

CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION Hartford

Minutes

November 3, 2010, Meeting

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the State Board of Education (hereinafter "Board") met on Wednesday, November 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 9:38 a.m.

Present: Allan Taylor, Chairperson
Janet Finneran, Vice Chairperson
Beverly Bobroske
Patrick Campbell
Lynne Farrell*
Theresa Hopkins-Staton
Neha Mehta
Brenda Sisco
Joseph Vrabely

Absent: Jay Voss
Pat Luke
Pamela Partridge West
Michael Meotti, Ex-Officio

II. Public Participation

1. Dr. Jerald Cole, Professor of Education Technology, expressed his concern with the absence of education technology requirement in the certification regulations. Dr. Cole's written comments can be found in the official file of this meeting.
2. Mary Loftus Levine, Connecticut Education Association (CEA) Director of Policy and Professional Practice, shared some new information regarding the literacy certificate proposal. Mrs. Loftus Levine's written comments can be found in the official file of this meeting.

3. Dr. Linette Branham, Connecticut Education Association (CEA) Educational Issues Specialist, presented the alignment of Connecticut Literacy Certification with Standards from the International Reading Association. Dr. Branham's written comments can be found in the official file of this meeting.
4. Marilyn Scanlan White, Connecticut Reading Association (CRA), stated that the majority of the CRA Board supports the International Reading Association's one Literacy Specialist Coach and feels that those who currently teach under the 097 certificate qualify for this new certificate. Mrs. Scanlan White's written comments can be found in the official file of this meeting.

III. Consideration of Minutes of October 6, 2010, State Board of Education Meeting

Ms. Finneran moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the October 6, 2010, State Board of Education meeting.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

IV.A. E-Smart Building – Green Program

Superintendent Ciccone, Connecticut Technical High School System (CTHSS), Raymond Mencio, Education Consultant CTHSS; Pat Ciarleglio, Education Consultant CTHSS; and Rochelle Jewel, Connecticut Community College System (CCCS) presented a power point presentation on the instruction and installation of Renewable Energy Systems, Building Analyst/Inspector and Weatherization. Discussion followed.

[Dr. Farrell arrived at 10:05]

IV.B. Report of the Superintendent

Superintendent Ciccone, Connecticut Technical High School System (CTHSS), spoke to the Board regarding (1) the loss of School Resource Officer (SRO) program; (2) staffing issues; and (3) CTHSS has 45 new busses arriving in December; plus 19 buses will come off the road in January 2011.

V.A. Update on NASBE HIV Grant

State Board Member Theresa Hopkins-Staten; Bonnie Edmondson, Education Consultant, Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education; Superintendent Ciccone, Connecticut Technical High School System; JeNeen Anderson, NASBE; and Marie Burlette, NASBE presented the report to the Board. Discussion followed.

V.B. Presentation on Teacher Education and Mentoring (TEAM) Program

Marion Martinez, Associate Commissioner, Division of Teaching, Learning and Instructional Leadership; Beverly Hartstone, Education Consultant, Bureau of Educator Standards and Certification; and Nancy Pugliese, Chief, Bureau of Educator Standards and Certification, presented the report to the Board. Discussion followed.

V.C. Update on Lighthouse Training Program

Marion Martinez, Associate Commissioner, Division of Teaching, Learning and Instructional Leadership; Warren Logee, Leader in Residence, Bureau of Accountability and Improvement; Lol Fearon, Chief, Bureau of Accountability and Improvement; Nicholas Caruso, Connecticut Association of Boards of Education; and Robert Rader, Executive Director, Connecticut Association of Boards of Education, presented the report to the Board. Discussion followed.

By unanimous consent, the Board recessed its meeting at 12:22 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 1:22 p.m. Present were Mrs. Bobroske, Ms. Finneran, Mr. Campbell, Ms. Mehta, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten, Mrs. Sisco, Mr. Vrabely, and Mr. Taylor. Commissioner Meotti, Dr. Farrell, Mrs. Luke, Dr. Voss and Mrs. Partridge West were absent.

V.D. 2011 Legislative Proposals

Attorney Daniel P. Murphy, Director, and Attorney Jennifer Widness, Division of Legal and Governmental Affairs, announced that the Legislation and Bylaws Committee Workshop will be meeting on November 4th and the full Board will vote on the 2011 Legislative Proposals in December.

VII. 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 Summarized the 2010 NASBE Conference;
- Tonight is the Teacher of the Year Ceremony at Central Connecticut State University. Allan Taylor, Joseph Vrabely and Beverly Bobroske will represent the Board.
- Ms. Finneran and Mr. Taylor met with two of our new Board Members (Joseph Vrabely and Brenda Sisco), at an orientation session on October 27. The Commissioner, Deputy and Associate Commissioners, CTHSS Superintendent and Assistant to the Commissioner attended. We reviewed the roles of the department and the Board. Board members had the opportunity to better understand the structure of the department and the key initiatives each division is involved with. We also talked about protocol regarding the following:
 - Speaking with reporters;
 - The chair's role in serving as the spokesperson for the Board;
 - When it is appropriate to recuse oneself from participating in a discussion or vote;
 - The Elections Enforcement opinion;
 - Restrictions on lobbying as a representative of the Board;
 - Routing all requests for information directly to the Commissioner or our Board executive; and

- I also informed them of the services and opportunities that NASBE provides.
- Reminder that the CABA/CAPSS Convention will be held November 19-20 at the Mystic Marriott in Groton. Thus far, Mike Meotti, Janet Finneran, Pat Luke and Mr. Taylor will attend.

VIII. 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

- Development of Kindergarten entrance legislation for Legislative and Bylaws Committee (See below).

Priority 2: Academic Achievement, Achievement Gaps

- September 27 Partnership Planning Summit with all Partnership Leadership Teams

Priority 3: Secondary School Reform

- Conference call on NCEE Board Examination Consortium Project
- Participation in NESSC Regional Conference Webinar
- Implementation of the Connecticut Plan

Other Initiatives

Sheff Comprehensive Management Plan

- Legislative and Planning meetings with *Sheff* Plaintiffs
- Planning meetings with Hartford Area Superintendents *Sheff* Work Group
- Joint meetings with combined RSCO/*Sheff* Office
- Preparation of new *Sheff* legislative proposals for Open Choice, Innovation Schools, transportation

Operations/ Subcommittee Work

- Regular meetings with Cabinet and Administrative Council
- Ad Hoc Committee for Finance: Presentation on Regionalism, Core Values

- Communication and Distribution of Jobs Fund Education Grants
- Meetings with Board of Education on Municipal Finance and MBR
- Preparation of 2011-2012 Legislative Package with J. Widness
- State Board Retreat, September 17, 2010

Statewide Meetings/Presentations

- Speaker at New Britain Literacy Project with Annie Casey, Graustein Foundation, and Center for School Change
- P-20 Council Presentation on Partnership Management Structure
- Meetings with Windham community leaders on financial risks and leadership challenges facing the Windham Public Schools
- Annual CABE fall meeting with members of SBE
- Meeting with Representative Bartlett on School Governance Councils and implementation plans for 2011
- Annual meeting with Connecticut Association of Urban Superintendents (CAUS)

Conference Presentations

- Presenter: Career and Technical Education Fall Conference
- Presenter: CAS Principal Mentoring Program
- Speaker: CAS/CAPSS Back-to-School Convocation
- Speaker: RESC Alliance Technology Conference

IX.A. Financial Matters

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

IX.B.1. 2011-2012 Budget Reduction Options

Mrs. Bobroske moved, Ms. Finneran seconded, that the Board, pursuant to the directive from the Office of Policy and Management, submits the Budget Reduction Options for Fiscal Year 2011-12, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

Ms. Finneran moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, to amend the resolution to include:

“WHEREAS, There is no logical or reasonable method for reducing the State Board of Education budget by 15 percent without significantly harming the education of Connecticut’s children and impacting the municipal tax burden.”

Motion In Favor: Bobroske, Farrell, Finneran, Hopkins-Staten, Taylor,
to Vrabely
Amend: Opposed: 0
Abstained: Sisco
Absent: Luke, Voss, Partridge West

Motion, on amendment, carried.

The resolution, as amended, now reads:

WHEREAS, There is no logical or reasonable method for reducing the State Board of Education budget by 15 percent without significantly harming the education of Connecticut’s children and impacting the municipal tax burden;
and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to the directive from the Office of Policy and Management, submits the Budget Reduction Options for Fiscal Year 2011-12, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

Motion: In Favor: Bobroske, Farrell, Finneran, Hopkins-Staten, Taylor, Vrabely
As Opposed: 0
Amended: Abstained: Sisco
Absent: Luke, Voss, Partridge West

Motion, as amended, carried.

IX.B.2. 2011-2013 Budget Expansion Options

Ms. Finneran moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, that the Board, pursuant to the instructions from the Office of Policy and Management, approves the Budget Expansion Options for Fiscal Years 2011-12 and 2012-13, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

X. Consent Agenda

Mrs. Hopkins-Staten removed agenda items X.B., Designation of Use of 6.25 Percent Restricted Funds by Regional Educational Service Centers and X.C., Approval of Fairfield's Amended Plan to Correct Racial Imbalance.

Ms. Finneran moved, Bobroske seconded, that the Board approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: X.A., Appointments to the Review Committee for Approval of Connecticut Educator Preparation Programs; X.D., Appointment to Connecticut Technical High School Committee; X.E., Application for Funds: Bringing Financial Literacy to Life at Platt Technical High School; X.F., Application for Funds: Implementing Advanced Machining/Manufacturing Programs within the CTHSS and X.G., Application for Funds: Emmett O'Brien Technical High School ECMC Scholars Program.

X.A. Appointments to the Review Committee for Approval of Connecticut Educator Preparation Programs

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-145d-9(f)(1) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, appoints Erin McGurk and Brian Farrell to serve on the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) Review Committee for the Approval of Connecticut Educator Preparation Programs from November 3, 2010, through September 30, 2013, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

X.D. Appointment to Connecticut Technical High School Committee

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 4 of its Bylaws, approves the appointment of Joseph J. Vrabely, Jr. as Chair of the Connecticut Technical High School Committee, effective immediately, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

X. B. Designation of Use of 6.25 Percent Restricted Funds by Regional Educational Service Centers

Ms. Finneran moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, that the State Board of Education, pursuant to subsection (c) of Section 10-66j of the Connecticut General Statutes, directs that each regional educational service center shall annually expend at least six and one quarter percent of the amount received to: (A) support the state obligation to reduce racial, ethnic and economic isolation in accordance with subsection (3) of Section 10-4a of the Connecticut General Statutes; and (B) support the Board's *Five-year Comprehensive Plan for Education 2006-2011* by targeting resources for one or more of the following activities:

- (1) minority teacher recruitment activities and outcomes;
- (2) data collection and analysis of school district efforts to reduce the racial, ethnic and economic isolation of students;
- (3) professional development opportunities for teachers in educating students from diverse racial, ethnic and economic backgrounds, including evaluating the efficacy and outcomes of these sessions;
- (4) support for students participating in the Open Choice program; and
- (5) support for interdistrict magnet schools operated by the regional educational service centers, at the direction of the Commissioner;

and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

X.C. Approval of Fairfield's Amended Plan to Correct Racial Imbalance

Mrs. Hopkins-Staten moved, Dr. Farrell seconded, that the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-226d of the Connecticut General Statutes, approves the Fairfield Board of Education's "2010 Addendum to the Plan to Address Racial Imbalance" submitted by the Fairfield Board of Education, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE: In Favor: 0

Opposed: Bobroske, Farrell, Finneran, Hopkins-Staten, Taylor, Vrabely

Abstained: 0

Absent: Luke, Sisco, Voss, Partridge West

Motion failed.

XII. Committee Reports

- **Legislation and Bylaws Committee** – Mrs. Hopkins-Staten reported that the committee scheduled a workshop meeting on November 4, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. in room 307A. The full Board is invited to attend to discuss 2011 Legislative Proposals.
- **Connecticut Technical High School Committee** -- Mr. Vrabely reported that the Committee met at Emmett O'Brien Technical High School on October 13 and discussed safety and School Resource Officers, personnel issues and approval of minutes. The next meeting is scheduled for November 10, 2010, at Central Office in Middletown.
- **NASBE** – Mrs. Hopkins-Staten has signed up for the NASBE Teacher Performance and Evaluation Study Group.
- **Ad Hoc Committee to Study ECS and Choice Funding** – Mr. Taylor reported that the full committee is meeting regularly. The next meeting is scheduled for November 8, 2010.
- **Ad Hoc Committee on Accountability** – Commissioner McQuillan stated that the Committee met on November 1, 2010, and discussed the status of Windham and the three newly added districts (Hamden, West Haven and Windsor).

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By unanimous consent, the Board recessed its meeting at 2:30 p.m. to go into executive session to discuss the Commissioner's Evaluation. Present in Executive Session were: Mr. Taylor, Ms. Finneran, Mrs. Bobroske, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten, Dr. Farrell, Mr. Vrabely and Ms. Mehta. Mrs. Partridge West participated by phone. Commissioner Meotti, Mrs. Luke, Mrs. Sisco, Mr. Campbell and Dr. Voss were absent.

The meeting reconvened at 3:10 p.m. Present were: Mr. Taylor, Ms. Finneran, Mrs. Bobroske, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten, Dr. Farrell, Mr. Vrabely and Ms. Mehta. Mr. Campbell, Dr. Voss, Mrs. Luke, Mrs. Sisco, Mrs. Partridge West and Commissioner Meotti were absent.

By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at 3:12 p.m.

Prepared by: _____
Mark K. McQuillan, Secretary