

CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford

Minutes
State Board of Education Meeting
January 3, 2018
(Approved February 14, 2018)

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the State Board of Education (hereinafter "Board") met on Wednesday, January 3, 2018, in Plaza North Room C and D of the State Office Building, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, Connecticut.

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Allan Taylor called the meeting to order at 9:42 a.m.

Present: Allan B. Taylor, Chairperson
Estela López, Vice Chairperson
Erin D. Benham
Erik M. Clemons
William P. Davenport
Donald F. Harris, Jr.
Terry H. Jones
Maria I. Mojica
Saomai Nguyen, Student Member
Jaweria Shah, Student Member
Malia K. Sieve
Robert J. Trefry, Ex Officio
Joseph J. Vrabely, Jr.

Absent: Mark Ojakian, Ex Officio
Stephen P. Wright

II. Public Participation

1. Carl Gross, Director of Pupil Services for Regional School District One, and President of the Connecticut Council of Administrators of Special Education (ConnCASE), spoke on Public Act 17-3, An Act Requiring Special Education Teachers To Complete A Program Of Study In Evidence-Based Structured Literacy Interventions For Students With Dyslexia. A copy of Mr. Gross' written statement is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
2. Michael Brosnan, New Teacher Coordinator and District Teacher Education and Mentoring Facilitator for Bridgeport Public Schools, spoke on Connecticut General Statutes § 10-145o, An Act Concerning the Teacher Education and Mentoring Program (TEAM). A copy of Mr. Brosnan's written statement is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.

3. Marisa Halm, Attorney and Director of the TeamChild Juvenile Justice Project at the Center for Children's Advocacy, spoke in support of agenda item V.C., Standards for Alternative Educational Opportunities for Students Who Have Been Expelled, in accordance with Public Act 17-220. A copy of Attorney Halm's written statement is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
4. Lynn Cochrane, Attorney for Greater Hartford Legal Aid, Inc. (GHLA), spoke on behalf of Attorney Erin R. Shaffer, New Haven Legal Assistance Association, Inc. (LAA), and Attorney Agata Raszczyk-Lawska, Connecticut Legal Services, Inc. (CLS), in support of agenda item V.C., Standards for Alternative Educational Opportunities for Students Who Have Been Expelled. A copy of the written testimony of GHLA, LAA, and CLS is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
5. Dr. Catherine "Katie" O'Callaghan, Chair and Professor, Education and Educational Psychology Department, Western Connecticut State University, spoke in support of agenda items, IX.A., New Educator Preparation Program Approval: Western Connecticut State University—New Master of Arts Content Areas (English language arts, history/social studies, science), and IX.B., New Educator Preparation Program Approval: Western Connecticut State University—Remedial Reading/Language Arts Program and Reading/Language Arts Consultant Program.
6. Fran Rabinowitz, Executive Director, Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents (CAPSS), spoke on agenda item V.C., Standards for Alternative Educational Opportunities for Students Who Have Been Expelled. Ms. Rabinowitz thanked Commissioner Wentzell, Charlene Russell-Tucker and their staff for listening to district practitioners and for working collaboratively to develop the Standards document. A copy of Ms. Rabinowitz's written statement is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
7. Liz Misiewicz, a seventh grade English teacher, East Ridge Middle School, Ridgefield, shared her experience and commitment with Connecticut's Teacher Education and Mentoring Program (TEAM). A copy of Ms. Misiewicz's written statement is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
8. Giana Gleeson, Director of Communications and Public Affairs, Teach for America Connecticut, spoke on the continuing need to expand more pathways to certification that will result in expanded opportunities for students. Ms. Gleeson expressed that Teach for America Connecticut is committed to continuing to partner with this Board and with the Department.
9. Thomas Stringfellow, resident of Manchester, spoke on 1968 historical events, and highlighted that April 4, 2018, commemorates 50 years of Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination. He commented on the American flag, online bullying, and the *Sheff* case being cited in the Fall 2017 issue of *The American Prospect* magazine.

10. Kristine Drew, Special Education Director, Putnam Public Schools, and Regional School District #2 Representative to the Connecticut Council of Administrators of Special Education (ConnCASE) Board, submitted written testimony concerning Public Act 17-3, An Act Requiring Special Education Teachers To Complete A Program Of Study In Evidence-Based Structured Literacy Interventions For Students With Dyslexia. A copy of Ms. Drew's written statement is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
11. Joseph Lucibello, Director of Pupil Services for the West Haven Public Schools and President-Elect of the Connecticut Council of Administrators for Special Education (ConnCASE), submitted written testimony concerning Public Act 17-3, An Act Requiring Special Education Teachers To Complete A Program Of Study In Evidence-Based Structured Literacy Interventions For Students With Dyslexia. A copy of Mr. Lucibello's written statement is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.

III. Executive Session

The Board did not meet in executive session.

IV. Consideration of Minutes

A. December 6, 2017, State Board of Education Meeting

Dr. López moved, Mrs. Sieve seconded, that the Board adopt the minutes of the December 6, 2017, State Board of Education Meeting.

VOTE ON

MOTION:	In favor:	Benham, Clemons, Davenport, Harris, Jones, López, Sieve, Taylor, Vrabely
	Opposed:	0
	Abstained:	Mojica
	Absent:	Wright

Motion carried unanimously.

V. Items Requiring Action

A. The Components of Social, Emotional and Intellectual Habits: Kindergarten through Grade 3

Dr. López moved, Mr. Vrabely seconded, that the State Board of Education adopts the Position Statement on Social, Emotional, and Intellectual Habits for All Students K-3, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

Motion carried unanimously.

VI. Report of the Chair

No written report was provided.

VII. Report of the Commissioner

Commissioner Wentzell referenced her written report. The Commissioner highlighted the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program from her report:

- She expressed excitement that the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program recognizes the nomination of the students based on (i) achievement of excelling with highest SAT or ACT scores in the state; (ii) opportunity for high academic achievement while overcoming significant adversity; or (iii) high academic achievement while being invested in community service. The Commissioner expressed that the State Department of Education is excited that the Program recognizes resilience in our students. She stated that while hard to measure, it is one of the things that will make our students successful in their futures.

VIII. Financial Matters

Chief Financial Officer Kathleen Demsey provided a financial summary on the budget. Discussion ensued.

IX. Consent Agenda

Mr. Vrabely moved, Mrs. Sieve seconded, that the Board approve the following Consent agenda items, IX.A., New Educator Preparation Program Approval: Western Connecticut State University—New Master of Arts Content Areas (English language arts, history/social studies, science); IX.B., New Educator Preparation Program Approval: Western Connecticut State University—Remedial Reading/Language Arts Program and Reading/Language Arts Consultant Program; and IX.C., Mid-Term Budget Technical Adjustments and Reduction Options.

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

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-145d-9(g)(2)(A) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, grants full approval for the period January 3, 2018, through December 31, 2021, to Western Connecticut State University (WCSU), with annual progress reporting required until WCSU's Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) site visit, for the purpose of certifying graduates from WCSU in the following new certification areas:

<u>Program</u>	<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Program Level</u>	<u>Program Type</u>
English Language Arts	7-12	Advanced	Graduate
History/Social Studies	7-12	Advanced	Graduate
Science	7-12	Advanced	Graduate

and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

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

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-145d-9(g)(2)(A) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, grants full approval for the period January 3, 2018, through December 31, 2021, to Western Connecticut State University (WCSU), with annual progress reporting required until WCSU's Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) site visit, for the purpose of certifying graduates from WCSU in the following new certification areas:

<u>Program</u>	<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Program Level</u>	<u>Program Type</u>
Remedial Reading/Language Arts	1-12	Advanced	Graduate
Reading/Language Arts Consultant	PK-12	Advanced	Graduate

and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

C. Mid-Term Budget Technical Adjustments and Reduction Options

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education approves the Fiscal Year 2018-19 Mid-Term Budget Technical Adjustments and Reduction Options, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE ON

MOTION: In favor: Benham, Clemons, Davenport, Harris, Jones, López, Mojica, Sieve, Taylor, Vrabely
 Opposed: 0
 Abstained: 0
 Absent: Wright

Motions carried unanimously.

X. Items for Discussion

A. Update on Implementation of Goal 2, State Board of Education Comprehensive Plan

A panel consisting of Director of Reading and Literacy Melissa Hickey, Education Consultant Joanne White, Strategy Lead for Early Literacy, and Education Consultant Jennifer Michalek, Strategy Lead for Mathematics, provided an update on Goal 2 of the Connecticut State Board of Education's Five-year Comprehensive Plan, *Ensuring Equity and Excellence for All Connecticut Students*. Goal #2 of the State Board Comprehensive Plan includes building and sustaining an educational system premised on the core principle that, with the right supports and rich learning opportunities, every student will meet high academic standards.

B. Update on Achievement First Bridgeport Academy, Amistad Academy, and Elm City College Preparatory School

A panel consisting of Chief Turnaround Officer Desi Nesmith, Chief Talent Officer Sarah Barzee, and Dacia Toll, President and Chief Executive Officer, Achievement First, presented an update on the progress being made on reducing suspensions and certification compliance within Achievement First Bridgeport Academy, Amistad Academy, and Elm City College Preparatory School. The update was requested by CSBE as part of the three-year charter renewal that the three schools received at the State Board of Education's March 1, 2017, meeting.

XI. Committee Reports

A. Academic Standards and Assessment

No report was given.

B. Accountability and Support

Dr. López reported that the committee met on December 13, 2017, to receive a progress report on two charter schools. The next meeting will be on February 21, 2018.

C. Finance, Audit, and Budget

No report was given.

D. Legislation and Policy Development

Mr. Vrabely reported that the committee met this morning and had two presentations. Chief of Staff Laura Stefon presented an update on five Legislative Proposals. Attorney Matthew Venhorst presented an overview of regional collaboration among school districts.

E. Connecticut Technical Education and Career System Board

Mr. Trefry stated that a recommendation for superintendent position has been submitted to the Commissioner. Mr. Trefry confirmed that they are working on the effects of the budget. He also reported that on the Pell Grant approval for the aviation program and Bristol Technical.

F. NASBE

No report was given.

Chairperson Taylor adjourned the meeting at 12:15 p.m.

Prepared by: _____
Dr. Dianna R. Wentzell, Secretary
State Board of Education