

III.A.

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford**

TO BE PROPOSED:

March 4, 2015

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education receives the 2014 Annual Report of the Connecticut Advisory Council for School Administrator Professional Standards, submitted in accordance with the requirements of subsection (e) of Section 10-144e of the Connecticut General Statutes, and directs the Interim Commissioner to take the necessary action.

Approved by a vote of _____ this fourth day of March, Two Thousand Fifteen.

Signed: _____
Dianna R. Wentzell, Secretary
State Board of Education

CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford

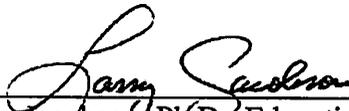
TO: State Board of Education

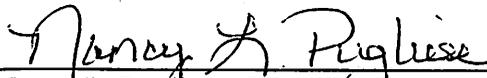
FROM: Dr. Dianna R. Wentzell, Interim Commissioner of Education

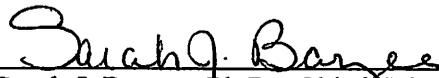
DATE: March 4, 2015

SUBJECT: 2014 Annual Report of the Connecticut Advisory Council for School Administrator Professional Standards

Attached please find a copy of the 2014 Annual Report of the Connecticut Advisory Council for School Administrator Professional Standards, submitted in accordance with the requirements of subsection (e) of Section 10-144e of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Prepared by: 
Larry Jacobson, Ph.D., Education Consultant
Bureau of Educator Standards and Certification

Reviewed by: 
Nancy L. Pugliese, J.D., Chief
Bureau of Educator Standards and Certification

Approved by: 
Sarah J. Barzee, Ph.D., Chief Talent Officer
Talent Office

**CONNECTICUT ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS**

Dr. Rosie O'Brien Vojtek, Principal
Ivy Drive School
160 Ivy Drive
Bristol, CT 06010-3303

March 4, 2015

The Honorable Dannel P. Malloy
Governor of Connecticut
State Capitol
210 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

The Honorable Allan B. Taylor
Chairperson
State Board of Education
165 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

The Honorable Gayle Slossberg
Co-Chair, Education Committee
Connecticut General Assembly
Legislative Office Building, Rm. 3100
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1591

The Honorable Andrew M. Fleischmann
Co-Chair, Education Committee
Connecticut General Assembly
Legislative Office Building, Rm. 3101
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1591

Subject: Annual Report of the Connecticut Advisory Council for School Administrator
Professional Standards – 2014

In accordance with the provisions of the Connecticut General Statutes, subsection (e) of Section 10-144e, I am pleased to forward to you this annual report of the Connecticut Advisory Council for School Administrator Professional Standards.

Council Operations

The Connecticut Advisory Council for School Administrator Professional Standards (Council) addresses timely and relevant educational issues in the depth necessary to contribute meaningfully to educational improvement. Our aim is to investigate key issues thoroughly, develop substantive policy recommendations, and bring greater visibility to critical matters. The Council generally focuses annually on one or two major issues affecting administrators and the teaching profession, and makes recommendations to the Governor's Office, the Education Committee of the General Assembly, and the State Board of Education (SBE). The Council also keeps abreast of other matters affecting the profession as required by its legislative charge.

Issues of Focus

As a continuation from its 2013 deliberations, the Council focused on strategies to strengthen the state's educational leadership.

A continuing focus of the Council was the implementation of Connecticut's new System for Educator Evaluation and Support and the transition to the Connecticut Core Standards (CCS).

Information Sessions

During the Council meetings, the following information sessions were provided:

- **Joint meeting with the Connecticut Advisory Council for Teacher Professional Standards:** Dr. Sarah J. Barzee, Chief Talent Officer for the Connecticut State Department of Education, updated the Council on Connecticut's System for Educator Evaluation and Support and final results of the Neag School of Education study of the implementation of the 2012-2013 pilot of the System for Educator Evaluation and Development (SEED). Highlights of the study results include:
 - pilot districts implemented nearly all aspects of SEED;
 - three observations proved challenging, but most teachers received two formal and two informal observations;
 - educators reported increased time on evaluation activities than in previous years; and
 - some areas were identified as not yet fully implemented, including parental feedback, student feedback, professional learning tied to evaluation, and SEED for school administrators.

- **Karissa Niehoff, Executive Director of the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS),** spoke to the Council about the "State of the State" (e.g., political climate and changes being made to laws, policies and procedures at the state and national level). Key topics addressed included:
 - "*Smarter Balanced Test Manual*" memo from Dianna Roberge-Wentzell (January 30, 2014);
 - update on "*Flexibilities to the Guidelines for Educator Evaluation*" from Dr. Sarah J. Barzee (February 10, 2014);
 - summary of 23 topics from the General Assembly's Education Committee; and
 - "*The Performance Evaluation Advisory Council (PEAC) Meeting PowerPoint Presentation,*" (January 17, 2014).

- **Jeffrey Villar, Executive Director of The Connecticut Council for Education Reform (CCER),** described the purpose of their organization as a not-for-profit organization that works to close the achievement gap and raise academic outcomes for all students in Connecticut. CCER works on the 67 policy recommendations from the Connecticut Commission on Educational Achievement (CCEA). CCER's efforts include raising public awareness about the need for reform and effective solutions for public education, and advocating for the adoption of policies and best practices in the following six areas:
 - Demand Accountability;
 - High Expectations;
 - Foster Leadership;
 - Excellent Teachers;
 - Invest Intelligently; and
 - Turnaround Schools.

Gary Maynard, President of the Connecticut Federation of School Administrators (CFSA) and ex officio member of the Council, continued to update the Council on the following topics:

- state legislation impacting education;
- Connecticut Core Standards and Smarter Balanced Assessment;

- educator evaluation;
 - education cost sharing (ECS)/budget issues;
 - certification issues;
 - union issues;
 - status of Connecticut Coalition for Justice in Educational Funding (CCJEF) (no change as of December 2014); and
 - the New Education Urban Initiative- CommPACT Schools have become part of the Community Schools Initiative.
- **Regina Birdsell, Assistant Executive Director of Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS)**, spoke about Connecticut’s early childhood initiatives. Ms. Birdsell discussed several publications serving as resources to strengthen Connecticut’s early childhood education, including the following:
 - *PreK-3: Principals as Crucial Instructional Leader*, Foundation for Child Development (2011);
 - *Building the Brain’s “Air Traffic Control” System: How Early Experiences Shape the Development of Executive Function*, Center of the Developing Child, Harvard University (2011); and
 - *Early Learning and Development Standards, Birth through Grade 3: Guidance for Principal’s and Public School Leaders*, Connecticut Early Learning and Development Standards.
- **Elizabeth Buttner, Science Education Consultant, Connecticut State Department of Education**, spoke about the Next Generation Science Standards. The major attributes of the Next Generation Science Standards include:
 - less emphasis on facts as an indicator of understanding science. Next Generation Science students will use science and engineering practices to develop and demonstrate understanding;
 - greater emphasis on “sensemaking” science practices, such as argumentation, explanation and modeling;
 - increased teacher facilitation of “productive” oral and written discourse that engages students in comparing interpretations of findings, critiquing and challenging;
 - engineering design concepts and skills in science curricula;
 - the integration of explicit instruction in crosscutting concepts and the nature of science; and
 - structured opportunities to learn, reinforce and use Common Core literacy and mathematics skills and practices to build science knowledge, reasoning and analytical skills.
- **Marion Stannard, Director of the Carl M. Small Regional Agricultural Center at Southington High School**, invited the Council to visit the Southington program. Ms. Stannard provided an overview of the goals of the program, students served, and impact of the program on student learning. The Council toured the program facilities and students responded to questions and discussed personal experiences at the Agricultural Center. As noted by Robert Klancko, the agriscience and technology model is considered by many to not only serve as an exemplary illustration of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education, but is supported as an effective educational approach.

Additional Areas of Discussion

Concerns regarding the status of Connecticut's pending plans for secondary reform which have not been addressed in the past year by the CSDE.

Areas of Focus for 2015

In 2015, the Council will continue to focus attention on the review of the following policies and programs:

- equitable school funding, particularly in the areas of school consequences, subgroup reporting, the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) waiver policies and special education concerns;
- progress in the implementation of Connecticut's educator evaluation and professional learning processes;
- Connecticut's transition to the Connecticut Core Standards and Smarter Balanced Assessments, including appropriate, adequate and equitable technology tools, resources, technical support, and professional learning/training;
- increased knowledge and understanding of 21st century skills (e.g., effective communication, collaboration, critical-thinking, creativity, problem-solving, risk-taking, entrepreneurship), enabling administrators to provide vision and leadership in these areas, especially through the use of current technology, to engage teachers and students in learning beyond the classroom walls and to develop global citizens;
- enhanced school safety and security and administrator training; and
- the new Connecticut Social Studies Frameworks and the Next Generation Science Standards and their impact on education across the state.

Council Information

In 2014, the Council met seven times: January 16, February 12, April 23, May 14, September 17, October 29 and December 10. Dr. Rosie O'Brien Vojtek, principal of Ivy Drive School in Bristol, continued to serve as the Council Chair. Robert Klancko, representing business and industry, continued to serve as vice chair.

Gary Maynard, a former principal from Bristol and CFSA President, served as a Council ex officio member and secretary.

There is currently one vacancy (House Speaker's parent appointee) in the Council membership of 17. The membership list is included in Appendix A.

Special thanks to the staff of Ivy Drive School for graciously hosting the Council meetings in 2014.

We are pleased with the Council's progress during 2014, and we look forward in continuing to fulfill our role in a meaningful way. If we can be of assistance on issues important to you, or if you have comments or questions, please contact me or Larry Jacobson, our CSDE liaison to the Council, at 860-713-6819, or by email at larry.jacobson@ct.gov.

Sincerely,



Dr. Rosie O'Brien Vojtek, Chair

Appendix A

CONNECTICUT ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

Title	F. Name	L. Name	Apt. By	Mailing Title/email	Organization	Mailing Address	City	ST	ZIP	Work#	Home#	Rep	Term	FAX
Dr.	Gary	Alger	SBE	Gary.alger@quinnipiac.edu	Quinnipiac University	160 Cobble Lane	Southbury	CT	06488	203-582-3289	203-300-3771	Admin. Prep. Prog.	2016	203-576-5444
Mr.	Michael	D'Agostino	Sen Maj Ldr	Michael.dagostino@bingham.com	Bingham McCutchen LLP	One State Street	Hartford	CT	06103	860-240-2731	203-752-1105	Bd of Ed	2015	860-240-2818
Dr.	Jennifer	Byars	CAS	jbyars@ledyard.net	Asst. Super, Ledyard Public Schools		Ledyard	CT		860-526-5319	860-460-8790	Elementary Admin.	2015	
Mr.	Michael	Foran	CFSA	foran@csdnb.org	Principal New Britain High School	110 Mill Street	New Britain	CT	06051-3413	860-225-6300		Secondary Admin.	2015	
Mr.	Cal	Heminway	Sen Min Ldr	Calhemin1@gmail.com	Board of Education	P O. Box 97 10 Granville Rd	North Granby	CT	06060	860-653-0550	860-653-3851	Public	2015	
Ms.	Pamela	Iacono	Sen Min Ldr	Piacono73@gmail.com		68 Phyfe Road	Fairfield	CT	06824		203-254-2641	Parent	2015	
Dr.	Mary	Conway	Hse Maj. Ldr	mconway@vernon-ct.gov	Vernon Public Schools	30 Park St. P.O. Box 600	Vernon	CT	06066-3244	860-870-6000		Superintendent	2014	
Mr.	Fran	Kennedy	CAS	Francis.kennedy@comcast.net	Principal Berlin H S	139 Patterson Way	Berlin	CT	06037	860-828-6577	860-276-7007	Secondary Admin.	2016	860-829-2169
Mr.	Robert	Klancko	Gov.	Business & Indus. rjKlancko@gmail.com	New Haven Manufacturers Assn.	2 Orchard Rd.	Woodbridge	CT	06525	203-393-2978	203-393-2978	Bus/Ind	2016	203-393-2539
Ms.	Pamela	Lazaroski	CAS	lazaroskip@region10ct.org	Principal Lewis Mills HS	26 Lyon Road	Burlington	CT	06013	860-673-0423		Secondary Admin.	2015	860-673-9128
Ms.	Ann	Lohrand	Sen Pro Tem	alohrand@aol.com	CT AFT	16 Juniper Hill Court	Cromwell	CT	06416-1844		860-635-1622	Teacher	2016	
Mr.	Gary	Maynard	Ex-Officio-Secretary	gmaynard@ctfedschoolsadmin.org										
*Dr.	Rosie	O'Brien Vojtek	CFSA	Rvoitek@edovation.com	Principal Ivy Drive Sch	160 Ivy Dr.	Bristol	CT	06010-3303	860-584-7843	860-582-8663	Elementary Admin.	2015	860-584-3876
Ms.	Judith K.	Resnick	SBE	Judy.Resnick@cbia.com	CBIA Education Foundation	350 Church St.	Hartford	CT	06518-0569	860-244-1937	Cell: 203-922-3004	Bus/Ind	2016	860-278-8562
		VACANT	House Spkr									Parent	2014	
Ms.	Beverly	Scully	CFSA	bscully@cheshire.k12.ct.us	Principal Highland Elem. School.	490 Highland Avenue	Cheshire	CT	06410	203-272-4056		Elementary Principal	2016	203-272-0977
Mr.	Gary	Scrofani	Hse Min Ldr	gscrofani@snet.net	Bus. & Industry	117 Old Castle Drive	Monroe	CT	06468	203-610-3963	203-261-9105	Bus & Indus.	2015	
Dr.	Beth	Smith	Hse Min Ldr	bsmith@sheltonpublicschools.org	Shelton High School	145 Dickerman St.	Hamden	CT	06518		203-281-4278	Public	2016	
		SDE												
Ms.	Nancy	Pugliese		Nancy.pugliese@ct.gov	SDE Bureau Chief	P.O. Box 2219 Rm 223	Hartford	CT	06145	860-713-6708				860-713-7016
Dr.	Larry	Jacobson		larry.jacobson@ct.gov	SDE Consultant	P.O. Box 2219 Rm. 246A	Hartford	CT	06145	860-713-6819				860-713-7027
Dr.	Amanda	Turner		Amanda.turner@ct.gov	SDE Consultant	P.O. Box 2219 Rm. 246A	Hartford	CT	06145	860-713-6737				860-713-7027

* Chairperson **Vice Chairperson Rev Dec, 2014