

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Hartford**

**Minutes**  
**State Board of Education Meeting**  
**November 7, 2018**

(Approved December 5, 2018)

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the State Board of Education (hereinafter "Board") met on Wednesday, November 7, 2018, in Plaza North Meeting Room C and D of the State Office Building, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, Connecticut.

**I. Call to Order**

Vice Chairperson Estela López called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m.

Present: Allan B. Taylor, Chairperson (participated via telephone conference  
until approximately 11:13 a.m.)

Estela López, Vice Chairperson

Erin D. Benham

William P. Davenport

Donald F. Harris, Jr.

Terry H. Jones

Malia K. Sieve

Robert J. Trefry, Ex Officio

Joseph J. Vrabely, Jr.

Absent: Erik M. Clemons  
Makayla R. Dawkins, Student Member  
Tarini Krishna, Student Member  
Maria I. Mojica  
Mark Ojakian, Ex Officio  
Stephen P. Wright

**II. Public Participation**

1. Justine Leeper, owner of Floral Designs by Justine, spoke in support of agricultural school funding and agenda item IX.E., Report on Agricultural Science and Technology Education Graduates Five Years After Graduation. A copy of Ms. Leeper's written statement is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
2. David Golembeski, a graduate of Nonnewaug High School, in Woodbury, and University of Connecticut, College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources, Storrs, spoke in support of

agricultural school funding and agenda item IX.E., Report on Agricultural Science and Technology Education Graduates Five Years After Graduation.

3. Jenna Nicol, spoke in support of agricultural school funding agenda item IX.E., Report on Agricultural Science and Technology Education Graduates Five Years After Graduation.
4. Dr. Mel Horton, Associate Dean, Isabelle Farrington College of Education, Sacred Heart University, spoke in support of agenda item IX.A., Continuing Approval of Educator Preparation Provider, Sacred Heart University. A copy of Dr. Horton's written statement is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
5. Frank Rubino, spoke in support of agricultural school funding and agenda item IX.E., Report on Agricultural Science and Technology Education Graduates Five Years After Graduation.
6. Justin McGlamery, a parent of 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students at Renzulli Academy, Hartford, shared his concerns regarding the Academy. A copy of Mr. McGlamery's written statement is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
7. Andrea Spencer, Director Office Campus, Saint Joseph University, spoke in support of agenda item IX.B., Continuing Approval of Educator Preparation Provider, University of Saint Joseph.
8. Dr. Raouf Boules, Dean, School of Health and Natural Sciences, University of Saint Joseph, spoke in support of agenda item IX.B., Continuing Approval of Educator Preparation Provider, University of Saint Joseph. A copy of Dr. Boules' written statement is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
9. Dr. Anne Campbell, Associate Professor of TESOL and Bilingual/Multicultural Education and Director of the TESOL, World Languages, and Bilingual Education Programs, University of Fairfield, spoke in support of agenda item IX.D., Approval of New Educator Preparation Program: Fairfield University, Italian Program. A copy of Dr. Campbell's written statement is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
10. Thomas Stringfellow, resident of Manchester, addressed the Board on several matters.
11. Heather LaSelle, a social worker, submitted written testimony that shared her career experience and concerns for protecting traumatized children. A copy of Ms. LaSelle'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. October 3, 2018, State Board of Education Meeting**

Mr. Vrabely moved, Mrs. Sieve seconded, that the Board adopt the minutes of the October 3, 2018, State Board of Education Meeting.

Mr. Jones requested that a correction be made that he had abstained from voting on the September 5, 2018, minutes at the October 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

##### **VOTE ON**

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

Motion carried unanimously.

#### **V. Items Requiring Action**

##### **A. Thomaston Board of Education Petition for Declaratory Ruling Consideration of Proposed Ruling**

A Court Reporter was present at the meeting to record the discussion concerning the Thomaston Board of Education Petition for Declaratory Ruling Consideration of Proposed Ruling. Vice Chairperson Estela López requested a motion. Legal Director Peter Haberlandt, Division of Legal and Governmental Affairs, together with Attorney Louis Todisco, introduced the matter of the declaratory ruling and updated the matter to its current standing.

Attorney Kyle A. McClain, of the firm Zangari, Cohn, Cuthbertson, Duhl & Grello, P.C. represented the Thomaston Board of Education.

Attorney Paul A. Croce, II of the firm of Cooney, Scully and Dowling represented Region 6 Board of Education.

Also present for Thomaston and Region 6 were:

- Christopher Brittain
- Francine Coss
- Brooke Healy
- Christopher Leone
- Sabin Loveland
- Victoria Ross

Chairperson Taylor ended his telephone participation from the meeting at approximately 11:13 a.m.

Mr. Vrabely moved, Mr. Davenport seconded, that, in the matter of the Petition of the Thomaston Board of Education for a Declaratory Ruling (the "Thomaston Petition"), the State Board of Education ("State Board") takes the following action pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.) Section 4-176 and Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies Sections 10-4-20 through 10-4-22:

- (1) finds that the legal rights, duties, or privileges of the Thomaston Board of Education and the Regional School District No. 6 Board of Education (which has petitioned for party status), will be specifically affected by this declaratory ruling proceeding, and grants party status in this proceeding to the Thomaston Board of Education and the Regional School District No. 6 Board of Education (*see* C.G.S. Section 4-176 (d));
- (2) issues its declaratory ruling on the questions presented in the Thomaston Petition in the form submitted to the State Board for decision today to be effective upon mailing to the Thomaston Board of Education and the Regional School District No. 6 Board of Education (*see* C.G.S. Section 4-176 (h));
- (3) authorizes the Chairman to sign the declaratory ruling on behalf of the State Board; and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

**VOTE ON**

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

Motion carried unanimously.

**IX. Consent Agenda**

Mr. Vrabely moved, Dr. López seconded, that the Board approve the following Consent agenda items, IX.A., Continuing Approval of Educator Preparation Provider, Sacred Heart University, IX.B., Continuing Approval of Educator Preparation Provider, University of Saint Joseph, IX.C., Approval of New Educator Preparation Program: Southern Connecticut State University, Integrated Elementary/Bilingual Program, Graduate Level, and IX.D., Approval of New Educator Preparation Program: Fairfield University, Italian Program.

Mr. Davenport requested that agenda item IX.E., College Enrollment, Credit Attainment and Remediation of High School Graduates in Connecticut Public Universities and Community Colleges, be removed from the Consent agenda. Mr. Davenport raised the question and discussion on what was needed to be done to have all school Choice programs do a five-year graduate survey.

**A. Continuing Approval of Educator Preparation Provider, Sacred Heart University**

**RESOLVED**, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-145d-9(g)(1)(A) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, grants full continuing approval to Sacred Heart University (SHU) for the period December 1, 2018, through November 30, 2025, with a progress report documenting continuous improvement work related to CAEP standards due in spring 2021 and annual progress monitoring conducted using program data from the Connecticut Educator Preparation Provider (EPP) Data Dashboard, for the purpose of certifying graduates from SHU in the following areas:

<u>Program</u>	<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Program Level</u>	<u>Program Type</u>
Elementary Education	1-6	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Secondary Grades			
English	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
History/Social Studies	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Mathematics	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
General Science	7 -12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Biology	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Chemistry	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Spanish	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Remedial Reading/ Language Arts	1-12	Advanced	Graduate
Speech/Language Pathology	K-12	Advanced	Graduate
Intermediate Administration and Supervision	PK-12	Advanced	Graduate
Superintendent of Schools	PK-12	Advanced	Graduate

and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

**B. Continuing Approval of Educator Preparation Provider, University of Saint Joseph**

**RESOLVED**, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-145d-9(g)(1)(B) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, grants provisional approval to the University of Saint Joseph (USJ) for the period December 1, 2018, through November 30, 2021, with a focused visit required no later than spring 2021, a progress report documenting continuous improvement work related to CAEP standards due annually until the visit, and annual progress monitoring conducted using program data from the Connecticut Educator Preparation Provider (EPP) Data Dashboard, for the purpose of certifying graduates from USJ in the following areas:

<u>Program</u>	<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Program Level</u>	<u>Program Type</u>
Elementary Education	K-6	Initial	Undergraduate/graduate
Secondary Areas:			
English	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/graduate
History/Social Studies	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/graduate
Mathematics	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/graduate
Biology	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/graduate
Chemistry	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/graduate
General Science	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/graduate
French	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/graduate
Italian	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/graduate
Latin	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/graduate
Spanish	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/graduate
Special Education	K-12	Initial	Undergraduate/graduate
Early Childhood	N-3	Initial	Graduate
Family/Consumer Science	PK-12	Initial	Graduate
School Counselor	PK-12	Advanced	Graduate

and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

**C. Approval of New Educator Preparation Program: Southern Connecticut State University, Integrated Elementary/Bilingual Program, Graduate Level**

**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 November 7, 2018 through December 31, 2021, to Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU), with annual progress monitoring conducted using program data from the Connecticut Educator Preparation Provider (EPP) Data Dashboard until SCSU's Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) spring 2021 site visit, for the purpose of certifying graduates from SCSU in the following new certification area:

<u>Program</u>	<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Program Level</u>	<u>Program Type</u>
Elementary/Bilingual Integrated	1-6	Initial	Graduate

and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

**D. Approval of New Educator Preparation Program: Fairfield University, Italian 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 November 7, 2018 through November 30, 2021, to Fairfield University, with annual progress monitoring conducted using program data from the Connecticut Educator Preparation Provider (EPP) Data Dashboard until Fairfield's Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP)

spring 2021 site visit, for the purpose of certifying graduates from Fairfield in the following new certification area:

<b><u>Program</u></b>	<b><u>Grade Level</u></b>	<b><u>Program Level</u></b>	<b><u>Program Type</u></b>
Italian	7-12	Initial	Graduate

and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE ON

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

Motions carried unanimously.

#### **E. Report on Agricultural Science and Technology Education Graduates Five Years After Graduation**

**RESOLVED**, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-65a (b) of the Connecticut General Statutes, receives the Report on Agricultural Science and Technology Education Graduates Five Years After Graduation.

VOTE ON

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

Motion carried unanimously.

#### **VI. Report of the Chair**

Vice Chairperson López referenced that Chairperson Taylor had attended the NASBE 2018 Conference.

#### **VII. Report of the Commissioner**

Commissioner Wentzell referenced her written report. The Commissioner highlighted two announcements: (i) that Mrs. Sheena Graham, a performing arts and choir teacher at Bridgeport's Warren Harding High School, had been selected as Connecticut's 2019 Teacher of the Year; and (ii) that Ms. Marisol Rodriguez, paraeducator at E.B. Kennelly School, has been named Connecticut's 2019 Anne Marie Murphy Paraeducator of the Year.

Commissioner Wentzell indicated that the school communities were gracious in hosting, and they had an opportunity to hear the choir sing at Harding.

## **VIII. Financial Matters**

There was no financial reporting to present.

## **X. Items for Discussion**

### **A. State Board of Education Comprehensive Plan – Goal 1 Update**

Chief Operating Officer Charlene Russell-Tucker and Division Director of Choice Programs Glen Peterson presented a Goal 1 update to the Board. Goal #1 of the State Board Comprehensive Plan is "Ensuring that students' non-academic needs are met so that they are healthy, happy, and ready to learn." Ms. Russell-Tucker and Mr. Peterson provided an updated summary of alternative settings, next generation student supports, family and community engagement, and the overall likelihood of achieving the goals based on three strategies to support some of Connecticut's most vulnerable students:

Strategy 1: Improve educational outcomes for students in alternative settings by implementing the *Guidelines for Alternative Education Settings*.

Strategy 2: Implement tiered systems of support, guidance, and professional learning in areas of attendance, school discipline, restorative and trauma-informed practices that remove barriers to success and maximize student potential.

Strategy 3: Support student academic achievement and school improvement through effective school, family and community partnerships.

### **B. College Enrollment, Credit Attainment and Remediation of High School Graduates in Connecticut Public Universities and Community Colleges**

Chief Performance Officer Ajit Gopalakrishnan was joined by Dr. William J. Gammell, Director Office of Research & System Effectiveness, Connecticut State Colleges and Universities presented to the Board. The report examined and answered three studies:

1. Enrollment: What percentage of the graduating class enrolled in a Connecticut public university or community college (UConn, the four Connecticut State Universities, and 12 Connecticut community colleges) within 16 months of graduation?
2. Credit Attainment: What percentage of those who enrolled in a Connecticut public university or community college within 16 months of graduation earned at least one year's worth of credits (24 or more) within two years of enrollment?

3. Remediation: What percentage of those who enrolled in one of the four Connecticut State Universities or one of the 12 community colleges within 16 months of graduation took a remedial course within two years of enrollment?

Discussion ensued. The report is to be shared with CSDE staff, district and school leaders, and higher education staff to inform strategies that prepare all students for education after high school.

## **XI. Committee Reports**

### **A. Academic Standards and Assessment**

It was reported that the committee will meet on December 17, 2018.

### **B. Accountability and Support**

Dr. López reported that the committee met on October 22, 2018. East Hartford Middle School, East Hartford, and Clinton Avenue School, New Haven presented to the committee.

### **C. Finance, Audit, and Budget**

It was reported that the committee will be meeting on November 30, 2018.

### **D. Legislation and Policy Development**

Mr. Vrabely reported that the committee met this morning. Dr. Sarah Barzee and Dr. Katie Moirs presented two educator preparation programs. The committee continued discussions on federal choice and a Position Statement on Public School Choice.

### **E. Connecticut Technical Education and Career System Board**

CTECS Chairman Trefry requested that Jeffrey S. Wihbey, Superintendent of the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS) provide an update on the progress of Strategic Operating Plan.

### **F. NASBE**

No report was presented.

Vice Chairperson López adjourned the meeting at 12:36 p.m.

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