

CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford

Minutes
of the
April 2, 2014, State Board of Education Meeting
(Approved May 7, 2014)

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the State Board of Education (hereinafter "*Board*") met on Wednesday, April 2, 2014, in Room 307, State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Allan Taylor called the meeting to order at 9:48 a.m.

Present: Allan Taylor, Chairperson
Theresa Hopkins-Staten, Vice Chairperson
Jake Colavolpe, student member
Andrea Comer
Charles Jaskiewicz
Terry Jones
Patricia Keavney-Maruca
Estela López
Clayton Potter, student member
Robert Trefry, ex officio
Joseph Vrabely
Stephen Wright

Absent: Gregory Gray, ex officio

The Board considered agenda item VI.A. at this time.

VI. Items Requiring Action

A. Winchester 10-4b Matter – Settlement Agreement

Chairman Allan Taylor read prepared opening remarks (copy in official file). The attorney for the Winchester Board of Education, Mr. Mark Sommaruga, introduced himself. The attorney for the Town of Winchester, Mr. Kevin Nelligan, Town Manager Dale Martin, Superintendent Thomas Danehy, and Winchester Board of Education Chairperson Susan Hoffnagle introduced themselves. Attorney Matthew Venhorst, representing the Commissioner of Education, introduced himself. Dr. Danehy, Attorney Nelligan, and Attorney Sommaruga made brief statements.

On a motion by Mr. Jaskiewicz, seconded by Dr. Lopez, the Board considered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The parties to Case Number SBE 2014-001, State Board of Education v. Winchester Board of Education and Town of Winchester, have signed an Agreement to resolve the Complaint;

WHEREAS, The terms of the Agreement are set forth in the Settlement Agreement attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, The State Board of Education approves and adopts the terms of the Agreement; 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, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

Roll Call Vote:

Andrea Comer	In favor
Theresa Hopkins-Staton	In favor
Charles Jaskiewicz	In favor
Terry Jones	In favor
Patricia Keavney-Maruca	In favor
Estela López	In favor
Joseph Vrabely	In favor
Stephen Wright	In favor
Allan Taylor	In favor

Motion carried unanimously.

[The Board recessed the meeting at 10:05 a.m.]

[The meeting reconvened at 10:15 a.m.]

On a motion by Mr. Vrabely, seconded by Mr. Jaskiewicz, the Board voted unanimously to add to the agenda item VI.E., Pre-K Tuition Scale.

II. Public Participation

1. Pastor Carl McLuster, Shiloh Baptist Church, Bridgeport, spoke in support of the approval of the Great Oaks Charter School and Capital Prep Harbor School charter applications.
2. Regina Chambers, FUSE parent, spoke in support of charter schools, stating that public education is not serving the needs of students, especially the needs of children of color.
3. Leon Woods, Bridgeport parent, spoke in support of the approval of the applications for Great Oaks Charter School (Bridgeport), Capital Prep Harbor School (Bridgeport), Booker T. Washington Academy (New Haven), and Stamford Charter School for Excellence (Stamford).

4. Millie Soto, Co-chair of the School Governance Council at Clark Elementary School in Hartford, urged the Board to support its efforts to have the Friendship Public Charter School assist in the management of Clark School in the Commissioner's Network.
5. Gloribee Gonzalez, mother of five children in Hartford, stated that she visited the Friendship Public Charter School and believes it would be a good lead partner to help turn around Clark Elementary School.
6. Millie Arciniegas, Executive Director of Hartford Parent University and an advocate for Hartford parents for more than thirteen years, stated that parents were engaged in the process of identifying a lead partner for Clark School, and asked the Board and Commissioner to assist them in this effort.
7. Gwen Samuel, parent from Meriden, urged the Board to make its decisions regarding charter schools based on data, and asked the Board to support Clark School and other low-performing schools. A copy of Ms. Samuel's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
8. Victor Thomas, parent of children at Jumoke Academy, expressed his support for charter schools, stating that they allow access to a quality education.
9. Kelly Horan, an educator currently teaching at Capital Prep Magnet School, described the positive experiences by faculty, students and families at Capital Prep and urged the Board to support the application submitted by Capital Prep Harbor School in Bridgeport.
10. Joelle Murchison, parent of two students at Capital Prep, stated that the school provides an integrated education and supports the diverse learning styles of her children. She expressed support for increased choice in education.
11. Simone Moales, a student at Ridgefield Academy, stated that if more options were provided to Bridgeport students, perhaps she would not have had to seek opportunities outside the city. She spoke in support of Capital Prep's application to open in Bridgeport.
12. Bishop Derek Calhoun, New Vision Ministries, Bridgeport, spoke in support of Capital Prep and the role of choice and charter schools in education reform efforts.
13. Felicia Vaughters, parent of a student who attends Capital Prep, spoke in support of the school and noted that it has high expectations and meets the needs of its students.
14. Reverend Janene Hawkins, Walters Church, Bridgeport, stated that every child deserves an equal chance for success and spoke in support of the approval of the charter applications submitted by Great Oaks, Capital Prep Harbor, Stamford School for Excellence, and Booker T. Washington Academy.
15. Dr. Belinda Carberry, educator, mother and grandmother, spoke in support of the application submitted by Booker T. Washington Academy and its emphasis on academic achievement and social skills.

16. Linda Frances, Bridgeport parent of a student at Achievement First Bridgeport Academy, spoke in support of charter schools in Bridgeport; they have prepared her children well and contribute to a positive future.
17. Claudia Philips, Bridgeport parent of a student who attends Achievement First Bridgeport Academy, spoke in support of all four charter school applications and noted that all children should be presented with the opportunities they deserve.
18. Margo Popowycz, mother of a student attending Capital Prep in Hartford, read prepared remarks written by another parent, and addressed what the experience has offered to students – educationally and socially.
19. Souda Baraka, Chair of the Bridgeport Board of Education, a parent and grandparent, stated that the Bridgeport Board of Education approved a moratorium on additional charter schools in Bridgeport, pending the results of an impact study. She urged the Board to respect the local board's wishes and remain committed to improving the quality of and resources for public schools in the City of Bridgeport. A copy of Ms. Baraka's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
20. Howard Gardner, elected member of the Bridgeport Board of Education, spoke about the underfunding of public education and, at the same time, being asked to host another charter school. He noted that additional funds are needed to support Bridgeport's traditional schools. A copy of Mr. Gardner's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
21. John Bagley, Bridgeport Board of Education member, stated his opposition to the charter school proposals. He asked the Board to support opportunities for all of our students – not a few.
22. Tammy Boyle, elected Bridgeport Public School District Parent Advisory Council President, which supports the interests of over 30,000 Bridgeport school parents, read the Resolution which was passed by the District Parent Advisory Council on April 1st. A copy of Ms. Boyle's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
23. Joanne Kennedy continued reading the Parent Advisory Council resolution. A copy of Ms. Kennedy's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
24. Kim Vendryes, graduate of Bridgeport Public Schools, stated that additional funds should be directed to the underfunded public schools as they accommodate more students than the small number of students within charter schools. She asked the Board not to conflict with the vote of Bridgeport voters. A copy of Ms. Vendryes's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
25. Emiline Bravo Blackwood, parent of three graduates of the Bridgeport Public Schools and legal guardian of two students currently enrolled, stated that the Bridgeport Public Schools have been neglected and spoke against the approval of charter schools. A copy of Ms. Blackwood's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.

26. Robert Traber, president-elect of the Bridgeport Educators Association (BEA), expressed the BEA's support for a moratorium on new charters, noting its reasons for its views. A copy of Mr. Traber's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
27. Tony Barr, Bridgeport parent, noted that Bridgeport currently has four charters, more than any other Alliance District, and urged that additional funds not be diverted from the public schools. A copy of Mr. Barr's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
28. Jehan Abdur-Raheem, Bridgeport resident, recommended that state dollars be channeled to where they'll impact all children – not just a few. He commented on the performance of Capital Prep and the low number of special education students it serves. A copy of Mr. Abdur-Raheem's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
29. Kathy Silver, a teacher in the Bridgeport schools for 23 years, expressed her concern that the Great Oaks Charter School focuses on English language learners, but has no record of success in educating that population. Ms. Silver stated that the public school students receive less each year. A copy of Ms. Silver's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
30. Dr. Dan, math teacher in the Bridgeport Public Schools, described Bridgeport's problems with funding, building conditions and technology and the need to support Bridgeport's students. He stated his opposition to the approval of Capital Prep and Great Oaks. A copy of Mr. Dan's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
31. Clyde Nicholson, Bridgeport citizen, spoke against the approval of charter schools and, rather, favored directing funds to Bridgeport's public school classrooms. He stated that he regularly attends local board of education meetings. Bridgeport's citizens would not have a voice in the charter schools as charter boards are not elected.
32. Richard Salter, teacher and City Council member in Bridgeport, urged the Board to deny the charters in Bridgeport. A copy of Mr. Salter's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
33. David Gordon, resident of Bridgeport, expressed his concern that Bridgeport is the most underfunded city in the state. He urged the Board to focus on improving the education for the community as a whole, not on supporting additional charter schools. A copy of Mr. Gordon's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
34. Caroline Nah, past president of the Bridgeport NAACP, stated that the charter school issue has divided the Bridgeport community and no child should be left behind. A copy of Ms. Nah's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
35. Maria Pereira, graduate of Bridgeport Public Schools and Bridgeport parent, expressed her concerns that Bridgeport is underfunded, and would lose a significant amount of funding if the charter schools were approved. A copy of Ms. Pereira's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.

36. Carmen Lopez, resident and taxpayer in the city of Bridgeport, urged the Board to respect the wishes of the Bridgeport Board of Education and the City of Bridgeport, and reject the charter proposals. A copy of Ms. Lopez's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
37. Wendy Lecker, Stamford parent, expressed her opposition to approving a charter school in Stamford, as it would increase racial isolation. She also noted that the Board should be mindful of the number of charters within towns. A copy of Ms. Lecker's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
38. Stephanie O'Shea, parent of a 5th grader in Stamford, urged the Board to reject the application submitted by the Bronx Charter School in Stamford. A copy of Ms. O'Shea's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
39. Regan Allan, member of the Parent-Teacher Organization in Stamford, stated her opposition to the Stamford Charter School for Excellence, and noted that over 700 signatures have been collected by Stamford residents in opposition to the charter school.
40. Jackie Heftman, member of the Stamford Board of Education, clarified that Stamford does not have any failing schools. She noted that the Board does not support charter schools, adding that it will contribute to racial and economic segregation. She urged the State Board to represent the interests of all children. A copy of Ms. Heftman's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
41. Susana Vidan, Stamford parent, spoke against charters, as they will not solve the needs of the community. Ms. Vidan stated that we need to address the needs of all children. A copy of Ms. Vidan's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
42. Jessica Vandervoort, Stamford resident, stated that the charter applicant did not take time to become acquainted with the Stamford community or solicit input on the application. She requested that the Board not support the charter. A copy of Ms. Vandervoort's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
43. Dr. Polly Rauh, Stamford resident and educator, stated that while she has been a supporter of choice, it is essential that the programs match the needs of the community, adding that the Bronx and Stamford are very different. Dr. Rauh stated that this proposed school will divide the Stamford community and urged the Board not to approve it. A copy of Dr. Rauh's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.

[The meeting was recessed at 12:30 p.m.]

[The meeting reconvened at 12:47 p.m.]

44. Christine Ladd, school counselor, Sport and Medical Sciences Academy, Hartford, described the number of assessments her students take, adding that 52 of 182 days are devoted, in part, to testing. She expressed her concerns that time is taken away from learning and creativity as a result.

45. Ann Marie Mulready, Chair, Connecticut Association for Reading, spoke about the amount of time spent on testing and how it could be better spent on instruction. A copy of Ms. Mulready's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
46. Keshaut Dixon, New Haven, spoke in support of the Booker T. Washington charter application, as well as the other three applications. He viewed charters as a way to strengthen educational choice and enhance the quality of education.
47. Bishop Ricardo Griffith, Bridgeport, spoke in support of all four charter applications, noting that Bridgeport's schools have failed its students and charters with a proven record of success can help meet their needs.
48. Dr. Maryellen Butke, founding member of Great Oaks Charter School, expressed her serious concern about Bridgeport's students attending failing schools, and urged the Board to approve all four charter school applications.
49. John Esteves, Director of Disability Network and advocate, expressed his concerns about charter schools not accommodating the needs of students with disabilities; he noted that Bridgeport is currently underfunded and additional funds should not be diverted from the existing schools to cover the additional costs affiliated with charter schools. A copy of Mr. Esteves' prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
50. Bill Philips, New England Charter School Network, expressed his support for the Board approving more than two applications. He noted that Stamford's application is strong, and provides parents with a choice.
51. Ena Moales, Bridgeport resident and teacher, noted that she advises parents to take advantage of options best suited for their child's individual educational needs, and believes that parents should have the right to choose.
52. Karen Bell, parent of students attending Jumoke in Hartford, stated that parents should have the right to choose between public schools and charter schools and expressed her support for all four applications.
53. Tom Coble, resident of Bridgeport and grandparent of student attending Bridgeport Public Schools, expressed his concerns about the proposed Great Oaks Charter School's record of success with English language learners, the high student absentee rate, and its ability to attract high quality teachers. A copy of Mr. Coble's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
54. Craig Kelly, former president of the Greater Bridgeport Chapter of the NAACP, graduate of Bridgeport schools, and single parent of children who attended school in Bridgeport, urged the Board to vote against the charter schools, and read a resolution adopted by the NAACP in opposition to charter schools. A copy of Mr. Kelly's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.

55. Reverend Richard Bishop, Bridgeport, stated that new traditions need to be established in Bridgeport, and parents should be afforded options – via choice. A copy of Reverend Bishop's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
56. Jamilah Prince-Stewart, Manager of Community Engagement, ConnCAN, urged the Board to support all four charter applications.
57. Kadisha Coates, parent of three Bridgeport students, stated that she is upset with the neglect of public schools, asked that dollars not be taken away from the public schools, but favored all four charter school applications.
58. Scott Wojnarowicz, mathematics teacher at Capital Preparatory School, spoke about the school's focus on preparation for college, and urged the Board to allow this offering to be replicated in Bridgeport.
59. Candy Yeager, Stamford parent, expressed her opposition to the proposed charter school in Stamford, noting that it would interfere with the racial balance Stamford has worked hard to achieve. She added that sufficient choices are already in place in Stamford, and addressed the unfunded costs affiliated with charter schools (i.e., transportation and special education). A copy of Ms. Yeager's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
60. Pastor William McCullough, Bridgeport Russell Temple, stated that the school system is failing and we need to advocate for our children. He commended the Governor and Commissioner for their leadership and urged the Board to approve the charter school applications.
61. Lisa Buffington, Board Chair at Capital Prep, and resident and parent of children in Ellington Public Schools, spoke about the school's record of success, graduation rate, and college course offerings, adding that it develops socially-conscious students, Ms. Buffington stated. She urged the Board to approve the Harbor School in Bridgeport. A copy of Ms. Buffington's prepared remarks is enclosed in the official file of this meeting.
62. Jennifer Alexander, Chief Executive Officer, ConnCAN, noted that children receive only one chance to receive a good education. With the proven track records of all four charter applicants, Ms. Alexander urged the Board to approve them and provide parents with greater access to quality educational experiences for their children.
63. Jeremiah Grace, Northeast Charter Network, supported all four charter school applications. He stated that charters are part of the solution and provide students with an opportunity for a better life.
64. Pastor Kenneth Moales, Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, spoke in support of all four charter school applications. He noted that public schools have institutionalized illiteracy, and students must be afforded more choices.
65. Former Senator Edwin A. Gomes, Bridgeport, spoke in opposition to the approval of Capital Prep in Bridgeport, and expressed concerns with the applicants' records of success to operate charter schools. He added that Bridgeport already has four charter schools, and recommended that the Board not approve any additional ones.

[The meeting was recessed at 2:05 p.m.]
[The meeting reconvened at 2:30 p.m.]

All members were present except for Mr. Jones.

III. Consent Agenda – Postponed at this time

IV. Executive Session

The Board did not hold an Executive Session.

V. Consideration of the Minutes of the March 5, 2014, State Board of Education Meeting

Mr. Jaskiewicz moved, Ms. Comer seconded, that the Board approve the Minutes of the March 5, 2014, State Board of Education Meeting.

VOTE ON MOTION:	In Favor:	Comer, Hopkins-Staten, Jaskiewicz, Lopez, Taylor, Vrabely, Wright
	Opposed:	0
	Abstained:	Keavney-Maruca
	Absent:	Jones

Motion carried unanimously.

VI. Items for Action

B. Resolution in Support of Common Core State Standards

Dr. López moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, that the Board approve the following resolution in support of the Common Core State Standards:

Whereas, The State Board of Education (“Board”) is charged by law to ensure that all students shall have equal opportunity to receive a suitable program of educational experiences that prepares them for success in higher education and the workplace; and

Whereas, The Board is mindful of and concerned with inequities within and across classrooms throughout the State of Connecticut that unfairly impact students’ chances for success in Grades K-12 and in their future; and

Whereas, The State Board remains committed to implement the educational interests of the state by promoting the continuous improvement of education and providing leadership and support to school districts; and

Whereas, Toward this end, in July 2010 the Board adopted the Common Core State Standards, which are higher in rigor and more closely aligned with college and career expectations than the prior standards; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the State Board of Education stands firm in its belief that full and immediate implementation of the Common Core State Standards is necessary, and pledges its commitment to provide the necessary leadership, supports and resources for educators, students, and families, to ensure its success.

VOTE ON MOTION: In Favor: Comer, Hopkins-Staten, Jaskiewicz, Lopez, Keavney-Maruca, Taylor, Vrabely, Wright
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: Jones

Motion carried unanimously.

D. Deadlines for Educator Evaluation Flexibility

Mr. Jaskiewicz moved, Dr. López seconded, that the State Board of Education, pursuant to subsection (c)(2) of Section 10-151b of the Connecticut General Statutes, amended the guidelines for a model teacher evaluation and support program, known as the Connecticut Guidelines for Educator Evaluation, by incorporating “Proposed Flexibilities to the Guidelines for Educator Evaluation” recommended by the Performance Evaluation Advisory Council (PEAC) at its meeting on January 29, 2014, and now, in accordance with the materials presented at this meeting, extends the deadline by which districts must notify the State Department of Education of their adoption of such flexibilities as part of their 2013-14 educator evaluation and support plans, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE ON MOTION: In Favor: Comer, Hopkins-Staten, Jaskiewicz, Keavney-Maruca, López, Taylor, Vrabely, Wright
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: Jones

Motion carried unanimously.

[Mr. Jones returned at 2:49 p.m.]

E. Pre K-3 Sliding Tuition Scale developed by the Department – RESC-operated Magnet Schools

Mr. Jaskiewicz moved, Dr. López seconded, that the Board, pursuant to sections 123 through 125 of Public Act 13 – 247, adopts the attached sliding tuition scale developed by the Department, that RESC-operated Magnet Schools may charge to the parent or guardian of a child enrolled in such pre-school program, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE ON MOTION:	In Favor:	Comer, Hopkins-Staten, Jaskiewicz, Jones, Keavney-Maruca, Taylor, Vrabely, Wright
	Opposed:	0
	Abstained:	López
	Absent:	0

Motion carried unanimously.

[Andrea Comer recused herself and left the meeting at 3:15 p.m.]

C. Consideration of Charter School Applications

Mr. Jaskiewicz moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, that the Board, pursuant to Section 10-66bb of the Connecticut General Statutes, has considered the four charter school applications before this Board, and accepts the Commissioner’s recommendation and grants approval of new state charters to Booker T. Washington Academy and Great Oaks Charter School for the period July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2019, subject to the conditions noted in the Commissioner’s April 2, 2014, memorandum to the State Board of Education, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

Mr. Jaskiewicz moved, Dr. López seconded, that resolution be amended to read as follows:

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-66bb of the Connecticut General Statutes, has considered the four charter school applications before this Board, and accepts the Commissioner’s recommendation and grants approval of new state charters to Booker T. Washington Academy and Great Oaks Charter School for the period July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2019, subject to the conditions noted in the Commissioner’s April 2, 2014, memorandum to the State Board of Education, and pursuant to the provisions of Section 10-66bb(j)(1) of the Connecticut General Statutes, grants the request of the Great Oaks Charter School for a waiver of the requirements of the enrollment lottery described in subsection (d) of Section 10-66bb, such that the lottery selection process allow for a 25 percent set-aside of the student body to be English language learners, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE ON In Favor: Hopkins-Staten, Jaskiewicz, Jones, Keavney-Maruca, López, Taylor,
AMENDMENT: Vrabely, Wright
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: Comer

Motion to amend carried unanimously.

VOTE ON In Favor: Hopkins-Staten, Jaskiewicz, Jones, Keavney-Maruca, López, Taylor,
MOTION AS Vrabely, Wright
AMENDED: Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: Comer

Motion as amended carried unanimously.

On a motion by Mr. Jaskiewicz, seconded by Mr. Vrabely, the Board voted unanimously to consider the Approval of Charter School Applications for the Capital Prep Harbor School and the Stamford Charter School for Excellence.

[Ms. Comer returned at 4:38 p.m.]

F. Approval of Charter School Applications for the Capital Prep Harbor School and the Stamford Charter School for Excellence

Mr. Jaskiewicz moved, Mr. Vrabely seconded that the Board, pursuant to Section 10-66bb of the Connecticut General Statutes, has considered the charter school applications before this Board, and grants approval of new state charters to the Capital Prep Harbor School and the Stamford Charter School for Excellence for the period July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2020, subject to the following conditions:

1. Receipt of sufficient funding from the General Assembly; the specific number of students to be served during each school's inaugural year will be determined by the Commissioner at a later date based on available funding and other factors;
2. Receipt of documentation relating to facility requirements, including safety, liability, and insurance certifications;
3. Receipt of documentation relating to incorporation status and identification of governing board members; and

4. For Capital Prep Harbor School: A signed contract between the governing council of the proposed charter school and the identified non-profit organization responsible for whole school management services, including a fee structure; the contract must be submitted and approved by the Commissioner prior to the school opening.

and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE ON MOTION:	In Favor:	Comer, Hopkins-Staten, Jaskiewicz, Jones, López, Keavney-Maruca, Taylor, Vrabely, Wright
	Opposed:	0
	Abstained:	0
	Absent:	0

Motion carried unanimously.

[Mrs. Hopkins Staten and Mrs. Comer left the meeting at 5:05 p.m.]

III. Consent Agenda

Mr. Jaskiewicz moved, Mr. Vrabely seconded, that the Board approve the following consent agenda item: III.A., Healthy Food Certification Statement – Technical High School System.

A. Healthy Food Certification Statement – Technical High School System

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes, approves that the Connecticut Technical High School System will not participate in the Healthy Food Certification for school year 2014-2015 as recommended by the Connecticut Technical High School System Board, although it will continue to maintain current Federal nutritional standards in its school meals and a la carte options, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE ON MOTION:	In Favor:	Jaskiewicz, Jones, Keavney-Maruca, López, Taylor, Vrabely, Wright
	Opposed:	0
	Abstained:	0
	Absent:	Comer, Hopkins-Staten

Motion carried unanimously.

[Mrs. Comer returned to the meeting at 5:09 p.m.]

VII. Items for Discussion

A. Discussion of a New K-3 Reading Assessment

Mrs. Ellen Cohn, Division Director of Standards, Curriculum, and Instruction in the Academic Office, and Ms. Joanne White, Education Consultant, presented the report to the Board. Discussion followed.

VIII. Report of the Chair

Mr. Taylor referenced his written report (copy in official file).

IX. Report of the Commissioner

Commissioner Pryor did not give a report.

X. Financial Matters

No report was given.

XI. Committee Reports

A. Academic Standards and Assessment

No report was given.

Accountability and Support

No report was given.

A. Finance, Audit, and Budget

No report was given.

B. Legislation and Policy

Mr. Vrabely reported that the committee met this morning and discussed the magnet school shortfall. He requested an update on the impact of the shortfall on enrollment.

[Mrs. Hopkins-Staten returned to the meeting at 5:11 p.m.]

C. Connecticut Technical High School System Board

Mrs. Keavney-Maruca noted that the Central Office is currently understaffed, yet is doing a tremendous job. Mr. Trefry thanked OPM and Superintendent Torres for working together on behalf of the students of the Technical High School System.

D. NASBE

No report was given.

By unanimous consent the meeting was adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

Signed: _____
Stefan Pryor, Secretary