

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Legislation and Bylaws Committee

January 5, 2011
8:30 a.m.
State Office Building
Hartford, CT

APPROVED MINUTES

Members Present

Theresa Hopkins-Staten, Janet Finneran, Beverley Brobroske, William Davenport, Neha Mehta and Patrick Campbell.

Staff Present

George Coleman, Daniel Murphy, Pamela Bergin, Jennifer Widness and Janice Dinnall.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:44 a.m.

Approval of December 1, 2010 Meeting Minutes

The December 1, 2010, meeting minutes were approved unanimously on a motion by Janet Finneran, seconded by Theresa Hopkins-Staten.

Revisions of Bylaws

Attorney Murphy brought to the Committee's attention that the bylaws needed changes to be consistent with recent statutory changes. He also brought out that citations would need to be updated and that minimum changes would be made as required by law.

Ms. Hopkins-Staten stated her concerns regarding meeting quorums within each committee and she suggested that there be alternate members for each committee.

Sheff v. O'Neill Update

Attorney Widness updated the Committee of the status of the State Department Education's legislative proposals. She stated that a meeting was held with the Office of

Policy and Management's (OPM) director and that the package is being reviewed. The SDE's priorities were communicated to OPM's director. They were:

1. Sheff Proposals
2. The apprenticeship tuition rate in the Connecticut Technical High School System, and
3. The cutoff date for kindergarten students.

Deputy Commissioner Coleman spoke about the Legislative Taskforce on Closing the Achievement Gap. He suggested to the Committee that a plan should be developed to integrate all taskforce ideas and to have a consolidated proposal to be approved by the legislature and adopted by the Governor. Ms. Hopkins-Staten agreed and stated that this would have to be done collaboratively.

Members of the Committee spoke about the SBE member's involvement and their presence at the legislature during the legislative session.

Other Matters

Deputy Commissioner Coleman raised the issue of single gender schools, a matter that he said would have to be discussed at a later Committee meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 a.m.