

CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford

January 18, 2012, Meeting

Draft Minutes

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the State Board of Education (hereinafter "Board") met on Wednesday, January 18, 2012. The meeting was held at the Legislative Office Building, Room 1D, Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Taylor called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.

Present: Allan Taylor, Chairperson
Theresa Hopkins-Staten, Vice-Chairperson
Simon Brewer
Ellen Camhi
Joshua Freidman
Charles Jaskiewicz*
Terry Jones
Patricia Keavney-Maruca
Patricia Luke
Ferdinand Risco
Joseph Vrabely
Stephen Wright

Absent: Estela Lopez
Michael Meotti, Ex-Officio Designee

II. Public Participation

Marilyn Scanlan-White, Legislative Chair, Connecticut Reading Association, spoke to the Board about the need for Promotion of Literacy. A copy of her prepared remarks is included in the official file.

III. Executive Session

The Board did not meet in Executive Session.

IV. Consideration of Minutes of December 7, 2011, State Board of Education Meeting

Mrs. Luke moved, Ms. Keavney-Maruca seconded, that the Board approve the Minutes of the December 7, 2011, State Board of Education Meeting.

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

Motion carried.

V. Report of the Chair

Mr. Taylor requested a moment of silence in memory of Tom Murphy, the longtime spokesperson for the Department, who passed away earlier this month. Mr. Murphy will be sorely missed by his family, friends and so many colleagues across the state who had the pleasure of working with him.

Mr. Taylor reported that he, Stephen Wright and Ferdinand Risco will be attending the NASBE Board of Directors meeting later this week.

Mr. Taylor reported on the Governor's Education Workshop, January 5, 2012, at CCSU.

VI. Report of the Commissioner

Commissioner Stefan Pryor reported the following:

The Department is in the process of preparing its application for a waiver from the requirements of No Child Left Behind (NCLB), which is due February 21, 2012. If the request is successful, the waiver will give the Department the flexibility to design a new system of accountability for schools and districts and to target federal funds to better meet the needs of Connecticut's students.

Commissioner Pryor explained the four requirements of the waiver application and summarized the Department's efforts in each area. The first area of focus -- college and career readiness -- requires that Common Core State Standards (CCSS) be implemented effectively in every classroom across the state. He explained that this work has been underway since the Board adopted the CCSS in 2010. The second requirement is that the Department develop a differentiated system of recognition, accountability, and support for schools and districts. The Commissioner explained that the Department is developing new ambitious but achievable annual goals for schools and districts to replace the AYP system mandated by NCLB. He stated that Connecticut's new goals will value growth, will emphasize closing the state's achievement gap, and will be coupled with a system of targeted support for the state's highest need schools and districts. The third requirement of the ESEA waiver application is the development and implementation of a system of evaluation and support for teachers and principals. The Commissioner summarized the work of the Performance Evaluation Advisory Council (PEAC), which includes a diverse

group of stakeholders as established in legislation. He stated that the committee is in the process of developing a system of evaluation that includes multiple measures of student learning and professional practice. The final waiver requirement is that the state must reduce unnecessary burden. The Commissioner explained that the Department is in the process of evaluating and revising its administrative requirements to reduce duplication and unnecessary burden on LEAs and schools.

Commissioner Pryor also noted that he has continued on his “listening tour,” which has informed the work on the waiver, the legislative package, and the agency reorganization. Charlene Russell-Tucker is leading a new round of stakeholder engagement on the components of the waiver, including teachers and their representatives, principals, superintendents, parents, civil rights groups, individuals with an interest in English language learners and students with disabilities, etc.

VII. Consent Agenda

Mrs. Luke moved, Mr. Risco seconded, that the Board approve the Consent Agenda.

Mrs. Luke removed from the Consent Agenda item VII.R., Approval to modify the name of Saint Joseph College to University of Saint Joseph.

A. Recognition of Connecticut Teacher of the Year for the Connecticut Technical High School System

WHEREAS: Michelle Formato, Mathematics Teacher at Bullard-Havens Technical High School, Bridgeport, Connecticut has been selected as the 2011-12 Teacher of the Year for the Connecticut Technical High School System;

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 professions; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education honors Michelle Formato with great appreciation for her contributions to strengthening the education profession.

B. Recognition of School Business Official of the Year

WHEREAS: David Holden, former Business Manager for Simsbury Public Schools, consistently demonstrated his commitment to his profession;

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

WHEREAS: He mentored his CASBO peers and colleagues;

WHEREAS: He was selected as CASBO's 2011 Celebrated Connecticut School Business Official; and

WHEREAS: He provided outstanding service to the Connecticut State Department of Education;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Connecticut State Board of Education honors David Holden for his commitment to his profession, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

C. Recognition of Education Leaders of the Year

WHEREAS: George A. Coleman, former Interim Commissioner for the State Department of Education, 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 2012 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 GEORGE A. COLEMAN WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EDUCATION PROFESSION.

D. Recognition of 2011-12 Milken Educator Awardee

WHEREAS: Douglas Hutton, a high school teacher at Glastonbury High School in Glastonbury, has demonstrated exemplary teaching skills;

WHEREAS: He has been selected by the Milken Family Foundation for the 2011-12 National Educator Award;

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

WHEREAS: He has brought great honor to his school, his community, his state and his profession;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION HONORS DOUGLAS HUTTON WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EDUCATION PROFESSION

E. Recognition of 2012 Connecticut Teacher of the Year Finalists

WHEREAS: Megumi Yamamoto, an English teacher at Cheshire High School in Cheshire, has demonstrated exemplary teaching skills;

WHEREAS: She was selected as a finalist in the 2012 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 MEGUMI YAMAMOTO WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ART OF TEACHING.

WHEREAS: Carl Casinghino, a French and film teacher at Suffield High School in Suffield, has demonstrated exemplary teaching skills;

WHEREAS: He was selected as a finalist in the 2012 Connecticut Teacher of the Year competition; 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 CARL CASINGHINO WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ART OF TEACHING.

WHEREAS: Joyce St. Germaine, an art teacher at Bristow Middle School in West Hartford, has demonstrated exemplary teaching skills;

WHEREAS: She was selected as a finalist in the 2012 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 JOYCE ST. GERMAINE WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ART OF TEACHING.

F. Recognition of 2012 Connecticut Teacher of the Year

WHEREAS: David Bosso, a Social Studies teacher at Berlin High School in Berlin, has demonstrated exemplary teaching skills;

WHEREAS: He has been chosen to represent his colleagues as the 2012 Connecticut Teacher of the Year;

WHEREAS: His accomplishments will receive national attention as Connecticut's representative in the 2012 National Teacher of the Year Program; 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 DAVID BOSSO WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ART OF TEACHING.

G. Recogniton of Presidential Awards for Mathematics and Science Teachers 2012 Presidential State Finalists

WHEREAS: Tyler Hoxley, a biology teacher at East Hartford High School in East Hartford, has demonstrated superior teaching skills;

WHEREAS: He was selected by an esteemed panel of Connecticut science educators as a state finalist for a 2012 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching;

WHEREAS: His exemplary science teaching serves as an inspiration to his students and represents Connecticut's high expectations for science teachers; 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 TYLER HOXLEY WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ART OF SECONDARY SCIENCE TEACHING.

WHEREAS: Angela Miller, a mathematics teacher at Haddam-Killingworth High School in Higganum, has demonstrated superior teaching skills;

WHEREAS: She was selected by an esteemed panel of Connecticut science educators as a state finalist for a 2012 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching;

WHEREAS: Her exemplary mathematics teaching serves as an inspiration to her students and represents Connecticut's high expectations for mathematics 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 ANGELA MILLER WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ART OF SECONDARY MATHEMATICS TEACHING.

WHEREAS: Karen Thomas, a mathematics teacher at Staples High School in Westport, has demonstrated superior teaching skills;

WHEREAS: She was selected by an esteemed panel of Connecticut science educators as a state finalist for a 2012 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching;

WHEREAS: Her exemplary mathematics teaching serves as an inspiration to her students and represents Connecticut's high expectations for mathematics 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 KAREN THOMAS WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ART OF SECONDARY MATHEMATICS TEACHING.

WHEREAS: Dr. Benjamin Wrubel, a biology teacher at Bunnell High School in Stratford, has demonstrated superior teaching skills;

WHEREAS: He was selected by an esteemed panel of Connecticut science educators as a state finalist for a 2012 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching;

WHEREAS: His exemplary science teaching serves as an inspiration to his students and represents Connecticut's high expectations for science teachers; 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 DR. BENJAMIN WRUBEL WITH GREAT APPRECIATION FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ART OF SECONDARY SCIENCE TEACHING.

H. Recognition of Elementary School Principal of the Year/National Distinguished Principal of the Year

WHEREAS: Lawrence DiPalma, Principal of John G. Prendergast School in Ansonia, has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills;

WHEREAS: He has been chosen by his peers at the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) as Connecticut's 2011 Elementary School Principal of the Year/National Distinguished 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 in the 2011 National Distinguished Principal of the Year Program;

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

I. Recognition of Middle School Principal of the Year

WHEREAS: Donna Schilke, Principal of Smith Middle School in Glastonbury, has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills;

WHEREAS: She has been chosen by her peers at the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) as Connecticut's 2011 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 2011 National Middle School Principal of the Year Program;

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

J. Recognition of High School Principal of the Year

WHEREAS: Michael Foran, Principal at New Britain High School in New Britain, has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills;

WHEREAS: He has been chosen by his peers at the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) as Connecticut's 2011 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 in the 2011 National High School Principal of the Year Program;

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

K. Recognition of Elementary School Assistant Principal of the Year

WHEREAS: Cindy Smith, Assistant Principal at Nayaug Elementary School in Glastonbury, has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills;

WHEREAS: She has been chosen by her peers at the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) as Connecticut's 2011 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 in the 2011 National Elementary School Assistant Principal of the Year Program;

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

L. Recognition of Middle School Assistant Principal of the Year

WHEREAS: Susan Muirhead, Assistant Principal of Mabelle B. Avery Middle School in Somers, has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills;

WHEREAS: She has been chosen by her peers at the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) as Connecticut's 2011 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 2011 National Assistant Principal of the Year Program;

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

M. Recognition of High School Assistant Principal of the Year

WHEREAS: Michelle Marion, Assistant Principal at East Hartford High School in East Hartford, has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills;

WHEREAS: She has been chosen by her peers at the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) as Connecticut's 2011 High 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 2011 National Assistant Principal of the Year Program;

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

N. Recognition of Superintendent of the Year

- WHEREAS: Dr. Diane Ullman, Superintendent of Simsbury 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 2012 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 2012 National Superintendent of the Year Program.

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

O. Approval of Licensure of a program in Systems Engineering, leading to a Master of Engineering Degree, Offered on-ground and on-line, Stevens Institute of Technology

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Public Act 11- 48 Section 244, license a program in Systems Engineering, leading to a Master of Engineering (M.ENG.) degree, to be offered online and on ground by the Stevens Institute of Technology, of Hoboken, NJ.

P. Approval of Licensure of a program in Autism, Applied Behavior Analysis, leading to a Master of Science Degree, St. Joseph College

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Public Act 11- 48 Section 244, license a program in Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis, leading to a Master of Science (M.S.) degree, to be offered at Saint Joseph College.

Q. Approval of Accreditation of a program in Prosthetics and Orthotics, leading to a Master of Science Degree, University of Hartford

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Public Act 11- 48 Section 244, accredit a program in Prosthetics and Orthotics, leading to the Master of Science (M.S.) degree, offered by the University of Hartford.

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

Motions carried unanimously.

R. Approval to modify the name of Saint Joseph College to University of Saint Joseph

Mrs. Luke moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, that the State Board of Education, pursuant to Public Act 11- 48 Section 244, accept the modification to change the name of Saint Joseph College to the University of Saint Joseph.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

VII. Connecticut Technical High School Matters (CTHSS)

*Mr. Jaskiewicz arrived at 11:26 a.m.

A. Report of the Committee Chair

Joseph Vrabely, Chairman of the Connecticut Technical High Schools Committee, reported that the Task Force has accomplished its objective. He explained the proposed new governance structure for the CTHSS. The report will be submitted to the Education Committee of the General Assembly.

B. Report of the Superintendent

Superintendent Ciccone commented on:

- Implementation of Common Core Standards and workforce development initiatives.
- The school system is working with the Departments of Labor and Economic and Community Development.

VII.B., Report of the Superintendent (continued)

- Partnership between Cheney Technical High School and Manchester Community College in Advanced Manufacturing.
- Senators Blumenthal and Courtney visited area technical high schools.
- The CTHSS has seen an increase in student interest in the manufacturing-related trades.

VIII. Items for Discussion

A. Draft Position Statement on the Education of Students with Exceptionalities

Associate Commissioner Charlene Russell-Tucker and Anne Louise Thompson, Bureau Chief, presented the report to the Board. Discussion followed.

IX. Items Requiring Action

A. Approval of State Department of Education Organizational Plan

Mr. Jaskiewicz, moved, Mrs. Luke seconded, that the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-3a of the Connecticut General Statutes, approves the Commissioner's recommended reorganization plan for the State Department of Education, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

XI. Committee Reports

A. Finance, Audit and Department Matters

Mrs. Luke reported that the committee met on December 14, 2011, and urged Board members to review the minutes of that meeting (copy enclosed in official file).

B. Legislation and Bylaws

Mrs. Hopkins-Staten reported that the Committee met this morning to discuss statutory and regulatory changes that may be required, as well as technical amendments.

C. Policy Development

Mrs. Luke stated that there will be a meeting in February.

D. Connecticut Technical High School System

Mr. Vrabely stated that the next meeting will be held February 15, 2012, at Eli Whitney Technical High School.

E. NASBE-No Report

F. Ad Hoc Committee on Accountability-No Report

Chairman Taylor adjourned the meeting at 1:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: _____

Stefan Pryor, Secretary