

# IX.B.

## CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION Hartford

### TO BE PROPOSED:

May 3, 2017

**RESOLVED**, That the State Board of Education (SBE), pursuant to subsection (b) of Section 10-144e of the Connecticut General Statutes, appoints the following individuals to serve on the Connecticut Advisory Council for Administrator Professional Standards for a four-year term effective immediately and ending September 30, 2021:

Name	Affiliation	Representation	Term Ending
Sean Johnston, J.D.	The Hartford	Business and Industry	Sept. 30, 2021
Gladis Kersaint, Ph.D.	University of Connecticut	Administrator Preparation Program	Sept. 30, 2021

and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

Approved by a vote of \_\_\_\_\_ this third day of May, Two Thousand Seventeen.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Dianna R. Wentzell, Secretary  
State Board of Education

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Hartford**

**TO:** State Board of Education

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

**DATE:** May 3, 2017

**SUBJECT:** Appointments to the Connecticut Advisory Council for Administrator Professional Standards

**Executive Summary**

**Introduction**

Pursuant to subsection (b) of Section 10-144e of the Connecticut General Statutes, the State Board of Education (SBE) is required to appoint two of the 17 members to the Connecticut Advisory Council for Administrator Professional Standards. One appointee is to represent the faculty or administration of a SBE-approved administrator preparation program and the other is to represent business and industry.

**History/Background**

The Council was established to (1) advise the SBE, the Governor and the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education concerning administrator preparation, training, certification, professional development, assessment and evaluation, and professional discipline; (2) review and comment upon all regulations and other standards concerning the approval of administrator preparation programs and administrator certification; (3) report to the SBE, the Governor and the joint standing committee of the General Assembly annually on its activities and recommendations, if any, concerning the condition of the school administrator profession; and (4) develop a code of professional responsibility for school administrators not later than September 30, 1993.

On June 21, 1993, the SBE voted to adopt the code of professional responsibility located in the Regulations Concerning State Educator Certificates, Permits, and Authorizations (Section 10-145d-400a).

**Recommendation and Justification**

In order to restore full membership to the Connecticut Advisory Council for Administrator Professional Standards, the following individuals are recommended for appointment by the SBE:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Representation</b>	<b>Term Ending</b>
Sean Johnston, J.D.	The Hartford	Business and Industry	Sept. 30, 2021
Gladis Kersaint, Ph.D.	University of Connecticut	Administrator Preparation Program	Sept. 30, 2021

A short biography and photo for each of the two nominees can be found in **Attachments A and B**.

**Follow-up Activity**

If approved, members will begin service effective immediately and will be asked to attend the next Council meeting scheduled for May 17, 2017.

Prepared by: Kim Wachtelhausen, Education Consultant  
Talent Office

Reviewed by: Shannon Marimón, Division Director  
Talent Office

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



**Sean P. Johnston** - Mr. Johnston has lived most of his life in Connecticut and is a product of its public school systems. He attended Middletown Public Schools through fourth grade and the Berlin Public Schools thereafter, graduating from Berlin High School in 1988, where he played baseball and football. After Berlin High he moved on to Harvard University, where he was four-year member of the varsity baseball team and graduated with a B.A. in Economics in 1992. Mr. Johnston then spent four years playing professional baseball in the Chicago White Sox minor league system, after which he attended the New York University School of Law and the University of Connecticut (UConn) School of Law, graduating with high honors from UConn in 1999.

After living in the Washington, D.C. metro area for three years, where he worked for a private law firm and start-up technology company, Mr. Johnston and his wife, Tracy Johnston, relocated back to Connecticut. For the last 15 years, he has worked at The Hartford, where he is currently Managing Associate General Counsel and Head of the Coverage Law Unit. From 2009 until 2014, Mrs. Johnston was the Director of Pupil Services in the Regional School District 4, at which time she left to spend more time at home with their young children, Tighe and Phoebe. Mr. Johnston is looking forward to bringing his perspective from the business community to the work of the Connecticut Advisory Council for Administrator Professional Standards.



**Gladis Kersaint** – Dr. Kersaint joined the Neag School of Education at the University of Connecticut in June 2016. Prior to her current role, Dr. Kersaint served as the associate dean of academic affairs and research for the College of Education at the University of South Florida (USF), where she was also a professor of mathematics. At USF she also served as director of the David C. Anchin Center and held the David C. Anchin Endowed Chair in Education Innovation. The Center promotes alliances and leverages resources to facilitate partnership efforts that support innovation and the advancement of teaching. From 2006 to 2010, Dr. Kersaint served as coordinator of

USF Undergraduate Education and chair of the General Education Council, a role with university-wide reach.

Dr. Kersaint is a well-respected scholar in mathematics education with an extensive publication and national and local service record. She has published four books and numerous refereed journal articles related to factors that influence mathematics teacher education and effective mathematics teaching, the mathematical teaching and learning of at-risk students, and the use of technology in teaching and learning mathematics. During her tenure at USF, she served as the principal or co-principal investigator of approximately \$30 million of National Science Foundation, U.S. Department of Education, and Florida Department of Education grants.

Dr. Kersaint has led a number of collaborative STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) education projects involving school district personnel as well as university faculty in Arts and Sciences and Engineering. She has also provided service at the national level, including serving as a member of the Board of Directors for the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, the largest professional organization for mathematics educators, and the Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators. Prior to her academic post at USF, Dr. Kersaint taught high school mathematics for the Miami-Dade County Public Schools, the fourth largest public school district in the nation.

