

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Legislation and Bylaws Committee

May 4, 2011
8:30 a.m.
State Office Building
Hartford, CT

MINUTES
Approved June 1, 2011

Members Present

Ferdinand Risco, Jr., Terry Jones, Ellen Camhi and Patrick Campbell.

Staff Present

George Coleman, Daniel Murphy, Pamela Charland, Jessica Andrews and Janice Dinnall.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:34 a.m.

Approval of April 6, 2011, Meeting Minutes

The April 6, 2011, meeting minutes were approved unanimously on a motion by Ellen Camhi, seconded by Ferdinand Risco, Jr.

Mr. Risco thanked Ms. Hopkins-Staten for asking him to chair in her absence.

Legislative Update

Jessica Andrews discussed and gave a brief update on the State Board of Education's ("SBE") legislative proposals. Ms. Andrews noted that all proposals mentioned at the April Committee meeting were still alive and going through the process, with the exception of the SBE's proposals relating to Sheff. She noted that the Sheff proposals were included in the Governor's substitute implementer bill, # 6385, which died in the Appropriations Committee. She pointed out that there would need to be another

implementer bill developed before the end of the session and that the Administration and Education Committee Co-Chairs had been informed of the SBE's priority sections within bill # 6385 and that it would be necessary that these sections be included in the new implementer. Ms. Andrews stated that the state budget was passed by both the Senate and the House and had been submitted to the Governor for signature.

Acting Commissioner George Coleman and Attorney Daniel Murphy discussed the recently drafted legislation regarding the intervention by the SBE in the Windham Public Schools.

Update of Board's Bylaws

Attorney Murphy gave a brief synopsis of the SBE's Bylaws which reflect recent statutory changes. Attorney Murphy also highlighted the proposed changes to the Bylaws. Major changes included proposals for 1) adding alternate SBE members to each committee and 2) having SBE meetings twice a year in different locations. The full SBE will be asked for additional proposals.

Other Matters

The Committee was briefed by Attorney Murphy regarding the situation of a mother claiming homelessness and sending her child to a Norwalk public school. It was highlighted that the newspapers do not reflect the full story and the matter is currently under investigation.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 a.m. on a motion by Ellen Camhi and seconded by Terry Jones.