

CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION Hartford

Minutes

January 5, 2011, Meeting

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the State Board of Education (**hereinafter "Board"**) met on **Wednesday**, January 5, 2011. 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 9:30 a.m.

Present: Allan Taylor, Chairperson
Janet Finneran, Vice Chairperson
Beverly Bobroske
Patrick Campbell
William Davenport
Lynne Farrell*
Theresa Hopkins-Staton
Pat Luke
Neha Mehta
Joseph Vrabely
Pamela Partridge West

Absent: Jay Voss
Brenda Sisco
Michael Meotti, Ex-Officio

Daniel P. Murphy, Legal Director, Legal and Governmental Affairs, administered the Oath of Office to William P. Davenport, member from Litchfield.

II. Public Participation

1. Milly Arciniegas, president of the Hartford Parent Organization Council, spoke to the Board regarding school-based seniority and requested that the Board review this matter.

[*Dr. Farrell arrived at 9:35 a.m.]

III. Executive Session

By unanimous consent, the Board recessed its meeting at 9:40 a.m. to go into executive session to discuss the Recommendation to Appoint an Acting Commissioner. Present in Executive Session were: Mr. Taylor, Ms. Finneran, Mrs. Bobroske, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Davenport, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten, Dr. Farrell, Mrs. Partridge West, Mrs. Luke, Mr. Vrabely and Ms. Mehta. Dr. Voss, Ms. Sisco and Commissioner Meotti were absent.

The meeting reconvened at 9:53 a.m. Present were: Mr. Taylor, Ms. Finneran, Mrs. Bobroske, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten, Dr. Farrell, Mrs. Luke, Mrs. Partridge West, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Davenport, Mr. Vrabely and Ms. Mehta. Commissioner Meotti, Mrs. Sisco and Dr. Voss were absent.

IX.D. Appointment of Acting Commissioner of Education

Mrs. Bobroske moved, Mrs. Partridge West seconded, that the Board, pursuant to Section 10-3a of the Connecticut General Statutes and its Bylaws, appoints George A. Coleman as Acting Commissioner of Education effective January 6, 2011, and until such time as a Commissioner of Education takes office.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Consideration of Minutes of December 1, 2010, State Board of Education Meeting

Mrs. Luke moved, Mrs. Bobroske seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the December 1, 2010, State Board of Education meeting.

Mrs. Partridge West amended the minutes to include on Page 3 of the December 1, 2010 minutes under agenda item VII.A., Report of the Governor's Commission on the Achievement Gap, the name of John R. Rathgeber who was also a presenter.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

VI. Consent Agenda

Mr. Finneran moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, the following consent agenda items:

VI.A.1 Recognition of Teacher of the Year Finalists

WHEREAS: Rita M. Baker, a German and French teacher at Greenwich High School in Greenwich, has demonstrated exemplary teaching skills;

WHEREAS: She was selected as a finalist in the 2011 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 RITA M. BAKER WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ART OF TEACHING.

VI.A.2 Recognition of Teacher of the Year Finalists

WHEREAS: Sharon C. Truex, a reading teacher at West Hill School in Rocky Hill, has demonstrated exemplary teaching skills;

WHEREAS: She was selected as a finalist in the 2011 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 SHARON C. TRUEX WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ART OF TEACHING.

VI.A.3 Recognition of Teacher of the Year Finalists

WHEREAS: Catherine M. Freeman, a mathematics intervention teacher at Sage Park Middle School in Windsor, has demonstrated exemplary teaching skills;

WHEREAS: She was selected as a finalist in the 2011 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 CATHERINE M. FREEMAN WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ART OF TEACHING.

VI.B. Recognition of Teacher of the Year

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

WHEREAS: She has been chosen to represent her colleagues as the 2011 Connecticut Teacher of the Year;

WHEREAS: **Her accomplishments will receive national attention as Connecticut's** representative in the 2011 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 KRISTEN ANN RECORD WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ART OF TEACHING.

VI.C. Recognition of Elementary School Principal of the Year

WHEREAS: Dr. Ellen G. Stokoe, Principal of Edward Morley Elementary 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 2010 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 2010 National Distinguished Principal of the Year Program.**

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

VI.D. Recognition of Elementary School Assistant Principal of the Year

WHEREAS: Dr. Michelle S. Zeuschner, Assistant Principal at Andover Elementary School in Andover, has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills;

WHEREAS: She has been chosen by her peers at the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) as Connecticut's 2010 Elementary 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 to the 2010 National Elementary School Assistant Principal of the Year Program.**

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

VI.E. Recognition of Middle School Principal of the Year

WHEREAS: Dr. Stacey G. Gross, Principal of Western Middle School in Greenwich, has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills;

WHEREAS: She has been chosen by her peers at the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) as Connecticut's 2010 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 2010 National Middle School Principal of the Year Program.**

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

VI.F. Recognition of Superintendent of the Year

WHEREAS: Dr. Elizabeth Osga, Superintendent of Regional District 18 Public Schools, has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills;

WHEREAS: She has been chosen by her peers at the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents (CAPSS) as Connecticut's 2011 Superintendent of the Year;

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

WHEREAS: **She will serve as Connecticut's representative in the 2011 National Superintendent of the Year Program.**

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

VI.G. Recognition of Connecticut Technical High School System Teacher of the Year

WHEREAS: Kathryn Ann Patrick a Teen Leadership/Career Development Teacher at W.F. Kaynor Technical High School, Waterbury, CT has been selected as the 2010-11 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 Kathryn Ann Patrick with great appreciation for her contributions to strengthening the education profession.

VI.H. Recognition of High School Principal of the Year

WHEREAS: Timothy J. Sullivan, Jr., Principal at Classical Magnet School in Hartford, has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills;

WHEREAS: He has been chosen by his peers at the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) as Connecticut's 2010 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 2010 National High School Principal of the Year Program.

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

VI.I. Recognition of Middle School Assistant Principal of the Year

WHEREAS: Jacquelyn L. Gilmore, Assistant Principal of North End Middle School in Waterbury, has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills;

WHEREAS: She has been chosen by her peers at the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) as Connecticut's 2010 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 2010 National Assistant Principal of the Year Program.**

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

VI.J. Recognition of High School Assistant Principal of the Year

WHEREAS: Jeffrey A. Provost, Assistant Principal at East Lyme High School in East Lyme, has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills;

WHEREAS: He has been chosen by his peers at the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) as Connecticut's 2010 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 2010 National Assistant Principal of the Year Program.**

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

VI.K. Recognition of School Business Official of the Year

WHEREAS: Jo-Ann Keating, Director of Finance and Operations for Weston Public Schools, consistently demonstrates her commitment to her profession;

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

WHEREAS: She mentors her CASBO peers and colleagues;

WHEREAS: She was selected as CASBO's 2010 Celebrated Connecticut School Business Official;

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Connecticut State Board of Education honors Dr. Jo-Ann Keating for her commitment to her profession, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VI.L.1. Recognition of Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teachers (PAEMST)

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

WHEREAS: He has been chosen as a 2009 recipient of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching;

WHEREAS: **His accomplishments will receive national attention as Connecticut's** representative of excellence in mathematics teaching, and he will become part of a network of exemplary PAEMST Awardees who will influence educators and policymakers; 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.

VI.L.2. Recognition of Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teachers (PAEMST)

WHEREAS: Kristen Ann Record, a physics teacher at Bunnell High School in Stratford, has demonstrated superior teaching skills;

WHEREAS: She has been chosen as a 2009 recipient of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching;

WHEREAS: **Her accomplishments will receive national attention as Connecticut's** representative of excellence in science teaching, and she will become part of a network of exemplary PAEMST Awardees who will influence educators and policymakers; 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 ANN RECORD WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ART OF SECONDARY SCIENCE TEACHING.

VI.M. Recognition of Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teachers - Finalists (PAEMST)

WHEREAS: Lori Farkash, a second grade teacher at Moses Y. Beach Elementary School in Wallingford, has demonstrated superior teaching skills;

WHEREAS: She has been chosen by a panel of Connecticut science educators as a 2010 State Science Finalist for a Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching;

WHEREAS: Her exemplary science teaching serves as an inspiration to her students **and represents Connecticut's high expectations for science teachers; 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 LORI FARKASH WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ART OF ELEMENTARY SCIENCE TEACHING.

VI.N. Recognition of Milken Awardee

WHEREAS: Shelley Thompson, a fourth grade teacher at Totoket Valley Elementary School in North Branford, has demonstrated exemplary teaching skills;

WHEREAS: She has been selected by the Milken Family Foundation for the 2010-11 National Educator Award;

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

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

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

VI.O. Recognition of Education Leader of the Year

WHEREAS: Tony Rigazio-Digilio, professor of Educational Leadership at Central Connecticut State University, 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 2011 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 TONY RIGAZIO-DIGILIO WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EDUCATION PROFESSION.

VI.P. Application for Funds: Achieving Competitive Excellence (ACE) at Grasso Technical High School

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-95 of the Connecticut General Statutes, approves the *Achieving Competitive Excellence at Grasso Technical High School*, grant application, as recommended by the Connecticut Technical High School Committee at its meeting on December 8, 2010, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VI.Q. Trade Reauthorizations: Early Care and Education; Bioscience and Environmental Technology; Health Technology; Certified Nurse Assistant; Dental Assistant; Medical Assistant; Licensed Practical Nurse; and Surgical Technician

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-95i(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes, approves the following trades for the periods indicated:

- Early Care and Education from January 2011 to January 2016
- Bioscience Environmental Technology from January 2011 to January 2016
- Health Technology from January 2011 to January 2016
- Certified Nurse Assistant from January 2011 to January 2016
- Dental Assistant from January 2011 to January 2016
- Medical Assistant from January 2011 to January 2016
- Licensed Practical Nurse Program from January 2011 to January 2016
- Surgical Technician from January 2011 to January 2016

and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

IX.C. Amendment to Plan to Correct Racial Imbalance in the Groton Public Schools

Mrs. Hopkins-Staten moved, Ms. Finneran seconded, that Board, pursuant to Section 10-226d of the Connecticut General Statutes, conditionally approves the Groton Board of Education's "2010 Addendum to the Plan to Address Racial Imbalance" submitted by the Groton Board of Education. Such approval is contingent upon the Town of Groton approving the bond referendum by June of 2011. The State Board of Education directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action to implement this resolution.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

By unanimous consent, the Board recessed its meeting at 12:30 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 1:10 p.m. Present were Mrs. Bobroske, Mr. Davenport, Dr. Farrell, Ms. Finneran, Mr. Campbell, Mrs. Luke, Ms. Mehta, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten, Mr. Vrabely, Mrs. Partridge West and Mr. Taylor. Dr. Voss, Mrs. Sisco and Commissioner Meotti were absent.

VIII. C. Partner District Monitoring System

Marion Martinez, Associate Commissioner, Division of Teaching, Learning and Instructional Leadership and Lol Fearon, Chief, Bureau of Accountability and Improvement, presented the report to the Board. Discussion followed.

VIII. D. Transportation Contracts (Sheff)

Kathleen Demsey, Education Consultant, Regional School Choice/Sheff Office, James Caradonio, Bureau Chief, Regional School Choice/Sheff Office and Sandra Cruz-Serrano, Capitol Region Education Council presented the report to the Board. Discussion followed.

[Dr. Farrell left the meeting at 1:55 pm]

X. Report of the Commissioner

- Acting Commissioner Coleman thanked the Board for their support and noted that it was a wonderful opportunity working with Commissioner McQuillan. He stated that **Commissioner McQuillan's agenda will have lasting benefits to the State.**
- Meeting with the Legislative Task Force Committee will create a greater awareness of the work the Department is doing. The Board might want to consider joining in the effort as it develops its five-year plan.

XII. Committee Reports

- **Finance, Audit and Department Matters** – Mrs. Luke reported that the minutes of the Finance, Audit and Departments Matters held on December 9, 2010, will be sent to the full Board.
- **Legislation and Bylaws Committee** – Mrs. Hopkins-Staten reported that **the Committee met this morning to discuss revisions to the Board's bylaws.** Mrs. Hopkins-Staten asked the Board to review and give their comments to Pamela Bergin. Mrs. Hopkins-Staten also asked the Board members (particularly the chairs of committees) for their support in promoting the 2011 legislative package.
- **Connecticut Technical High School Committee** - Mr. Vrabely reported that the committee will be meeting on January 12, 2011, at Vinal Technical High School in Middletown. Mr. Vrabely also report that the inventory updated can now be found on-line and school budgets are now posted.
- **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 January 10, 2011.

By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Prepared by: _____
Mark K. McQuillan, Secretary

