

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford**

**Legislation and Policy Development Committee Meeting
December 6, 2017**

**Minutes
(Approved 1/3/18)**

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the Board of Education Legislation and Policy Development Committee met in the North Plaza, Meeting Room J, State Office Building, Hartford, Connecticut, on December 6, 2017.

I. Call to Order

Committee Chair Joseph Vrabely called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. Also present were Committee members: Erin Benham, William Davenport, Donald Harris, Terry Jones, and Malia Sieve.

Also present for all or part of the meeting were the following Department of Education Staff members: Chief of Staff Laura Stefon, Chief Financial Officer Kathy Demsey, Chief Talent Officer Sarah Barzee, Special Education Bureau Chief Bryan Klimkiewicz, Director of Communications Peter Yazbak, Education Consultant Katie Moirs, Legal Director Peter Haberlandt, and Recorder Mildred Pagán.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

On a motion made by Committee Chair Vrabely and seconded by Erin Benham, the Committee unanimously approved the minutes of the October 4, 2017, Legislation and Policy Development Committee meeting.

III. Update on Legislation Proposals

Committee Chair Vrabely introduced Chief of Staff Laura Stefon. However, before she commenced her presentation, Ms. Stefon introduced to the Committee members SDE's new Director of Communications, Mr. Peter Yazbak. Mr. Yazbak comes to SDE from the Department of Transportation. Ms. Stefon then proceeded to provide an overview of the five legislative proposals SDE plans to introduce to the full State Board of Education, also on December 6, 2017, and then to the Legislature. The proposals were discussed and voted upon favorably by the Committee.

Each proposal is included in the State Board of Education meeting materials, which are available on the State Board's website at: <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2683&Q=336890>.

IV. New Educator Preparation Program Approval: Western Connecticut State University – New Master of Art Content Areas (English language arts, history/social studies, science)

Committee Chair Vrabely introduced Chief Talent Officer, Dr. Sarah Barzee, who provided a background of Western Connecticut State University’s (WCSU) proposal to add three content areas – English language arts, history/social studies, and science – to its MAT Program. This proposal was reviewed earlier this year by CSDE’s evaluation team who identified areas for improvement. The team unanimously decided to revise the proposal. Based on the review of the revised proposal, the evaluation team unanimously recommended that the proposal move forward to the CSDE Review Committee for consideration. On October 27, 2017, the Review Committee recommended full approval of the WCSU proposal.

V. New Educator Preparation Program Approval: Western Connecticut State University – Remedial Reading/Language Arts Program and Reading/Language Arts Consultant Program

Dr. Sarah Barzee also provided an overview of WCSU’s proposal for the Remedial Reading/Language Arts Program and the Reading/Language Arts Consultant Program. This proposal was reviewed earlier this year by CSDE’s evaluation team who identified areas for improvement. The team unanimously decided to revise the proposal. Based on the review of the revised proposal, the evaluation team unanimously recommended that the proposal move forward to the CSDE Review Committee for consideration. On October 27, 2017, the Review Committee recommended full approval of the WCSU proposal.

A discussion ensued followed by a question and answer session.

Committee Chair Vrabely thanked Dr. Barzee for her presentation and everyone for attending the meeting.

VI. CSDE Continued Supports for Students Displaced by Hurricanes

This topic was moved to the agenda for the full State Board of Education at its December 6, 2017, meeting.

VII. Other Matters

VIII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Mildred Pagán, Recorder