

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford**

**Draft Minutes
of the
September 4, 2013, State Board of Education Meeting**

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the State Board of Education (hereinafter "*Board*") met on Wednesday, September 4, 2013, in Room 1D of the Legislative Office Building, Hartford, Connecticut.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Taylor called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m.

Present: Allan Taylor, Chair
Theresa Hopkins-Staten
Jake Colavolpe
Andrea Comer
Terry Jones*
Patricia Keavney-Maruca**
Estela López
Clayton Potter
Robert Trefry, ex officio
Joseph Vrabely
Stephen Wright

Absent: Charles Jaskiewicz

Attorney Matthew Venhorst administered the Oath of Office to Jake Colavolpe, Student Member of the State Board of Education.

II. Public Participation

1. Dr. John Zack, Associate Director of Teacher Education, Neag School of Education, University of Connecticut, expressed concerns regarding Section 36 of P.A. 12-116, which requires an applicant for a professional educator certificate, on and after July 1, 2016, to hold a master's degree in an appropriate subject matter area related to such person's certification endorsement area. A copy of Dr. Zack's prepared statement is included in the official file.
2. Doreen Richardson, Chair, Windsor Board of Education, thanked the Board for Alliance District funding. She discussed a 2013 report titled "Excellence and Equity: The Impact of Racial Inopportunity on Student Development and Achievement at Windsor High School," prepared by "Loyola University-Chicago and Loyola University-Maryland," which was supported by the Alliance grant funds.
3. Dr. Mary Gallucci, Parent from Windham, read prepared remarks regarding Special Master Steven Adamowski and his influence on the Windham Public Schools. A copy of Dr. Galluci's prepared statement is included in the official file.

*[Terry Jones arrived at 10:00 a.m.]

4. Ben Wenograd, Field Representative with AFT Connecticut who has represented the Windham Federation of Teachers for the past 13 years, spoke on behalf of Randall Prose, union president of WFT. Mr. Wenograd spoke about the achievement levels of Windham Public School students under Dr. Adamowski's leadership as Special Master. A copy of Mr. Wenograd's prepared statement is included in the official file.
5. Kevin Basmadjian, Dean of the School of Education at Quinnipiac University, expressed his thoughts on the proposed requirements concerning the Professional Educator Certificate, highlighting both opportunities and potential unintended consequences. A copy of Mr. Basmadjian's prepared statement is included in the official file.

Mr. Vrabely noted that he would like to remove from the consent agenda item III.B., Town of Columbia, 2011-12 Minimum Budget Requirement. Mrs. Hopkins-Staten noted that she would like to remove item III.C., Authorization for Investigation Regarding Potential Testing Irregularities.

III. Consent Agenda

Dr. López moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, the Board approve the following Consent Agenda Item: III.A., Reappointment of Special Education Hearing Officer.

A. Reappointment of Special Education Hearing Officer

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-76h(c) of the Connecticut General Statutes, reappoints Attorney Janis Jerman as a member of the impartial hearing board for special education due process hearings for a four-year term beginning September 6, 2013, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE ON MOTION:	In Favor:	Comer, Hopkins-Staten, Jones, López, Taylor, Vrabely, Wright
	Opposed:	0
	Abstained:	0
	Absent:	Jaskiewicz, Keavney-Maruca

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Town of Columbia, 2011-12 Minimum Budget Requirement Penalty Waiver

Mrs. Hopkins-Staten moved, Ms. Comer seconded, that pursuant to Section 10-262i(h) of the Connecticut General Statutes, the State Board of Education hereby waives the forfeiture against the Town of Columbia for failure to meet its 2011-12 Minimum Budget Requirement, based on the fact that the Town of Columbia has agreed to provide a \$253,235 supplemental appropriation to the Columbia Board of Education, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE ON In Favor: Comer, Hopkins-Staten, Jones, López, Taylor, Vrabely, Wright
MOTION: Opposed: 0
 Abstained: 0
 Absent: Jaskiewicz, Keavney-Maruca

Motion carried unanimously.

C. Authorization for Investigation Regarding Potential Testing Irregularities

Dr. López moved, Mr. Vrabely seconded, that the Board delegates to the Commissioner the authority to take any and all steps necessary to investigate any actual or suspected irregularities or procedural violations in statewide examinations administered and supervised by the State Board of Education during the 2012-2013 school year and thereafter, and directs the Commissioner to take any and all steps necessary to conduct any such investigation in the 2012-2013 school year and thereafter, provided the Commissioner notifies the State Board of Education of the initiation of such investigation on or before the date of the regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board of Education that immediately follows the initiation of such investigation.

VOTE ON In Favor: Comer, Hopkins-Staten, Jones, López, Taylor, Vrabely, Wright
MOTION: Opposed: 0
 Abstained: 0
 Absent: Jaskiewicz, Keavney-Maruca

Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Executive Session

The Board did not meet in Executive Session.

**[Patricia Keavney-Maruca arrived at 10:20 a.m.]

V. Consideration of the Minutes of the July 15, 2013; August 5, 2013; and August 7, 2013 State Board of Education Meeting

Dr. López moved, Mr. Vrabely seconded, that the Board approve the Minutes of the July 15, 2013, State Board of Education Meeting.

VOTE ON In Favor: Jones, Keavney-Maruca, López, Taylor, Vrabely, Wright
MOTION: Opposed: 0
 Abstained: Comer, Hopkins-Staten
 Absent: Jaskiewicz

Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. López moved, Mr. Vrabely seconded, that the Board approve the Minutes of the August 5, 2013, State Board of Education Special Meeting.

VOTE ON MOTION:	In Favor:	Comer, Hopkins-Staten, Jones, Keavney-Maruca, López, Taylor, Vrabely
	Opposed:	0
	Abstained:	Wright
	Absent:	Jaskiewicz

Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. López moved, Mr. Vrabely seconded, that the Board approve the Minutes of the August 7, 2013, State Board of Education Retreat.

VOTE ON MOTION:	In Favor:	Comer, Hopkins-Staten, Jones, Keavney-Maruca, López, Taylor, Vrabely, Wright
	Opposed:	0
	Abstained:	0
	Absent:	Jaskiewicz

Motion carried unanimously.

VI. Items for Action

A. Appointment, Chief Talent Officer

Ms. Comer moved, Mrs. Keavney-Maruca seconded, that the State Board of Education, pursuant to Article IV.C. of its Bylaws, appoints Sarah J. Barzee, Ph.D. as Chief Talent Officer, effective September 4, 2013, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE ON MOTION:	In Favor:	Comer, Hopkins-Staten, Jones, Keavney-Maruca, López, Taylor, Vrabely, Wright
	Opposed:	0
	Abstained:	0
	Absent:	Jaskiewicz

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Network Plan: Windham

Dr. López moved, Ms. Comer seconded, that the State Board of Education, adopts and approves the Turnaround Plan for Crosby High School in Waterbury for the Commissioner's Network, subject to the conditions noted in the Commissioner's September 4, 2013, memorandum to the State Board of Education. 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: Comer, Hopkins-Staten, Jones, Keavney-Maruca, López, Taylor, Vrabely, Wright
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: Jaskiewicz

Motion carried unanimously.

C. Approval of Network Plan: Crosby High School, Waterbury

Mrs. Hopkins-Staten moved, Mrs. Keavney-Maruca seconded, that the State Board of Education adopts and approves the Turnaround Plan for Crosby High School in Waterbury for the Commissioner's Network, subject to the conditions noted in the Commissioner's September 4, 2013, memorandum to the State Board of Education. 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: Comer, Hopkins-Staten, Jones, Keavney-Maruca, López, Taylor, Vrabely, Wright
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: Jaskiewicz

Motion carried unanimously.

By unanimous consent, the Board agreed to consider agenda items VII.B., Report by Special Master on the New London Public Schools; and VII.C., Report by Special Master on the Windham Public Schools prior to taking action on agenda item VI.D.

VII.B. Report by Special Master on the New London Public School

Dr. Adamowski, Special Master, presented a report on the New London Public Schools. Discussion ensued.

VII.C. Report by Special Master on the Windham Public Schools

Dr. Adamowski, Special Master, presented a report on the Windham Public Schools. Discussion ensued.

VI.D. Extension of Term: Special Master, New London Public Schools; Windham Public Schools

Dr. López moved, Mrs. Keavney-Maruca seconded, that the State Board of Education, pursuant to subsection (e)(2) of Section 10-223e of the Connecticut General Statutes, extends the term of the Special Master of the New London Public Schools selected by the Commissioner, for the term October 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014, when extension shall be considered, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

Be it further RESOLVED, That the Special Master shall continue to serve in his capacity with the Windham Public Schools through June 30, 2014, when extension shall be considered.

VOTE ON In Favor: Comer, Hopkins-Staten, Jones, Keavney-Maruca, López, Taylor, Vrabely, Wright
MOTION: Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: Jaskiewicz

Motion carried unanimously.

[The Board recessed at 1:12 p.m.]
[The Board reconvened at 1:58 p.m.]

H. Revocation of Coaching Permit: Todd Gagliardi

Mrs. Keavney-Maruca moved, Ms. Comer seconded, that the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-145d-613 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, the Connecticut State Board of Education finds for the Commissioner of Education on counts one through three of the Administrative Notice and thereby revokes the coaching permit of Todd M. Gagliardi; and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

ROLL CALL VOTE

	In Favor	Opposed	Abstained	Absent
Andrea Comer	X			
Theresa Hopkins-Staten			X	
Charles A. Jaskiewicz, III				X
Terry Jones	X			
Patricia Keavney-Maruca	X			
Estela López	X			
Joseph Vrabely	X			
Stephen Wright	X			
Allan Taylor	X			

Motion carried unanimously.

I. Revocation of Educator Certificate: Lisa Felten

Dr. López moved, Mr. Wright seconded, that the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-145d-612 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, the Connecticut State Board of Education finds for the Commissioner of Education on counts one through nine of the Administrative Complaint and thereby revokes the educator certificate of Lisa Felten; and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

ROLL CALL VOTE

	In Favor	Opposed	Abstained	Absent
Andrea Comer	X			
Theresa Hopkins-Staten			X	
Charles A. Jaskiewicz, III				X
Terry Jones	X			
Patricia Keavney-Maruca	X			
Estela López	X			
Joseph Vrabely	X			
Stephen Wright	X			
Allan Taylor	X			

Motion carried unanimously.

[Mr. Wright left the meeting at 2:02 p.m.]

E. Continuing Program Approval: ACES Alternate Route to Certification – Library Media Specialist

Mrs. Hopkins-Staten moved, Mrs. Keavney-Maruca seconded, that the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-145d-9(g)(1)(A) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, grants full approval to the Alternate Route to Certification for Library Media Specialist (ARCLMS) program, administered by the Area Cooperative Educational Services (ACES), for the period September 4, 2013, through September 30, 2018, with an interim report regarding continued work around meeting state and national standards submitted in spring 2016 and an interim report due regarding the implementation and impact of Educator Preparation Advisory Council recommendations submitted in accordance with the timeline approved by the State Board of Education at a future meeting, for the purpose of certifying graduates from the ARCLMS program, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE ON MOTION:	In Favor:	Comer, Hopkins-Staten, Jones, Keavney-Maruca, López, Taylor, Vrabely
	Opposed:	0
	Abstained:	0
	Absent:	Jaskiewicz, Wright

Motion carried unanimously.

F. Appointments to the Review Committee for the Approval of Educator Preparation Programs

Mrs. Hopkins-Staten moved, Dr. López seconded, that the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-145d-9(f)(1) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, appoints the following individuals to serve on the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) Review Committee for the Approval of Connecticut Educator Preparation Programs from September 4, 2013, through September 30, 2016:

NAME	AFFILIATION	POSITION
Dr. Helen Abadiano	Higher Education	Chair, Reading and Language Arts Department, School of Education and Professional Studies, Central Connecticut State University
Dr. Maureen Fitzpatrick	Higher Education	Assistant Professor, Educational Leadership, Isabelle Farrington College of Education, Sacred Heart University
Dr. Hari Koirala	Higher Education	Chair, Department of Education, School of Education and Professional Studies, Eastern Connecticut State University
Dr. Patricia Mulcahy-Ernt	Higher Education	Director, Graduate Programs in Literacy and English Education; Director, Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching, University of Bridgeport
Dr. Nancy Niemi	Higher Education	Chair, Department of Education, University of New Haven
Joseph Bonillo	K-12	Educator, Secondary History/Social Studies, Waterford High School, Waterford Public Schools
Kenneth Di Pietro	K-12	Superintendent, Plainfield Public Schools
David Erwin	K-12	Superintendent, Berlin Public Schools
Dr. Erin McGurk	K-12	Director of Educational Services, Ellington Public Schools
Dr. Salvatore Menzo	K-12	Superintendent, Wallingford Public Schools
A. Bates Lyons	Community	Business Consultant, Torrington
Judy Resnick	Community	Executive Director, CBIA Education Foundation

VOTE ON MOTION: In Favor: Comer, Hopkins-Staten, Jones, Keavney-Maruca, López, Taylor, Vrabely,
 Opposed: 0
 Abstained: 0
 Absent: Jaskiewicz, Wright

Motion carried unanimously.

G. Continuing Program Approval: Albertus Magnus College Education Program

Mrs. Hopkins-Staten moved, Dr. López seconded, that the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-145d-9(g)(1)(A) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, grants full approval for the period September 4, 2013, through September 30, 2017, with an interim report describing continued work around meeting state and national standards submitted in spring 2015, and an interim report regarding the implementation and impact of Educator Preparation Advisory Council recommendations submitted in accordance with the timeline approved by the State Board of Education at a future meeting, for the purpose of certifying graduates from Albertus Magnus College in the following areas:

<u>Program</u>	<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Program Level</u>	<u>Program Type</u>
Secondary Areas:			
Business	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate
English	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate
History and Social Studies	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate
Mathematics	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate
Biology	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate
Chemistry	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate
General Science	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate
Spanish	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate
Middle Level Areas:			
English	4-8	Initial	Undergraduate
History and Social Studies	4-8	Initial	Undergraduate
Mathematics	4-8	Initial	Undergraduate
General Science	4-8	Initial	Undergraduate
Art	PK-12	Initial	Undergraduate
Alternate Route to Certification:			
Remedial Reading/ Remedial Language Arts	1-12	Advanced	Non-Credit Bearing

and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE ON MOTION: In Favor: Comer, Hopkins-Staten, Jones, Keavney-Maruca, López, Taylor, Vrabely
 Opposed: 0
 Abstained: 0
 Absent: Jaskiewicz, Wright

Motion carried unanimously.

VII. Items for Discussion

A. Update on Next Generation Science Standards

Dr. Dianna Roberge-Wentzell, Chief Academic Officer, presented the report to the Board. Discussion ensued.

D. Policy for Implementation of New Statutory Requirement for Master's Degree in an Appropriate Subject Area to Qualify for a Professional Educator Certificate

Dr. Barzee, Chief Talent Officer, Mrs. Nancy Pugliese, Chief, Bureau of Educator Standards and Certification and Mrs. Georgette Nemr, Education Consultant, Bureau of Educator Standards and Certification, presented a powerpoint presentation on the implementation of new statutory requirements in order to qualify for a Professional Educator Certificate. Discussion ensued.

VIII. Report of the Chair

Mr. Taylor referred to his written report, included in the supplemental materials folder. He thanked Board members for their work over the summer months and looked forward to continuing working with them in the 2013-14 school year.

Mr. Taylor reported on the Next Generation Science Standards Regional Symposium. NASBE member states are allowed to send three members to either the symposium on September 20, 2013, in Pittsburgh, PA or on October 11, 2013, in Portland, OR. The three members of the Board's Academic Standards Committee will attend (Allan Taylor, Steve Wright and Theresa Hopkins-Staten.)

The State Board of Education has been invited to meet with the CAFE Board of Directors Meeting on September 12 at 5:00 p.m. at CAFE Headquarters in Wethersfield. Pat Keavney-Maruca, Steve Wright, Joe Vrabely and Bob Trefry have indicated that they will attend.

IX. Report of the Commissioner

Commissioner Pryor thanked Mr. Taylor and Mrs. Keavney-Maruca for attending the Superintendent's Back-to-School meeting. Many important topics were discussed at the meeting, including Common Core standards, evaluation, turnaround efforts, nutrition, and student suspensions. The Commissioner informed the Board of his visits to school districts across the state, noting that he has spoken at convocations or similar assemblies in Norwich, Wallingford, New Haven and the Technical High School System. Mr. Pryor added that he will continue such visits in the coming weeks.

Commissioner Pryor informed the Board that six Alliance District plans have been approved to date (Bloomfield, Danbury, East Hartford, Hamden, West Haven, Windsor Locks) and that two have been given partial approval, pending further discussions and revisions to their plans (Ansonia and Norwich). Partial approval results in the authorization of certain Alliance District funds to begin reform initiatives, with the expectation that, through an iterative process, the remainder of the application will warrant full approval.

X. Financial Matters

No report was given.

XI. Committee Reports

A. Finance, Audit, and Budget

No report was given.

B. Legislation and Bylaws

No report was given.

C. Academic Standards and Assessment

No report was given.

D. Accountability and Support

Dr. Lopez reported that the Committee met to review the Alliance District process and how it is resulting in positive outcomes. She described the process as an iterative one between the Department and districts, and noted that she will provide the Board with periodic progress reports throughout the year.

E. Legislation and Policy Development

No report was given.

F. Technical High School System (THSS) Board

Mr. Trefry reported on several topics considered by the Technical High School System Board, including a fiscal update; school security plans; the awarding of a contract to Thomas Miller Associates to develop a strategic plan in concert with the Board; the resubmission of a RFP for a consultant to conduct a search for a permanent Superintendent of Schools; and discussions with the Office of Policy and Management regarding hiring an assistant superintendent and upgrading positions to be more competitive. Mr. Trefry noted that the welding program at Groton is moving forward, and that discussions are underway with the Board of Regents to improve the use of school facilities.

G. NASBE

No report was given.

Other

Mrs. Hopkins-Staten suggested that the Board invite Professor Marlon James to an upcoming meeting to discuss the findings of his report on cultural differences in the Windsor School System.

Ms. Comer announced the passing of Hartford legend, Mrs. Trude Mero, an advocate for justice, children and education.

Adjourn

By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: _____
Stefan Pryor, Secretary