

**Special Education Cost Model Task Force  
Minutes of Meeting  
June 25, 2019**

**Call to Order**

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the Special Education Cost Model Task Force met on Tuesday, June 25, 2019 via conference call. A phone line was made available for public participation at South Windsor Town Hall, 1540 Sullivan Ave, South Windsor, CT 06074 in the Town Manager's Office Conference Room.

Matthew Galligan, chair, called the meeting to order at 2:31 PM.

Task force members in attendance:

- Stephen DiCenso, Consulting Actuary, Milliman, Inc.
- Liz Donohue, Designee of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management
- Matthew Galligan, Town Manager, South Windsor (Chair)
- Marie Salazar Glowski, Assistant Executive Director, Connecticut Association of Schools
- Patrice McCarthy, Deputy Director and General Counsel, Connecticut Association of Boards of Education
- Jan Perruccio, Superintendent, Old Saybrook Public Schools
- David Scata, Executive Director, Connecticut Council of Administrators of Special Education
- Michael Grove, Assistant Superintendent for Operations and Finance, Meriden Public Schools
- Kathy Demsey, Chief Financial Officer, State Department of Education
- John Flanders, Executive Director, Connecticut Parent Advocacy Center

Task force members absent:

- Jeffrey Kitching, Executive Director, EdAdvance
- Jeyaraj Vadiveloo, Director, Goldenson Center for Actuarial Research, University of Connecticut

Others in attendance:

- Kyle Abercrombie, Connecticut School Finance Project
- Martha Deeds, Connecticut School Finance Project
- Cara Hart, CREC
- Lisa Hammersley, Connecticut School Finance Project
- CJ Strand, Connecticut School Finance Project
- Fran Rabinowitz, Connecticut Association of Public Schools Superintendents
- Katie Roy, Connecticut School Finance Project

**1. Review and acceptance of May meeting minutes**

Mr. Scata moved, and Ms. McCarthy seconded, a motion to accept the minutes of the May 20, 2019 meeting.

## VOTE ON MOTION

In favor: DiCenso, Donohue, Galligan, Glowski, McCarthy, Perruccio, Scata, Grove

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Absent: Demsey, Vadiveloo, Flanders, Kitching

### **2. Discussion of second draft of the task force's final report**

Members discussed their edits to the discussion draft, including whether to include a statement regarding members' opinions of the issue of burden of proof in section on issues regarding special education not within the scope of the task force. Mr. Scata, Ms. McCarthy, Mr. Galligan, and Ms. Perruccio indicated they would like the statement included, while Mr. Flanders stated that he would not vote for the final report if the statement was included. Mr. Galligan emphasized that there are no recommendations in the draft report, but that task force members could make them if so desired. Ms. Demsey stated that she is supportive of funding models that make special education costs more predictable and asked that the final report clarify that the models do not solve between-year volatility for all districts. Ms. McCarthy suggested two options to resolve differences of opinion: allow members to provide dissenting opinions as addenda to the report or to submit the feasibility study components without comment. Ms. Perruccio stated that she supported allowing members to submit dissenting opinions, as she thought it increased transparency. Mr. Galligan reminded members that there would be another round of edits to the discussion draft before a final version would be put forward for a vote. Mr. Scata and Ms. McCarthy asked that it be emphasized that there are still unknowns that need to be worked out before any model is implemented. Mr. DiCenso asked that the exact investment return figures be removed from the draft, as they are based on assumptions which could change during implementation. Mr. Galligan asked for final comments and edits to be submitted by Friday, for inclusion in the final version, and stated he expects to take a vote on the final report at the July meeting of the task force.

### **3. Other Business**

None

### **4. Adjournment**

At 3:13 PM, Mr. Flanders moved, and Ms. Glowski seconded, a motion to adjourn the meeting.

## VOTE ON MOTION

In favor: DiCenso, Donohue, Galligan, Glowski, McCarthy, Perruccio, Scata, Grove, Demsey, Flanders

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Absent: Vadiveloo, Kitching