

CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford

Minutes
of the
August 5, 2013,
State Board of Education Special Meeting
(approved September 4, 2013)

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the State Board of Education (hereinafter "Board") conducted a telephone conference call meeting on Wednesday, August 5, 2013, via speaker phone set up in room 307 of the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Taylor called the meeting to order at 11:07 a.m.

Roll Call to Establish a Quorum: The following Board members identified themselves as participants: Jake Colavolpe (student member), Theresa Hopkins-Staten, Terry Jones, Patricia Keavney-Maruca, Estela Lopez, Allan Taylor (in person), Robert Trefry, ex officio, and Joseph Vrabely. The following members were absent: Andrea Comer, Charles Jaskiewicz, Clayton Potter (student member) and Stephen Wright.

Also present in the meeting room were the following individuals: Commissioner Stefan Pryor, Attorney Matthew Venhorst, representing the Commissioner; Assistant Attorney General Emily V. Melendez, legal counsel for the Board in this matter; Pamela Charland, Assistant to the Commissioner; Janet I. Montague, Office of Board Matters; Susan Galley Byrne, Fairfield parent and complainant; Dawn Llewellyn, Fairfield parent and complainant; and Tricia Donovan, Fairfield parent and complainant. Mr. Taylor read prepared opening remarks. He questioned whether there was a representative of the parents who filed the initial complaint present, and whether anyone wished to make a brief statement. If so, he invited them to do so after identifying themselves for the record.

Susan Galley Byrne identified herself as the mother of a Fairfield student and a complainant in the case. Mrs. Galley Byrne stated that while she agreed to the Settlement, she feels that the local school district and State did not represent the interests of the Fairfield students well. She urged that the policy be changed to ensure that this situation does not reoccur.

II. Items Requiring Action

A. Dismissal of the Fairfield 10-4b Matter: Byrne, et al v. Fairfield Board of Education, Case No. SBE2013-001

Mrs. Keavney-Maruca moved, Dr. Lopez seconded, that the Board approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The parties in the matter of Susan Galley Byrne, et al. v. Fairfield Board of Education, have entered into an Agreement which resolves the Complaint; and

WHEREAS, The terms of that agreement are set forth in the Settlement Agreement attached hereto; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That in accord with and pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. §4-177(c) and Section 10-4-16(j) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, the State Board of Education hereby disposes of the Complaint without hearing.

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| VOTE ON MOTION VIA ROLL CALL: | In favor: | Hopkins-Staten, Jones, Keavney-Maruca, Lopez, Taylor, Vrabely |
| | Opposed: | 0 |
| | Abstained: | 0 |
| | Absent: | Comer, Jaskiewicz, Wright |

Motion carried unanimously.

III. Adjourn

By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted: _____
Allan B. Taylor, Chairperson