

CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford

Minutes of Special Meeting

August 9, 2012

(approved September 5, 2012)

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the State Board of Education (hereinafter "Board") met on Thursday, August 9, 2012, at the Legislative Office Building, Room 1D, Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT.

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Taylor called the meeting to order at 9:43 a.m.

Present: Allan Taylor, Chairperson
Theresa Hopkins-Staton, Vice Chairperson
Andreea Dinicu
Charles Jaskiewicz
Terry Jones
Estela López
Ferdinand Risco (via telephone)
Rebecca Salustri
Joseph Vrabely
Stephen Wright*

Absent: Ellen Camhi
Patricia Keavney-Maruca
Patricia Luke
Michael P. Meotti, ex officio designee

Attorney Matthew Venhorst administered the oath of office to Andreea Dinicu, student member of the State Board of Education.

II. Public Participation

1. Mary Gallucci, resident of Willimantic, Connecticut, expressed her concerns regarding Natchaug School in Windham and education reform. A copy of Ms. Gallucci's prepared remarks is included in the official file of this meeting.
2. William H. Morrison, teacher, expressed his concerns regarding Connecticut Mastery Test and Connecticut Academic Performance Test results being used to measure school success or failure. A copy of Mr. Morrison's prepared remarks is included in the official file of this meeting.
3. Timothy Nolan, Chair of the Region 19 Reapportionment Committee, spoke in support of agenda item III.A., Reapportionment of Regional District No. 19.

III. Consent Agenda

Dr. López moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, that the Board approve the following Consent Agenda item: **III.A, Reapportionment of Regional District No. 19.**

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to the provisions of Section 10-63m(a) and (c) of the Connecticut General Statutes, approves the plan of representation submitted by the Regional School Reapportionment Committee of Regional School District 19, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE ON MOTION:	IN FAVOR:	Hopkins-Staten, Jaskiewicz, Jones, López, Risco, Taylor, Vrabely
	OPPOSED:	0
	ABSTAINED:	0
	ABSENT:	Camhi, Keavney-Maruca, Luke, Wright

Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Executive Session

The Board did not meet in Executive Session.

[Mr. Jaskiewicz left the meeting at 10:00 a.m.]

V. Consideration of Minutes of the July 11, 2012, State Board of Education Meeting

Dr. López moved, Mr. Vrabely seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the July 11, 2012, meeting of the State Board of Education. Mrs. Hopkins-Staten noted the following corrections: on page 3, under "Report of the Chair," it should be noted that she referred to the written report of the Chair (as Mr. Taylor was not present); and that on page 10, item H., the maker of the motion is incorrectly stated.

VOTE ON MINUTES AS CORRECTED:	IN FAVOR:	Hopkins-Staten, Jones, López, Risco, Vrabely
	OPPOSED:	0
	ABSTAINED:	Taylor
	ABSENT:	Camhi, Jaskiewicz, Keavney-Maruca, Luke, Wright

Motion carried .

VI. Items Requiring Action

A . Approval of Turnaround Plan for Commissioner’s Network School: James J. Curiale School, Bridgeport

Dr. López moved, Mr. Jones seconded, the Board adopts and approves the Turnaround Plan for Curiale School in Bridgeport for the Commissioner’s Network, on the condition that, by August 23, 2012, as necessary, negotiations pursuant to Section 20 of Public Act 12-116 have been completed; and on the condition that, by August 30, 2012, as necessary, any such agreement has been submitted for approval and ratified by the members of the exclusive bargaining representative employed by the Bridgeport Board of Education and who have been identified and/or selected to work at Curiale School. Such deadlines may be subject to revision by the Commissioner. The State Board of Education hereby directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action, including, but not limited to, expending such funds as may be necessary to execute and implement the foregoing.

[Mr. Jaskiewicz returned at 10:30 a.m.]

[Mr. Risco left the meeting, via telephone, at 12:00 noon.]

VOTE ON MOTION:	IN FAVOR:	Hopkins-Staten, Jaskiewicz, Jones, López, Taylor, Vrabely
	OPPOSED:	0
	ABSTAINED:	0
	ABSENT:	Camhi, Keavney-Maruca, Luke, Risco, Wright

Motion carried unanimously.

[Mr. Wright arrived at 12:27 p.m.]

B . Approval of Turnaround Plan for Commissioner’s Network School: Academy at the Thirman L. Milner School, Hartford

Mr. Jaskiewicz moved, Dr. López seconded, the Board adopts and approves the Turnaround Plan for Milner School in Hartford for the Commissioner’s Network, pursuant to Section 19(e)(1) of Public Act 12-116, to be implemented starting in the 2012-13 school year. The State Board of Education hereby directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action, including, but not limited to, expending such funds as may be necessary to execute and implement the foregoing.

VOTE ON MOTION:	IN FAVOR:	Hopkins-Staten, Jaskiewicz, Jones, López, Taylor, Vrabely, Wright
	OPPOSED:	0
	ABSTAINED:	0
	ABSENT:	Camhi, Keavney-Maruca, Luke, Risco

Motion carried unanimously.

**C. Approval of Turnaround Plan for Commissioner’s Network School:
High School in the Community, New Haven**

Mr. Jaskiewicz moved, Dr. López seconded, the Board adopts and approves the Turnaround Plan for High School in the Community in New Haven for the Commissioner’s Network, on the condition that, by August 23, 2012, as necessary, negotiations pursuant to Section 20 of Public Act 12-116 have been completed; and on the condition that, by August 30, 2012, as necessary, any such agreement has been submitted for approval and ratified by the members of the exclusive bargaining representative employed by the New Haven Board of Education and who have been identified and/or selected to work at High School in the Community. Such deadlines may be subject to revision by the Commissioner. The State Board of Education hereby directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action, including, but not limited to, expending such funds as may be necessary to execute and implement the foregoing.

VOTE ON	IN FAVOR:	Hopkins-Staten, Jaskiewicz, Jones, López,
MOTION:		Taylor, Vrabely, Wright
	OPPOSED:	0
	ABSTAINED:	0
	ABSENT:	Camhi, Keavney-Maruca, Luke, Risco

Motion carried unanimously.

[The Board recessed its meeting at 1:13 p.m.]

The meeting reconvened at 2:13 p.m. Present were Mrs. Hopkins-Staten, Mr. Jaskiewicz, Mr. Jones, Dr. López, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Vrabely, and Mr. Wright. Absent were Mrs. Camhi, Mrs. Keavney-Maruca, Mrs. Luke, and Mr. Risco.

**D. Approval of Turnaround Plan for Commissioner’s Network School:
John B. Stanton School, Norwich**

Mrs. Hopkins-Staten moved, Mr. Vrabely seconded, the Board adopts and approves the Turnaround Plan for Stanton School in Norwich for the Commissioner’s Network, on the condition that, by August 23, 2012, as necessary, negotiations pursuant to Section 20 of Public Act 12-116 have been completed; and on the condition that, by August 30, 2012, as necessary, any such agreement has been submitted for approval and ratified by the members of the exclusive bargaining representative employed by the Norwich Board of Education and who have been identified and/or selected to work at Stanton School. Such deadlines may be subject to revision by the Commissioner. The State Board of Education hereby directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action, including, but not limited to, expending such funds as may be necessary to execute and implement the foregoing.

VOTE ON MOTION: IN FAVOR: Hopkins-Staten, Jaskiewicz, Jones, López,
Taylor, Vrabely
OPPOSED: 0
ABSTAINED: 0
ABSENT: Camhi, Keavney-Maruca, Luke, Risco

Motion carried unanimously.

E. Appointment: Chief Talent Officer

Mr. Wright moved, Mr. Jones seconded, the Board, pursuant to Section 10-3a of the Connecticut General Statutes and Article IV of its Bylaws, appoints Dr. Diane Ullman as Chief Talent Officer, State Department of Education, effective August 10, 2012, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE ON MOTION: IN FAVOR: Hopkins-Staten, Jaskiewicz, Jones, López,
Taylor, Vrabely
OPPOSED: 0
ABSTAINED: 0
ABSENT: Camhi, Keavney-Maruca, Luke, Risco

Motion carried unanimously.

VII. Items for Discussion

A. Update on Bridgeport Public Schools

Paul Vallas, Superintendent of Schools, and Robert Trefry, Chair of the Bridgeport Board of Education, presented an overview on progress made in the Bridgeport Public School System. Discussion followed.

Chairperson Taylor adjourned the meeting at 4:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: _____
Stefan Pryor, Secretary