

CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION Hartford

Draft Minutes

December 1, 2010, Meeting

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the State Board of Education (hereinafter "Board") met on Wednesday, December 1, 2010. The meeting was held at the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Taylor called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

Present: Allan Taylor, Chairperson
Janet Finneran, Vice Chairperson
Beverly Bobroske
Patrick Campbell
Lynne Farrell*
Theresa Hopkins-Staton
Pat Luke
Neha Mehta
Brenda Sisco*
Joseph Vrabely
Jay Voss
Pamela Partridge West*
Michael Meotti, Ex-Officio

II. Public Participation

1. Milly Arciniegas, Parent of a student at Kennelly School in Hartford, spoke to the Board regarding school-based seniority.

[*Ms. Sisco and Mrs. Partridge West arrived at 9:45 a.m.]

2. Dr. Nicole DeRonck, President of Connecticut School Counselor Association, thanked the Board for their willingness to consider the impact that the new regulations would have on support services available to all students. Dr. DeRonck's written comments can be found in the official file of this meeting.

3. Dr. Linette Branham, Connecticut Education Association (CEA) Educational Issues Specialist, spoke to the Board regarding the proposed Literacy certification. Dr. Branham's written comments can be found in the official file of this meeting.

[*Dr. Farrell arrived at 9:55 a.m.]

1. Dr. Jane Logie, Reading/Language Arts Consultant with the Fairfield Public School System, urged the Board to continue Connecticut's practice of offering the two reading certifications. Dr. Logie's written comments can be found in the official file of this meeting.
2. Brian Farrell, President of the Connecticut Council of Administrators of Special Education (ConnCASE), stated while there are still provisions in the regulations that will create difficulties for districts, the December draft regulations are more closely aligned with ConnCASE's position. Mr. Farrell's written comments can be found in the official file of this meeting.
3. Sandra Mangan, President of Connecticut Reading Association (CRA), spoke in support of the single certification of Literacy Specialist/Coach. Ms. Mangan's written comments can be found in the official file of this meeting.
4. Jacquita Greene, CRA's Co-President Elect, stated that CRA supports the Board's consideration of the single certification of Literacy Specialist/Coach. Ms. Greene's written comments can be found in the official file of this meeting.
5. Diane Kern, Co-Chair of the International Reading Association (IRA) Professional Standards and Ethics Commission, stated that the State Board's proposal for a single certificate, supports the professional recommendations of the IRA.
6. The following students from Lisbon Central School in Lisbon, spoke to the Board regarding changing the Kindergarten age to an earlier date; Brooke Sheeler, Alycia Field, Jarrad Smith, Rhiannon Choate, Taylor Smith, Camden Edmond, Madeline Azevedo and Courtney Davis. A copy of their statements can be found in the official file of this meeting.

VII.A. Report of the Governor's Commission on the Achievement Gap

Commissioner McQuillan introduced the following Commission Members who presented the report to the Board. They are: Ramani Ayer, Carla Klein and Will Ginsberg. Discussion followed.

By unanimous consent, the Board considered agenda item IX.A., Approval of Amended Plan to Correct Racial Imbalance in the Fairfield Public Schools, at this time.

IX.A. Approval of Amended Plan to Correct Racial Imbalance in the Fairfield Public Schools

Mrs. Luke moved, Mrs. Bobroske seconded, that the Board, pursuant to Section 10-226d of the Connecticut General Statutes, approves the Fairfield Board of Education's "2010 Addendum to the Plan to Address Racial Imbalance" submitted by the Fairfield Board of Education and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action to implement this resolution.

Ms. Finneran moved, Mrs. Luke seconded, to table this motion.

VOTE In Favor: Bobroske, Farrell, Finneran, Hopkins-Staten, Luke, Taylor, Sisco,
TO Voss, Vrabely, Partridge West
TABLE: Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: 0

Motion to table carried unanimously.

By unanimous consent, the Board recessed its meeting at 12:30 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 1:00 p.m. Present were Mrs. Bobroske, Dr. Farrell, Ms. Finneran, Mr. Campbell, Mrs. Luke, Ms. Mehta, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten, Mrs. Sisco, Mr. Vrabely, Mrs. Partridge West, Dr. Voss, Mr. Taylor and Commissioner Meotti.

VII.B. National Board Examination System

Commissioner McQuillan introduced Marc Tucker, President, National Center on Education and the Economy, who presented the report to the Board. Discussion followed.

[Mrs. Hopkins-Staton left at 1:30 p.m.]

IV. Consideration of Minutes of November 3, 2010, State Board of Education Meeting

Ms. Finneran moved, Mrs. Luke seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the November 3, 2010, State Board of Education meeting.

VOTE: In Favor: Bobroske, Farrell, Finneran, Taylor, Sisco, Vrabely
Opposed: 0
Abstained: Luke, Voss, Partridge West
Absent: Hopkins-Staton

Motion carried.

V. Report of the Chair – Mr. Taylor distributed a written report, which is in the official file of this meeting and includes the following:

- Our newly appointed member, William Davenport, will be joining us at the January 5, 2011, meeting.
- Theresa Hopkins Staton will serve as the Chair of the NASBE Study Group on Teacher Preparation, Evaluation, Continuation, and Compensation.
- The “Dialogue with the State Board of Education” session at the CABE/CAPSS convention was well attended. Joining me were Ms. Finneran and Commissioners McQuillan and Meotti. Commissioner McQuillan summarized current initiatives, NAEP results, Common Core Standards, Legislation (e.g., Crandall Schools, Kindergarten entry age), Sheff update, and the work of the P-20 Council. Discussion with the audience followed, centering on topics such as preschool education, promoting positive news, English Language Learners, alignment between curriculum and assessments, need for full-day kindergarten, and educational equity.

VIII.A. Report of the Superintendent

Patricia Ciccone, Superintendent of the Connecticut Technical High School System, presented the report entitled, "Assuring Connecticut's Success: A Summary of Current Practices, Conditions and Forecasts in Technical Education at CTHSS. Ms. Ciccone also reported on the following: (1) the school-by-school expenditures can now be accessed on-line; (2) LPN classes will start in January; (3) the status of the CTHSS busses.

[Mrs. Hopkins-Staten returned at 1:55]

IX.B. Adoption of Regulations Concerning State Educator Certificates, Permits and Authorizations

Ms. Finneran moved, Mr. Vrabely seconded, that the Board adopts regulations Sections 10-145d-806 through 10-145d-986, inclusive, and repeals sections 10-145d-400 through 10-145d-619, inclusive, and 10-145d-566a through 10-145d-566f, inclusive, of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

Mrs. Luke moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded to amend the resolution as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Board adopts regulations Sections 10-145d-806 through 10-145d-986, inclusive, and repeals sections 10-145d-400 through 10-145d-619, inclusive, and 10-145d-566a through 10-145d-566f, inclusive, of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, and directs the Commissioner **to make technical changes, including, but not limited to the following:**

- Section 10-145-927, Provision of services to students with disabilities," to read as follows: "Persons holding a special services endorsement of school counselor, school psychologist, school social worker, school marriage and family therapist, or speech and language pathologist, in the employ of a board of education, may deliver one or more of the following services **for which the individual is appropriately trained and certified.**"

Changing the number of credit hours from 30 to 48, as referenced in Section 10-145d-864(b)(3), to read as follows: "Has completed a minimum of **48** semester hours of credit in professional education in an approved planned program of study and experience in special education...".

and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE In Favor: Bobroske, Farrell, Finneran, Hopkins-Staten, Luke, Taylor, Sisco,
ON Vrabely, Partridge West
AMEND- Opposed: 0
MENT: Abstained: Voss
Absent: 0

VOTE In Favor: Bobroske, Farrell, Finneran, Hopkins-Staten, Luke, Taylor, Sisco,
ON Vrabely, Partridge West
MOTION Opposed: 0
AS Abstained: Voss
AMENDED: Absent: 0

Motion, as amended, carried.

IX.C. Adoption of 2011 Legislative Proposals

Mrs. Partridge West moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, that the Board adopts the Legislative Proposals for 2011, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE: In Favor: Bobroske, Farrell, Finneran, Hopkins-Staten, Luke, Taylor,
Voss, Vrabely, Partridge West
Opposed: 0
Abstained: Sisco
Absent: 0

Motion carried.

X. Report of Commissioner -- Commissioner McQuillan called attention to the power point presentation he gave to the Achievement Gap Task Force on Monday. The presentation shows how all pieces come together to form a master plan. The Commissioner made an appeal to the Commission that the new Board's Comprehensive Plan be considered.

XII. Committee Reports

- **Finance, Audit and Department Matters** – Mrs. Luke reported that the Committee will be meeting on December 9, 2010, at 9:30 a.m. in the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford.
- **Legislation and Bylaws Committee** – Mrs. Hopkins-Staten reported that the Committee met this morning and was given an update on Sheff v. O'Neill. They also looked at the Legislative Proposals that are on today's agenda for approval.
- **Connecticut Technical High School Committee** - Mr. Vrabely reported that the committee met in Middletown on November 10th and discussed inventory, fiscal reporting and security. The committee will be meeting on December 8, 2010, at H.H. Ellis Technical High School in Danielson.
- **NASBE** – Theresa Hopkins Staten will serve as the Chair of the NASBE Study Group on Teacher Preparation, Evaluation, Continuation, and Compensation.
- **Ad Hoc Committee to Study ECS and Choice Funding** – Mr. Taylor reported that the full committee is meeting regularly. The next meeting is scheduled for December 6, 2010, followed by December 13 and December 20 meetings.
- **Ad Hoc Committee on Accountability** – Commissioner McQuillan reported that the committee met last month and discussed three new districts. The committee also discussed the Windham Improvement Plan with the Superintendent and representatives of Windham.

III. Executive Session

By unanimous consent, the Board recessed its meeting at 3:24 p.m. to go into executive session to discuss the Commissioner's Evaluation and Recommendation to Appoint an Acting Commissioner. Present in Executive Session were: Mr. Taylor, Ms. Finneran, Mrs. Bobroske, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten, Dr. Farrell, Mrs. Partridge West, Mrs. Luke, Mrs. Sisco, Mr. Vrabely, Ms. Mehta and Commissioner McQuillan. Commissioner Meotti, Dr. Voss and Mr. Campbell were absent.

The meeting reconvened at 4:07 p.m. Present were: Mr. Taylor, Ms. Finneran, Mrs. Bobroske, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten, Dr. Farrell, Mrs. Partridge West, Mrs. Sisco, Dr. Voss, Mr. Vrabely and Ms. Mehta. Commissioner Meotti, Mrs. Luke and Mr. Campbell were absent.

IX.D. Appointment of Acting Commissioner of Education

Ms. Finneran moved, Mrs. Bobroske seconded, that the Board, pursuant to Section 10-2(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes, appoints Mark K. McQuillan as Acting Commissioner of Education until such time as a Commissioner of Education is appointed consistent with the provisions of Section 10-3a and Sections 4-5 to 4-7, inclusive, of the Connecticut General Statutes.

VOTE: In Favor: Bobroske, Farrell, Finneran, Hopkins-Staten, Taylor, Sisco,
Voss, Vrabely, Partridge West
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: Luke

Motion carried unanimously.

By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Prepared by: _____
Mark K. McQuillan, Secretary

