion of Regulations Concerning State 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.

By unanimous consent, the Board recessed its meeting at 12:50 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 1:40 p.m. Present were Mrs. Bobroske, Dr. Farrell, Ms. Finneran, Mr. Campbell, Ms. Mehta, Mrs. Luke, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten, Mrs. Partridge West, Mr. Taylor, Dr. Voss and Commissioner Meotti. Mrs. O'Connor was absent.

VI. Items Requiring Action

VI.A. Adoption of Common Core Standards

Mrs. Bobroske moved, Mrs. Partridge West seconded, that the Board, pursuant to Criterion (B)(1)(ii) of the Federal Race to the Top (Phase II) Application, amends its original application for funding dated June 1, 2010, by adopting and incorporating therein the K-12 Common Core State Standards for Mathematics and English Language Arts in their entirety, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

VII.A. Report of the Superintendent - Connecticut Technical High Schools

Patricia Ciccone, Superintendent of the Connecticut Technical High School System (CTHSS), distributed a written report covering the following items: CTHSS Fiscal Executive Summary and CTHSS Inventory Executive Summary. A copy of Ms. Ciccone's report is contained in the official file of this meeting.

VII.B. Policy Statement on Admission to a Connecticut Technical High School

Ms. Finneran moved, Mrs. Bobroske seconded, that the Board approves the Connecticut Technical High School System Admissions Policy, dated July 7, 2010, effective immediately, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

VII.C. Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on J.M. Wright Technical High School

Mrs. Hopkins-Staten stated that Bridgeport should not be excluded from the Southwest Region Planning Area (reference Appendix II, slide 10) and that those schools currently occupied (i.e., Eli Whitney, H.H. Ellis, Emmett O'Brien and J.M. Wright) should remain as top priorities.

Mrs. Luke moved, Ms. Finneran seconded, that the Board receives the Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on J. M. Wright Technical High School dated June 2, 2010, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

VIII. Report of the Chair - Mr. Taylor spoke to the Board regarding the Board Retreat in September. He asked for volunteers to be part of a Planning Committee. The Planning Committee consists of the following Board members: Pamela Partridge West, Patricia Luke, Lynne Farrell and Theresa Hopkins-Staten.

IX. 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

- Preparation of Head Start federal grant for Early Childhood Cabinet

Priority 2: Academic Achievement, Achievement Gaps

- Implementation School Improvement Grants (SIG) for 5% lowest performing schools
- Revisions of Certification Regulations

Priority 3: Secondary School Reform

- SDE Meetings with New England Secondary School Consortium (NESSC)
- Interviews with Nellie Mae Foundation over NESCC grant

Sheff Comprehensive Management Plan

- Interviews for Bureau Chief for RESCO Office
- RESCO Office Reorganization

Operations

- Regular meetings with Cabinet and Administrative Council
- Regular meetings of RttT Steering Committee
- PARs Evaluations of Senior Staff
- Radio and television interviews on RttT
- Op-Ed Piece for Courant

Statewide Meetings

- Statewide meetings on RttT Round 2 Application
- Organizational work on RttT Statewide Implementation Committees
- Meeting of Teacher and Principal Evaluation Committee
- Meeting with Union Leadership in Hartford re: Negotiations
- Summer Advertising Campaign for RttT
- Completion 1st Draft of Washington DC Presentation on RttT
- P20 Council Meeting
- Preparation for Back-to-School Meeting of Superintendents on August 18
- Speaker at:
 - Standards Conference June 17
 - Secondary Principals Institute June 22

XI. Consent Agenda

Mrs. Bobroske moved, Mrs. Luke seconded, that the Board approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: XI.A., Reading and Mathematics Achievement Standards: Modified Assessment System; XI.B., Adoption of Position Statement on the Education of English Language Learners; and XI.C., Appointment to the Connecticut Advisory Council for School Administrator Professional Standards.

XI.A. Reading and Mathematics Achievement Standards: Modified Assessment System

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to a requirement of the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), approves the achievement standards for reading and mathematics for the Connecticut Mastery Test (Grades 3-8) and the Connecticut Academic Performance Test (Grade 10) Modified Assessment System as set forth in the Commissioner's July 7, 2010, memorandum, "Reading and Mathematics Achievement Standards: Modified Assessment System," and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

XI.B. Adoption of Position Statement on the Education of English Language Learners

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education adopts the Position Statement on the Education of Students Who Are English Language Learners dated July 7, 2010, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

XI.C. Appointment to the Connecticut Advisory Council for School Administrator Professional Standards

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to subsection (b) of Section 10-144e of the Connecticut General Statutes, appoints Judith K. Resnick to complete the term of Camille Vautour to serve as State Board of Education representative to the Connecticut Advisory Council for School Administrator Professional Standards through January 15, 2012, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

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

Motions carried unanimously.

XIII. Committee Reports

- **Legislation and Bylaws Committee** – Mrs. Hopkins-Staten stated that the summary of the 2010 Legislative Session is available to whomever would like one. She requested that the Executive Summary of the Race to the Top Application be placed on the Department’s website. At this time, Mrs. Hopkins moved, Mrs. Finneran seconded, the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, hereby recognizes and commends the Commissioner and staff members of the Connecticut State Department of Education for their exemplary dedication, contributions and commitment to the preparation of the State of Connecticut’s application for the Federal Race to the Top Application. This outstanding and exceptional application reflects the State’s strong commitment to significantly improve the educational opportunity offered to all of Connecticut’s children.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

XII. Committee Reports

- **Policy Development Committee** – Ms. Finneran reported that the committee meeting is cancelled due to the lateness of the regular meeting.
- **Ad Hoc Committee to Study Educational Cost Sharing and Choice Programs** – Mr. Taylor reported that the committee is working hard and a workgroup session is scheduled for tomorrow (July 8).

Mrs. Hopkins-Staten requested that the Commissioner communicate testimony received today with the superintendents of Bridgeport and West Haven.

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By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at 3:48 p.m.

Prepared by: _____
Mark K. McQuillan, Secretary