

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Hartford**

**Minutes  
State Board of Education Meeting  
December 5, 2018**

(Approved February 6, 2019)

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the State Board of Education (hereinafter "Board") met on Wednesday, December 5, 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 9:43 a.m.

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

Absent: Mark Ojakian, Ex Officio  
Stephen P. Wright

**II. Public Participation**

1. Allen Cook, Ph.D., Director of the School of Education, University of Bridgeport, spoke on the University of Bridgeport's School of Education commendations received during its national accreditation site visit. A copy of Dr. Cook's written statement is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
2. Dr. Samuel Galloway, Director of Human Resources, Bristol Public Schools, spoke in support of the Connecticut Troops to Teachers program.

3. Dr. Shuana Tucker, Chief Talent Officer and Patricia Putnam, Talent Officer, representing the Consolidated School District of New Britain (CSDNB), spoke in support of agenda item, X.A., State Board of Education Comprehensive Plan – Goal 3 Update, and highlighted the Connecticut Troops to Teachers program. A copy of Dr. Tucker's and Ms. Putnam's written statement is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
4. Dr. Alyson Martin and Dr. Emily Shamash, co-directors of the Graduate Special Education Program, Fairfield University, spoke in support of agenda item, IX.C., Approval of New Educator Preparation Program: Fairfield University, Special Education, Undergraduate Level. A copy of Dr. Martin's and Dr. Shamash's written statement is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
5. Laurie LePine, Director of Human Resources for Groton Public Schools, spoke on Groton's Talent Office Diversity Recruitment Initiatives and the Connecticut Troops to Teachers program. A copy of Ms. LePine's written statement is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.

At 10:00 a.m., Chairman Allan Taylor stopped the State Board of Education meeting and requested all in attendance to stand in observation of the one minute of silence in memory of President Bush.

6. Sana Shah, Bridgeport Outreach Director with Educators for Excellence-Connecticut (E4E-CT), together with fellow Outreach Director Dusty Rader, spoke in support of agenda item, X.A., State Board of Education Comprehensive Plan – Goal 3 Update. A copy of Ms. Shah's and Mr. Rader's submission on behalf of Educators for Excellence-Connecticut is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
7. Robert Rader, Executive Director, Connecticut Association of Boards of Education, Inc. (CABE), spoke in support of agenda item X.A., State Board of Education Comprehensive Plan – Goal 3 Update. A copy of Mr. Rader's written statement is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
8. Thomas Stringfellow, a resident of Manchester, addressed the Board on several matters, including book recommendations. A copy of Mr. Stringfellow's written statement is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
9. Carol Merlone, Superintendent, Ansonia Public Schools, spoke on agenda item, V.A., Ansonia Section 10-4b Proceeding: Recommendation to Conduct Inquiry. A copy of Dr. Merlone'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. November 7, 2018, State Board of Education Meeting**

Mr. Taylor moved, Mr. Vrabely seconded, that the Board adopt the minutes of the November 7, 2018, State Board of Education Meeting.

##### **VOTE ON**

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

Motion carried unanimously.

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

##### **A. Ansonia Section 10-4b Proceeding: Recommendation to Conduct Inquiry**

Legal Director Peter Haberlandt, Division of Legal and Governmental Affairs, together with Attorney Laura Anastasio introduced the history in matter of the Ansonia 10-4b proceeding. Assistant Attorney General Ralph Urban was present at the meeting and represented and counseled the State Board of Education.

Mr. Vrabely moved, Mrs. Sieve seconded, that the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-4b of the Connecticut General Statutes, orders in the matter of the Ansonia Board of Education and the City of Ansonia, that the Chair appoint a subcommittee of three members of the State Board of Education to conduct an inquiry as set forth in C.G.S. Section 10-4b and Section 10-4b-9 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, to be held at the State Office Building at 450 Columbus Boulevard in Hartford, Connecticut, beginning at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m. on \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, and such other days as may be ordered by the subcommittee, regarding the Ansonia school district's minimum budget requirement (MBR) for the 2018-19 school year, including the reduction by the Ansonia Board of Aldermen of the Ansonia Board of Education's educational appropriation for the 2017-18 school year, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

The Board engaged in questions and answers concerning the resolution on the floor for a subcommittee of three members of the State Board of Education in comparison to the full Board to conduct an inquiry as set forth in C.G.S. Section 10-4b and Section 10-4b-9 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

In lieu of a meeting recess, Chairperson Taylor dismissed the attorneys from the meeting to draft a written comparison of the Ansonia 10-4b Timeline Options if Inquiry is Ordered by the State Board of Education.



**X. Items for Discussion**

**A. State Board of Education Comprehensive Plan – Goal 3 Update**

Chief Talent Officer Sarah Barzee and Kim Wachtelhausen, Strategy Lead presented a Goal 3 update to the Board.

Dr. Barzee reported that the racial and ethnic diversity of Connecticut’s educator workforce has increased from 8.3 percent in October 2015 to 8.7 percent in October 2017.

**IX. Consent Agenda**

Mr. Vrabely moved, Mr. Davenport seconded, that the Board approve the following Consent agenda items, IX.A., University of Bridgeport, Continuing Approval; IX.B., New Educator Preparation Program Teach for America (TFA) Bilingual Education; and IX.C., Approval of New Educator Preparation Program: Fairfield University, Special Education, Undergraduate Level.

**A. University of Bridgeport, Continuing Approval**

**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 the University of Bridgeport (UB) for the period January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2025, with a progress report documenting continuous improvement work related to the Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) standard three due in spring 2022 and annual progress monitoring conducted using program data from the Connecticut Educator Preparation Provider (EPP) Data Dashboard, for the purpose of certifying graduates from UB in the following areas:

<b>Program</b>	<b>Grade Level</b>	<b>Program Level</b>	<b>Program Type</b>
Elementary Education	K-6	Initial	Graduate
Middle Level Areas:			
English	4-8	Initial	Graduate
History/Social Studies	4-8	Initial	Graduate
Mathematics	4-8	Initial	Graduate
Science	4-8	Initial	Graduate
Secondary Areas:			
English	7-12	Initial	Graduate
History and Social Studies	7-12	Initial	Graduate
Mathematics	7-12	Initial	Graduate
Biology	7-12	Initial	Graduate
Chemistry	7-12	Initial	Graduate
Earth Science	7-12	Initial	Graduate
General Science	7-12	Initial	Graduate

Physics	7-12	Initial	Graduate
Business	7-12	Initial	Graduate
Music	PK-12	Initial	Graduate
Remedial Reading/Language Arts	1-12	Initial	Graduate
Reading/Language Arts Consultant	PK-12	Advanced	Graduate
Intermediate Administration or Supervision	PK-12	Advanced	Graduate

and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

**B. New Educator Preparation Program Teach for America (TFA) Bilingual Education**

**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 December 5, 2018 through December 31, 2023 to Teacher For America-CT (TFA-CT), with annual progress monitoring conducted using program data from the Connecticut Educator Preparation Provider (EPP) Data Dashboard until TFA-CT's Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) spring 2023 site visit, for the purpose of certifying graduates from TFA-CT in the following new certification area:

<u>Program</u>	<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Program Level</u>	<u>Program Type</u>
Bilingual Education	K-12	Initial	Alternate Route to Certification

and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

**C. Approval of New Educator Preparation Program: Fairfield University, Special Education, Undergraduate 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 December 5, 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:

<u>Program</u>	<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Program Level</u>	<u>Program Type</u>
Special Education	K-12	Initial	Undergraduate

and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.



#### **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 State Board of Education 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.

#### **F. NASBE**

No report was presented.

The Board recessed for lunch at 11:59 a.m.

The Board returned from lunch at 12:42 a.m.

Present: Allan B. Taylor, Chairperson  
Estela López, Vice Chairperson  
Erin D. Benham  
Erik M. Clemons  
Makayla R. Dawkins, Student Member  
Donald F. Harris, Jr.  
Terry H. Jones  
Tarini Krishna, Student Member  
Maria I. Mojica  
Malia K. Sieve  
Robert J. Trefry, Ex Officio  
Joseph J. Vrabely, Jr.

Absent: William P. Davenport  
Mark Ojakian, Ex Officio  
Stephen P. Wright

#### **V. Items Requiring Action (continued)**

##### **A. Ansonia Section 10-4b Proceeding: Recommendation to Conduct Inquiry**

The meeting resumed with the continuation of agenda item V.A., Ansonia Section 10-4b Proceeding: Recommendation to Conduct Inquiry. The attorneys presented the Board with an "Ansonia 10-4b Timeline Options if Inquiry is Ordered by the State Board of Education."

The Board deliberated and compared the 10-4b timeline options between a subcommittee of three members of the State Board of Education compared to the full Board to conduct an inquiry as set forth in C.G.S. Section 10-4b and Section 10-4b-9 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

The Board voted in opposition of the resolution for the Chair to appoint a subcommittee of three members of the State Board of Education to conduct an inquiry.

VOTE ON

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

Motion failed unanimously.

On a motion by Mr. Vrabely, Ms. Sieve seconded, that the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-4b of the Connecticut General Statutes, orders in the matter of the Ansonia Board of Education and the City of Ansonia, that the full State Board of Education conduct an inquiry as set forth in C.G.S. Section 10-4b and Section 10-4b-9 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, regarding the Ansonia school district's minimum budget requirement (MBR) for the 2018-19 school year, including the reduction by the Ansonia Board of Aldermen of the Ansonia Board of Education's educational appropriation for the 2017-18 school year, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE ON

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

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Harris moved a motion, Mr. Vrabely seconded, that the Ansonia 10-4b Inquiry be held on Thursday, January 3, 2019, beginning at 9:30 a.m., in lieu of the regularly scheduled State Board of Education meeting, at the State Office Building at 450 Columbus Boulevard, Plaza North Conference Room C and D, Hartford, Connecticut.

