

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford**

**Minutes
State Board of Education Meeting
May 2, 2018
(Approved June 6, 2018)**

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the State Board of Education (hereinafter "Board") met on Wednesday, May 2, 2018, in Plaza North Meeting 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 9:40 a.m.

Present: Allan B. Taylor, Chairperson
Estela López, Vice Chairperson
Erin D. Benham
William P. Davenport
Donald F. Harris, Jr.
Terry H. Jones
Maria I. Mojica
Saomai Nguyen, Student Member
Dr. Jane Gates (designee representing Mark Ojakian, Ex Officio)
Malia K. Sieve
Robert J. Trefry, Ex Officio
Joseph J. Vrabely, Jr.

Absent: Erik M. Clemons
Jaweria Shah, Student Member
Stephen P. Wright

II. Public Participation

1. Robert John Klancko, P.E., CSP, of Klancko & Klancko LLC, spoke on the applicable preparation of Connecticut students in the STEM/STREAM studies. A copy of Mr. Klancko's written testimony is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
2. Teresa DeBrito, Director, Office of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment, Regional School District No. 12, spoke in support of agenda item V.F., Connecticut Certificate of Global Engagement Guidelines Global Engagement Certificate. A copy of Ms. DeBrito's written testimony is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.

3. Ginni Block, Chair, Explorations Charter School Governing Council, spoke on agenda item V.C., Renewal of State Charter, Explorations Charter School, Winchester. A copy of Ms. Block's written testimony is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
4. Olivia Roy, a 2017 graduate of Explorations Charter School, spoke in support of agenda item V.C., Renewal of State Charter, Explorations Charter School, Winchester. A copy of Ms. Roy's written testimony is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
5. William Rice, Assistant Executive Director for Schools and Programs, Area Cooperative Educational Services (ACES), and a member of the Global Competency Certificate Committee Global Engagement Certificate, spoke in support of agenda item V.F., Connecticut Certificate of Global Engagement Guidelines. A copy of Mr. Rice's written testimony is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
6. Jeanine Pocoski, a former principal of Brass City Charter School, spoke in support of agenda item, V.B., Renewal of State Charter – Brass City Charter School, Waterbury.
7. Kimberly Moore, World Language Curriculum Resource Teacher, Wallingford Public Schools, a member of the Connecticut Certificate of Global Engagement and district coordinator for the program in Wallingford, spoke in support of agenda item V.F., Connecticut Certificate of Global Engagement Guidelines. A copy of Ms. Moore's written testimony is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
8. Courtney Klimak, a senior at Nonnewaugh High School, Region 14, applauded the Art Program of Region 14. A copy of Ms. Klimak's written testimony is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
9. Joshua Cocuzzo, a senior at Nonnewaugh High School, Region 14, applauded the Art and Music Programs of Region 14.
10. Ian Bauer, a senior at Nonnewaugh High School, Region 14. Mr. Bauer spoke on his aspiration to be a special education teacher and applauded the staff of Region 14 as role models. A copy of Mr. Bauer's written testimony is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
11. Dean Jones, a student of Region 14, spoke on Art and Music Programs of Region 14. A copy of Ms. Jones' written testimony is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
12. Leeza Desjardins, a Visual Art teacher at Nonnewaugh High School, Region 14 highlighted all the artistic accomplishments of Region 14. A copy of Ms. Desjardins' written testimony is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
13. Amy Perras, Instructional Leader for the Arts for Region 14, spoke on the music activities students of Region 14 are participating in. A copy of Ms. Perras' written testimony is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.

14. Thomas Stringfellow, resident of Manchester, recommended several publications. A copy of Mr. Stringfellow's statement is included in the official file of this meeting.
15. JoAnne Torti, a resident of Region 14 and Executive Director of ASAP!, spoke in support of the Arts Program of Region 14. A copy of Ms. Torti's written testimony is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
16. Michele O'Neil, Educational Issues Specialist, Connecticut Education Association (CEA), spoke on the current and upcoming initiatives of CEA, and in support of agenda item V.F., Connecticut Certificate of Global Engagement Guidelines.
17. Robert Cotto, of Parents of Batchelder School, spoke against the closing of Batchelder School.
18. Shirley Abonte, of Parents of Batchelder School, spoke against the closing of Batchelder School.
19. Luis Perez, of Parents of Batchelder School, spoke against the closing of Batchelder School.
20. Lesley Martinez, of Parents of Batchelder School, spoke against the closing of Batchelder School.
21. Kamara Brown, of Parents of Batchelder School, spoke against the closing of Batchelder School.
22. Maria DePaola, a Special Education Teacher at Lyman Hall High School, together with Meredith DeNegris, a junior student at Lyman Hall High School, in Wallingford, spoke on special education and the Best Buddies Program. A copy of Ms. DeNegris' written testimony is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
23. Shane Hayes and Meredith DeNegris, students at Lyman Hall High School, Wallingford, spoke on the "Best Buddies Program," which is to provide the opportunity for one-to-one peer friendships based on guidelines.
24. Meredith DeNegris, a junior at Lyman Hall High School in Wallingford, addressed the problem of special education students not getting the recommended amount of activity. A copy of Ms. DeNegris' written testimony is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
25. Dawn Richter, a parent of Region 14, spoke against the superintendent and local board of education of Region 14. A copy of Ms. Richter's written testimony is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
26. Megan Torrey, Chief Executive Officer of the World Affairs Council of Connecticut, spoke in support of agenda item V.F., Connecticut Certificate Global Engagement. A copy of Ms. Torrey's written testimony is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
27. Dawn Cipriano, a parent in Region 14, shared her concerns regarding Region 14.

III. Executive Session

The Board did not meet in executive session.

IV. Consideration of Minutes

A. April 4, 2018, State Board of Education Meeting

Mr. Vrabely moved, Mrs. Benham seconded, that the Board adopt the minutes of the April 4, 2018, State Board of Education Meeting.

VOTE ON

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

Motion carried unanimously.

V. Items Requiring Action

A. Adoption of the Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources (AFNR) Career Cluster Content Frameworks, Connecticut Edition

Dr. López moved, Mr. Vrabely seconded, that the State Board of Education adopts the Agriculture, Foods and Natural Resources (AFNR) Career Cluster Content Frameworks, Connecticut Edition.

VOTE ON

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

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Renewal of State Charter - Brass City Charter School, Waterbury

Dr. López moved, Mr. Vrabely seconded, that the State Board of Education, pursuant to subsection (g) of Section 10-66bb of the Connecticut General Statutes, renews the charter of Brass City Charter School from July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2022, subject to the Commissioner's May 2, 2018, memorandum to the State Board of Education, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE ON

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

Motion carried unanimously.

C. Renewal of State Charter - Explorations Charter School, Winchester

Mr. Harris moved, Mr. Vrabely seconded, that the State Board of Education, pursuant to subsection (g) of Section 10-66bb of the Connecticut General Statutes, renews the charter of Explorations Charter School from July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2021, subject to the Commissioner's May 2, 2018, memorandum to the State Board of Education, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE ON

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

Motion carried unanimously.

[Mr. Joseph J. Vrabely, Jr. left meeting at approximately 12:07 p.m.]

D. Renewal of State Charter - New Beginnings Family Academy, Bridgeport

Ms. Sieve moved, Dr. López seconded, that the State Board of Education, pursuant to subsection (g) of Section 10-66bb of the Connecticut General Statutes, renews the charter of New Beginnings Family Academy from July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2021, subject to the Commissioner's May 2, 2018, memorandum to the State Board of Education, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE ON

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

Motion carried unanimously.

E. Renewal of State Charter - Stamford Academy, Stamford

Mr. Davenport moved, Mr. Jones seconded, that the State Board of Education, pursuant to subsection (g) of Section 10-66bb of the Connecticut General Statutes, renews the charter of Stamford Academy from July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2019, subject to the Commissioner's May 2, 2018, memorandum to the State Board of Education, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE ON

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

Motion carried unanimously.

[Dr. Estela López left meeting at approximately 1:01 p.m.]

F. Connecticut Certificate of Global Engagement Guidelines

Mrs. Benham moved, Ms. Sieve seconded, that the State Board of Education adopts the Connecticut Certificate of Global Engagement Guidelines.

VOTE ON

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

Motion carried unanimously.

IX. Consent Agenda

Mrs. Benham moved, Mr. Vrabely seconded, that the Board approve the following Consent agenda items, IX.A., Approval of Commissioner's Network Extension for O'Brien STEM Academy, East Hartford; IX.B., Approval of Commissioner's Network Extension for East Hartford Middle School, East Hartford; and IX.C. Request for Finance Advisory Committee (FAC) Action.

A. Approval of Commissioner's Network Extension for O'Brien STEM Academy, East Hartford

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-223h of the Connecticut General Statutes, approves continued participation of O'Brien STEM Academy, East Hartford, in the Commissioner's Network for an additional and final year commencing July 1, 2018, and 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.

B. Approval of Commissioner's Network Extension for East Hartford Middle School, East Hartford

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-223h of the Connecticut General Statutes, approves continued participation of East Hartford Middle School, East Hartford, in the Commissioner's Network for an additional year commencing July 1, 2018, and 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..

C. Request for Finance Advisory Committee (FAC) Action

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education approves the request for Finance Advisory Committee (FAC) action to transfer \$1,100,000 between two accounts, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE ON

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

Motions carried unanimously.

The Board recessed the meeting for lunch at 1:27 p.m.

The Board reconvened the meeting at 2:16 p.m.

Present: Allan B. Taylor, Chairperson
Erin D. Benham
William P. Davenport
Donald F. Harris, Jr.
Terry H. Jones
Maria I. Mojica
Malia K. Sieve
Robert J. Trefry, Ex Officio

Absent: Erik M. Clemons
Estela López, Vice Chairperson
Mark Ojakian, Ex Officio
Jaweria Shah, Student Member
Joseph J. Vrabely, Jr.
Stephen P. Wright

VI. Report of the Chair

No Report was given.

VII. Report of the Commissioner

Commissioner Wentzell referenced her written report.

VIII. Financial Matters

No report was presented.

X. Items for Discussion

By unanimous consent, the Board agreed to consider agenda item, X.C., Office of the Child Advocate at this time.

C. Office of the Child Advocate (Sarah Eagan)

Attorney Sarah Eagan, the Child Advocate, presented to the Board on her investigation concerning the death of Matthew Tirado, a teenager with profound disability, in December 2017 and various policy recommendations arising out of the investigation, which are summarized in her May 2, 2018 memorandum which is included in the official file for this meeting.

A. The Red, White and Blue Schools Programs

A panel consisting of Director of Reading and Literacy Melissa Hickey, Greg Frank, K-12 Social Studies Curriculum Specialist, South Windsor Public Schools, Laura Krenicki, Social Studies Teacher, Colchester Public Schools, and Education Consultant Stephen Armstrong, presented on the Red, White and Blue Schools Program, which promotes civic understanding and civic practices. The major aim of the Red, White and Blue Schools program is to emphasize the importance of active citizenship and informed action. The program strongly encourages students to be actively engaged in civic life throughout every stage of their K-12 education. The theme for the 2017-18 school year is "Student Engagement at the Local Level."

B. Update on Implementation of Goal 4, State Board of Education Comprehensive Plan

Chief Turnaround Officer Desi Nesmith provided an update on Goal 4 of the Connecticut State Board of Education's Five-year Comprehensive Plan, *Ensuring Equity and Excellence for All Connecticut Students*. Goal 4 includes providing intensive interventions and supports in Connecticut's most struggling communities, providing assistance in the utilization of the Next Generation Accountability System to measure school progress and inform improvement practices and to hold the district and school accountable for student learning. The strategy focused on building internal capacity of the CSDE cross-divisional review and support teams to effectively support and monitor Opportunity Districts. The strategy also focusses on building external capacity of districts and schools to understand and use evidenced-based interventions and the Next Generation Accountability System.

Goals progress milestones that have been achieved are:

- Development of, training for, and implementation of protocols for CSDE cross-divisional team support of Opportunity Districts and school leadership.
- Development of CSDE Personnel Directory.
- Evidence-Based Guide.
- School-Level Webinars.
- Online Professional Learning Calendar.

XI. Committee Reports

A. Academic Standards and Assessment

No report was presented.

B. Accountability and Support

No report was presented.

C. Finance, Audit, and Budget

Mr. Taylor reported that the committee will be meeting on May 21, 2018.

D. Legislation and Policy Development

It was reported that the committee met this morning.

E. Connecticut Technical High School System Board

No report was presented.

F. NASBE

No report was presented.

Chairperson Taylor adjourned the meeting at 3:36 p.m.

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