

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford**

Comprehensive Plan Ad Hoc Committee

**Meeting of March 31, 2014
Draft Minutes**

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of State and posted on the agency's web site, the State Board of Education Comprehensive Plan Ad Hoc Committee met on March 31, 2014, in room 307 of the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Allan Taylor called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. Committee members Allan Taylor, Estela Lopez, Theresa Hopkins-Staten and Stephen Wright were present.

II. Discussion of Comprehensive Plan for Education

Chief of Staff Adam Goldfarb reviewed the process to date, including receipt of input on an initial presentation and other illustrative materials from State Board of Education members, the Comprehensive Plan for Education Advisory Committee, and other stakeholders. He noted that input would be solicited at today's meeting from committee members, and that future steps before final Board adoption would include additional meetings with the Committee and a public hearing.

The Committee first discussed the draft vision and mission statements, as well as the draft introductory narrative. Feedback included the following points:

- Place the vision statement up-front and include a statement about our vision for Connecticut teachers;
- Present a plan that will move us forward and that is affirmative and takes pride in Connecticut's work around curriculum, standards development, high expectations, etc., that will lead us to better outcomes;
- Ensure that we focus on meeting the needs of all students, and include the role of the family;
- Reduce language that speaks to the past;
- Show how the goals and metrics will be evidenced (e.g., how will we assess college and career readiness?);
- Continued incorporation of feedback provided by the Advisory Committee;
- Develop an inspirational tone, and include the voice of students;
- Ensure that the mission statement supports the vision statement for Connecticut students;
- Ensure that the language for the goals is aligned with the vision statement;

- Revisit whether “college persistence” is appropriately placed as an indicator of college/career readiness, and identify markers in middle and high school that may be indicative of readiness;
- Revisit Connecticut’s graduation requirements in terms of consistency with the 2020 plan;
- Consider that many parents do not know how to advocate for their children;
- Use stronger verbs when describing efforts to remove barriers to achievement;
- Do not include information that has the potential to become outdated before the end of the five-year plan; and
- Include a tone of leadership.

The Board also reviewed the draft metrics. Mr. Taylor recommended that we state explicitly our strategy in developing the metrics. Another suggestion was to omit the reference to “percentage of graduates who enroll in college and continue for a second year” from the “College and Career Readiness” section. Under “Well-rounded learning,” a suggestion was made to consider “Community Engagement” in place of “Voluntarism” and to include the importance of such engagement being consistent and ongoing. Another suggestion was to ensure that the bullets under “school connectedness” section consistently began with a positive verb.

Commissioner Pryor and Mr. Goldfarb thanked committee members for sharing their insights and stated that once the document has been revised to incorporate their suggestions and further developed, the committee would again be convened.

III. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

