

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford**

Draft Minutes

May 4, 2011, Meeting

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the State Board of Education (hereinafter "Board") met on Wednesday, May 4, 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 9:35 a.m.

Present: Allan Taylor, Chairperson
Ellen Camhi
Patrick Campbell
Charles Jaskiewicz
Terry Jones
Patricia Keavney-Maruca
Estela López
Patricia Luke
Ferdinand Risco
Joseph Vrabely
Stephen Wright
Michael Meotti, Ex-Officio*

Absent: Theresa Hopkins-Staton
Neha Mehta

II. Public Participation

1. Kathy Thompson, submitted prepared remarks regarding her son's experience in the Thomaston Public School District. Mrs. Thompson's written comments can be found in the official files of this meeting.

2. Dr. Vivian Cross, reiterated what Mrs. Thompson said regarding minority students falling through gaping holes. Dr. Cross stated that the Department of Education is looking at guidelines to catch students before they fall through the gap.

IV. Consideration of Minutes of April 6, 2011, State Board of Education Meeting

Mr. Jaskiewicz moved, Mr. Vrabely seconded, that the Board approves the minutes of the April 6, 2011, State Board of Education meeting.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

VIII.A. Impact of Early Childhood Lead Exposure on Educational Test Performance Among Connecticut School Children, Phase I Report

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; Rebecca Anthopolos, Researcher from Duke University and Francesca Provenzano, Consultant, Department of Public Health, Lead Prevention and Radon Programs, presented the report to the Board. Discussion followed.

[*Mr. Meotti arrived to the meeting at 10:45 a.m.]

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

- State Department of Education Orientation Session: Reminder that all new Board members are invited to attend an orientation session with the Commissioner and his staff on May 10, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., in the Commissioner's Conference Room.

- Personnel Search Committee: Meeting May 17 to review applications. 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- **NASBE New Members' Institute:** I am pleased to learn of the interest in attending this institute. So far we have Patricia Keavney-Maruca; Charles Jaskiewicz; Steven Wright and Ferdinand Risco interested in attending. Further details will be shared when provided by NASBE.
- A list of CTHSS Graduations **can be found in your supplemental folder of today's** meeting.
- I will attend the Central Regional Conference on Common Core Standards in Chicago, IL, May 10.
- I will attend a meeting of the 2011 Learning First Alliance Leadership Council in Washington, D.C., May 12-13.
- George Coleman, Terry Jones and I attended the NASBE Common Core Implementation Meeting in Philadelphia, PA, on April 13-15, 2011.

VI. Consent Agenda

Mrs. Luke removed consent agenda item VI.B., USDA Team Nutrition Grant Application from the consent agenda.

Mr. Jaskiewicz moved, Mrs. Luke seconded, the following consent agenda items: VI.A., Application for Funds: Striving Readers Grant; VI.C., Connecticut Technical High School System (CTHSS) Tuition and Fees for Fiscal Years 2012 and 2013; VI.D., Part B of Special Education Application; VI.E., Adoption of Position Statement on Culturally Responsive Education; and VI.F., CTHSS Non-Participation in the Healthy Food Certification.

VI.A. Application for Funds: Striving Readers Grant

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education approves the application for the **"Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy" grant, under the United States** Department of Education Consolidated Appropriations Act, for the period August 30, 2011, through August 30, 2012, and directs the Acting Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VI.C. Connecticut Technical High School System (CTHSS) Tuition and Fees for Fiscal Year 2012 and 2013

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-95(e) of the Connecticut General Statutes, approves the Connecticut **Technical High School System's** Tuition and Fee Schedule for Fiscal Years 2012 and 2013, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VI.D. Part B of Special Education Application

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-11 of the Connecticut General Statutes, approves the 2011 **grant application entitled "Annual State Application Under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act as Amended in 2004 for Federal Fiscal Year 2011" to the U.S.** Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VI.E. Adoption of Position Statement on Culturally Responsive Education

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education adopts the Position Statement on Culturally Responsive Education dated May 4, 2011, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VI.F. CTHSS Non-Participation in the Healthy Food Certification

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-215b of the Connecticut General Statutes, approves that the Connecticut Technical High School System will not participate in the Healthy Food Certification for the 2011-2012 school year.

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

Motions carried unanimously.

VI.B. USDA Team Nutrition Grant Application

Mrs. Luke moved, Mrs. López seconded, that the Board, pursuant to Public Law 108-265, the National School Lunch Act, Title II, Section 205, which amended Section 19 of the 1966 Child Nutrition Act, approves the 2011 grant application **entitled "Team Nutrition Training Grant" for submission to the U.S. Department of Agriculture**, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

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

Motion 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:

- Targeted enrollment for the 2011-2012 school year;
- Superintendent Ciccone distributed several Good News items regarding the CTHSS:
 - Grasso Music Student Win at Heritage Music Festival in Boston;
 - Norwich Tech Summer Reading Program;
 - Live Green Win Green Contest;
 - Home Builders Association Youth Design Contest;
 - E-House Update
 - Art Show; and
 - Platt Tech Automotive.

VII.B. Electronic Portfolios

Superintendent Patricia Ciccone introduced the Dr. Barbara St. Onge, School **Improvement and Professional Development Coordinator, CTHSS; Ian O'Byrne** and Greg McVerry from the Project Advisory Committee who presented the power point to the Board. Discussion followed.

By unanimous consent, the Board recessed its meeting at 12:30 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 1:20 p.m. Present were Ms. Camhi, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Jaskiewicz, Mrs. Keavney-Maruca, Mr. Jones, Mrs. López, Mrs. Luke, Mr. Risco, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Vrabely, Commissioner Meotti and Mr. Wright. Mrs. Hopkins-Staten and Ms. Mehta were absent.

Chairman Taylor thanked A.I. Prince Technical High School, Culinary Department, for providing a wonderful lunch for the Board Members.

By unanimous consent, the Board added agenda item IX.A., Authorization to Take Action to Improve Student Performance in the Windham Public School District.

IX.A. Authorization to Take Action to Improve Student Performance in the Windham Public School District

Dr. Lopez moved, Mr. Jaskiewicz seconded, that the Board, pursuant to the provisions of Section 10-223e of the Connecticut General Statutes, hereby authorizes the Commissioner of Education to take any necessary and appropriate actions on its behalf to improve student performance in the Windham Public School District and to remove the Windham Public School District and its individual schools from the list of schools and districts designated as low achieving.

Friendly amendment was made to add the word "ultimately" on the fifth line of the resolution after the word "and". The new resolution is as follows:

Dr. Lopez moved, Mr. Jaskiewicz seconded, that the Board, pursuant to the provisions of Section 10-223e of the Connecticut General Statutes, hereby authorizes the Commissioner of Education to take any necessary and appropriate actions on its behalf to improve student performance in the Windham Public School District and, ultimately, to remove the Windham Public School District and its individual schools from the list of schools and districts designated as low achieving.

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

Motion, as amended, carried unanimously.

[Mr. Meotti left the meeting at 1:35 p.m.]

XI.A. Quarterly Financial Report

Brian Mahoney, Chief Financial Officer, presented the Quarterly Financial Report to the Board.

XI.B. Request to Finance Advisory Committee to Transfer Funds

Mrs. Luke moved, Mr. Jaskiewicz seconded, that the Board approves the request for Finance Advisory Committee (FAC) action to transfer a total of \$4,940,000 from the Personal Services account to cover deficits in the Other Expenses (\$4,600,000), Health Foods Initiative (\$120,000), Excess Cost-Student Based (\$120,000), and Public School Transportation (\$100,000) accounts, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

VIII.B. Update on Common Core Standards and Assessments

Dr. Marion Martinez, Associate Commissioner, Division of Teaching, Learning and Instructional Leadership; Dr. Barbara Beaudin, Associate Commissioner, Division of Assessment, Research and Technology; Harriet Feldlaufer, Chief, Bureau of Teaching and Learning; and Joanne White, Education Consultant, Bureau of Teaching and Learning presented the report to the Board. Discussion followed.

By unanimous consent, the Board recessed its meeting at 2:50 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 3:05 p.m. Present were Ms. Camhi, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Jaskiewicz, Mrs. Keavney-Maruca, Mr. Jones, Mrs. López, Mrs. Luke, Mr. Risco, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Vrabely and Mr. Wright. Commissioner Meotti, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten and Ms. Mehta were absent.

VIII.C. Impact on CALI on Partner Districts

Dr. Marion Martinez, Associate Commissioner, Division of Teaching, Learning and Instructional Leadership; Lol Fearon, Bureau Chief, Bureau of Accountability and Improvement; and Heather Levitt Doucette, Education Consultant in the Bureau of Accountability and Improvement presented the power point to the Board. Discussion followed.

[Mr. Campbell left at 3:45 p.m.]

XII. Committee Reports

- **Legislation and Bylaws Committee** – Mr. Risco reported that if the Board has any changes to the State Board of Education (SBE) Bylaws, please give them to Pamela Charland by May 11, 2011. The biennial organization meeting in June includes the election of the Vice Chair of the State Board of Education.
- **Connecticut Technical High School Committee (CTHSS)** – Mr. Vrabely reported that the list of CTHSS graduation can be found in the supplemental materials of **today's meeting**. **Please let Pamela Charland know if you would like to participate in any of these graduations.**

By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at 4:02 p.m.

Prepared by: _____
George A. Coleman, Secretary