

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford**

Minutes

April 6, 2011, Meeting

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the State Board of Education (hereinafter "Board") met on Wednesday, April 6, 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
Ellen Camhi
Patrick Campbell
Theresa Hopkins-Staton
Charles Jaskiewicz
Terry Jones
Patricia Keavney-Maruca
Patricia Luke
Neha Mehta
Ferdinand Risco
Joseph Vrabely
Stephen Wright
Michael Meotti, Ex-Officio

Absent: Estela López

Laura Anastasio, Attorney, Division of Legal and Governmental Affairs, administered the Oath of Office to Terry H. Jones, member from Shelton.

II. Public Participation

None

IV. Consideration of Minutes of March 2, 2011, State Board of Education Meeting

Mr. Jaskiewicz moved, Mrs. Luke seconded, that the Board approves the minutes of the March 2, 2011, State Board of Education meeting.

VOTE: In Favor: Camhi, Hopkins-Staten, Jaskiewicz, Jones, Keavney-Maruca,
Luke, Risco, Taylor, Vrabely, Wright
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: López

Motion carried unanimously.

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

NASBE ITEMS

- Allan Taylor and Terry Jones will be going to Philadelphia on April 13-15, 2011 to attend the NASBE Common Core Standards Regional Conference;
- Allan Taylor attended the NASBE/CCSSO Legislative Conference and Board of Directors meeting and Theresa Hopkins-Staten attended the Study Group on Teacher Preparation, Evaluation, Continuation and Compensation Study Group. Both meeting were held in Washington D.C., March 27-30, 2011.
- NASBE Call for Nominations – NASBE 2011 Awards
- NASBE is conducting telephone interviews around the country to determine which school health issues are of interest to them and how NASBE can continue to support a policy agenda to meet the health and education needs of students. Anyone interested in participating in a telephone interview, please contact Pamela Charland.

Ethics

- The Ethics Commission is conducting monthly general training on the Code of Ethics for Public Officials and State Employees on April 29. If you are interested in attending a training session, please contact Pamela Charland.

Charter School Hearings

- Thank you to Patricia Keavney-Maruca for chairing the Park City Charter School public school hearing in Bridgeport on March 17th.
- Thank you to Stephen Wright for volunteering to chair the Side-by-Side charter school public hearing in Norwalk on April 13.

VI. Consent Agenda

Mr. Jaskiewicz moved, Mr. Wright seconded, the following consent agenda items: VI.A., Racial Imbalance Report; VI.B., Connecticut Direct Certification Planning Grant; VI.C.1., Appointments to State Board of Education Committees; and VI.C.2., Appointments to the Ad Hoc Committee on Accountability.

VI.A. Racial Imbalance Report

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-226a of the Connecticut General Statutes, accepts the Racial Imbalance Report, dated February 28, 2011, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VI.B. Connecticut Direct Certification Planning Grant

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 749(h) of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-80), approves the 2011 grant application entitled "**Connecticut Direct Certification Planning Grant**" for submission to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VI.C. Appointments to State Board of Education Committees

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Article II, Section 4 of its Bylaws, approves the following assignments to the State Board of Education standing committees:

AUDIT AND DEPARTMENT MATTERS

Patricia Luke, Chair
Allan Taylor
Stephen Wright

LEGISLATION AND BYLAWS

Theresa Hopkins-Staton, Chair
Ellen Camhi
Terry Jones
Ferdinand Risco

CONNECTICUT TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOLS

Joseph Vrabely, Chair
Ellen Camhi
Theresa Hopkins-Staton
Charles Jaskiewicz
Patricia Keavney-Maruca

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

Estela Lopez, Chair
Charles Jaskiewicz
Patricia Luke
Stephen Wright

and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VI.C.2. Appointments to the Ad Hoc Committee on Accountability

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Article II, Section 4, of its Bylaws, approves the following appointments to the Ad Hoc Committee on Accountability, effective immediately: Ellen Camhi, Chair; Estela López; and Allan B. Taylor and charges said committee to (1) review the findings of the school district instructional and fiscal audits of districts in their third or fourth year of improvement, or higher; and (2) make a recommendation concerning approval of each district improvement plan to the State Board of Education, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE	In Favor:	Camhi, Hopkins-Staten, Jaskiewicz, Jones, Keavney-Maruca,
ON		Luke, Risco, Taylor, Vrabely, Wright
MOTIONS:	Opposed:	0
	Abstained:	0
	Absent:	López

Motions carried unanimously.

VII. Report of the Superintendent

Patricia Ciccone, Superintendent of the Connecticut Technical High School System, (CTHSS) presented her report on the following items:

- The new CTHSS committee will meet on April 13, 2011 at Wilcox Technical High School and will discuss the Rolling Capital Equipment Plan; Tuition & Fees for biennium; and Inventory;
- NOCTI Testing;
- CAPT Testing;
- Funding for training;
- Enrollment figures for the next school year;
- Construction project; and
- AP courses.

VIII.A. CommPACT Schools

Michele Femc-Bagwell, Director, CommPACT Schools, University of Connecticut, Neag School of Education and Mary Loftus-Levine, Connecticut Education Association, presented to the Board the CommPACT Schools Project Progress report. Discussion followed.

VIII.B. Child Nutrition and Physical Activity Initiative Update

Charlene Russell-Tucker, Associate Commissioner, Division of Family and Student Support Services; Cheryl Resha, Education Manager, Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education; Susan Fiore, Education Consultant, Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education; Jean Mee, Education Consultant, Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education and Amanda Forcucci, Teacher from Hamden Public Schools presented the report to the Board. Discussion followed.

By unanimous consent, the Board recessed its meeting at 12:20 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 1:24 p.m. Present were Ms. Camhi, Mr. Campbell, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten, Mr. Jaskiewicz, Mrs. Keavney-Maruca, Mr. Jones, Mrs. Luke, Ms. Mehta, Mr. Risco, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Vrabely and Mr. Wright. Mrs. López and Commissioner Meotti were absent.

VIII.C. Update on Legislation

Jessica Andrews Walsh, Legislative Liaison, State Department of Education, presented an update on legislation to the Board.

X. Report of the Commissioner-- Acting Commissioner Coleman gave an oral report, this summary of which is the official record and includes the following:

- There is the possibility of the Federal government closing on April 8, 2011. The Governor has asked each agency for an impact statement;
- The Department has received notice from the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) to reduce the Department's budget by 10%, outside of formulated grants;
- Commissioner Coleman has been visiting several Connecticut Technical High Schools. He stated that he was very proud of all the schools and their teachers and students;

- **Commissioner Coleman stated that he has reviewed Windham's school** performance issue. The State will play a more direct role in Windham. Commissioner Coleman has already spoken with the Governor, the Education Co-Chairs, the Superintendent of Windham Public Schools, the Mayor and the Town Manager regarding state support and identifying authority. The Commissioner will report on the specifics at the May State Board of Education meeting. The Windham Board of Education is in training, as required by statute, but the State Department of Education preserves the right to implement full measure of the law, if necessary. The Department has received a letter from the Board Chair inviting our participation.

IX.A.1. Recognition of Former State Board of Education Member

Mr. Jaskiewicz moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, the following resolution:

WHEREAS Beverly R. Bobroske served on the State Board of Education from 2005 through February 2011; and

WHEREAS During her tenure, Mrs. Bobroske served in numerous leadership roles, including Chairperson of the Connecticut Technical High Schools Committee, and Chairperson of the Legislation & Bylaws Committee; and

WHEREAS In 2009, Mrs. Bobroske received the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Distinguished Service Award; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Connecticut State Board of Education extends to Beverly R. Bobroske sincere appreciation for her years of service and commitment to achieving educational excellence and equity.

VOTE: In Favor: Camhi, Hopkins-Staten, Jaskiewicz, Jones, Keavney-Maruca,
Luke, Risco, Taylor, Vrabely, Wright
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: López

Motion carried unanimously.

IX.A.2. Recognition of Former State Board of Education Member

Mr. Jaskiewicz moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, the following resolution:

WHEREAS Lynne S. Farrell served on the State Board of Education from 2004 through February 2011; and

WHEREAS During her tenure, Dr. Farrell served in numerous leadership roles, including member of the Connecticut Technical High Schools Committee and member of the Policy Development Committee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Connecticut State Board of Education extends to Lynne S. Farrell sincere appreciation for her years of service and commitment to achieving educational excellence and equity.

VOTE: In Favor: Camhi, Hopkins-Staten, Jaskiewicz, Jones, Keavney-Maruca,
Luke, Risco, Taylor, Vrabely, Wright
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: López

Motion carried unanimously.

IX.A.3. Recognition of Former State Board of Education Member

Mr. Jaskiewicz moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, the following resolution:

WHEREAS John H. Voss served on the State Board of Education from 2007 through February 2011; and

WHEREAS During his tenure, Dr. Voss served in numerous leadership roles, including member of the Legislation & Bylaws Committee, member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Accountability and Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee on Secondary School Reform; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Connecticut State Board of Education extends to John H. Voss sincere appreciation for his years of service and commitment to achieving educational excellence and equity.

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VOTE: In Favor: Camhi, Hopkins-Staten, Jaskiewicz, Jones, Keavney-Maruca, López, Luke, Risco, Taylor, Vrabely, Wright
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: López

Motion carried unanimously.

IX.A.4. Recognition of Former State Board of Education Member

Mr. Jaskiewicz moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, the following resolution:

WHEREAS Janet M. Finneran served on the State Board of Education from 1995 through February 2011; and

WHEREAS During her tenure, Ms. Finneran served in numerous leadership roles, including Vice Chairperson of the State Board of Education; Chair of the Policy Development Committee; Co-chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Secondary School Reform and member of the Legislation & Bylaws Committee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Connecticut State Board of Education extends to Janet M. Finneran sincere appreciation for her years of service and commitment to achieving educational excellence and equity.

VOTE: In Favor: Camhi, Hopkins-Staten, Jaskiewicz, Jones, Keavney-Maruca, Luke, Risco, Taylor, Vrabely, Wright
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: López

Motion carried unanimously.

IX.A.5. Recognition of Former State Board of Education Member

Mr. Jaskiewicz moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That the Connecticut State Board of Education extends to William P. Davenport sincere appreciation for his service and commitment to achieving educational excellence and equity as a member of the Connecticut State Board of Education from 2010 through February 2011.

VOTE: In Favor: Camhi, Hopkins-Staten, Jaskiewicz, Jones, Keavney-Maruca,
Luke, Risco, Taylor, Vrabely, Wright
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: López

Motion carried unanimously.

IX.A.6 Recognition of Former State Board of Education Member

Mr. Jaskiewicz moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That the Connecticut State Board of Education extends to Brenda Sisco sincere appreciation for her service and commitment to achieving educational excellence and equity as a member of the Connecticut State Board of Education from 2010 through February 2011.

VOTE: In Favor: Camhi, Hopkins-Staten, Jaskiewicz, Jones, Keavney-Maruca,
Luke, Risco, Taylor, Vrabely, Wright
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: López

Motion carried unanimously.

IX.A.7 Recognition of Former State Board of Education Member

Mr. Jaskiewicz moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, the following resolution:

WHEREAS Pamela Partridge West served on the State Board of Education from 2010 through February 2011; and

WHEREAS During her tenure, Mrs. Partridge West served in numerous leadership roles, including member of the Connecticut Technical High School Committee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Connecticut State Board of Education extends to Pamela Partridge West sincere appreciation for her year of service and commitment to achieving educational excellence and equity.

VOTE: In Favor: Camhi, Hopkins-Staten, Jaskiewicz, Jones, Keavney-Maruca, Luke, Risco, Taylor, Vrabely, Wright
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: López

Motion carried unanimously.

IX.B. Position on Bill No. 6498, An Act Concerning Implementation Dates for Secondary School Reform

Mrs. Hopkins-Staten moved, Mr. Vrabely seconded, the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the graduation requirements proposed by the State Board of Education and incorporated in section 10-221a(c) of the General Statutes are designed to assure that a Connecticut high school graduate is career- and college-ready; and

WHEREAS, under current law, Connecticut students will not be required to meet career- and college-ready graduation standards until 2018; and

WHEREAS, forty-four percent (44%) of the Nation's public high school students will be required to meet career- and college-ready standards by 2016; and

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WHEREAS, Connecticut's economic competitiveness depends on the quality of its education system;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the State Board of Education opposes the further postponement of the effective date of career- and college-ready high school graduation requirements until 2020, as provided in substitute House Bill 6498 reported out of the joint committee on education, and urges the General Assembly to reject the proposed delay.

XII. Committee Reports

- **Finance, Audit and Department Matters** – Mrs. Luke reported that the committee met on March 16. The draft minutes can be found in the Board package. Mrs. Luke also reported that Mr. Inzero, Bureau Chief, Internal Audit, retired at the end of March.
- **Legislation and Bylaws Committee** – Mrs. Hopkins-Staten reported that the committee met this morning and they were given an overview on legislation.
- **Connecticut Technical High School Committee (CTHSS)** – Mr. Vrabely reported that Secretary Barnes, Office of Policy and Management, spoke at the CTHSS meeting held on March 7, 2011. The next meeting will be held at Wilcox Technical High School in Meriden on April 13, 2011.
- **NASBE** – Mr. Taylor reported that he and Mr. Jones will be going to Philadelphia on April 13-15, 2011, to attend the NASBE Common Core Standards Regional Conference. Mr. Taylor and Acting Commissioner Coleman attended the Council of Chief States Schools/NASBE Legislative Conference at the end of March in Washington D.C. As information arrives on the NASBE New Board Member Institute, it will be forwarded to the new State Board Members.
- **Ad Hoc Committee on Accountability** – Mr. Taylor reported that we now have new committee members that will service on the Ad Hoc Committee on Accountability. They are Ellen Camhi, Chair; Estela López and Allan Taylor.

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By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Prepared by: _____
George A. Coleman, Secretary

