

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford**

**Legislation and Policy Development Committee Meeting
June 14, 2017**

**Minutes
(Approved 9/06/17)**

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the Board of Education Legislation and Policy Development Committee met in the North Plaza, Room A, State Office Building, Hartford, Connecticut, on June 14, 2017.

I. Call to Order

Committee Chair Joseph Vrabely called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. Also present were Committee members: Erin Benham, Robert Trefry (who arrived at 8:48) and Terry Jones (who arrived at 8:57 a.m.)

Maria Mojica was absent.

Also present for all or part of the meeting were the following Department of Education Staff members: Chief of Staff Laura Stefon, Chief Talent Officer Sarah Barzee, Chief Talent Division Director Shannon Marimón, Legal Director Peter Haberlandt and Recorder Mildred Pagán.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

On a motion made by Committee Chair Vrabely and seconded by Erin Benham, the Committee unanimously approved the minutes of the May 3, 2017, Legislation and Policy Development Committee meeting.

III. New Educator Preparation Program Approval: Fairfield University – Remedial Reading and Remedial Language Arts

Committee Chair Vrabely introduced Chief Talent Officer, Dr. Sarah Barzee, who provided a brief background of Fairfield University's educator preparation programs and their most recent proposal to offer a remedial reading and remedial language arts preparation program, Grades 1-12. This advanced certification program is designed so that teachers that are already certified will acquire additional skills and strategies to help children that are in need of additional literacy supports and interventions. Dr. Barzee introduced Talent Office Division Director, Shannon Marimón. Director Marimón indicated that Fairfield University submitted the proposal to the CSDE Talent Office for review and approval, as required per state regulations. The proposal was reviewed by a team of experts that carefully looked at the quality of the program design, scope and sequence, candidate assessment, faculty and instructor qualifications, and program resources. This was Fairfield's third submission as previous iterations received extensive feedback. This submission was much improved and addressed all prior concerns. Dean Robert Hannafin and faculty from Fairfield University presented to the CSDE Review Committee on

May 19, 2017, and addressed additional questions raised by Review Committee members. The program received unanimous approval by the CSDE Review Committee with a recommendation for an annual progress report to be provided by the program to the CSDE Educator Preparation Program Coordinator.

A discussion ensued with Committee members asking questions as to whether other universities were offering this program. Dr. Barzee indicated that Central Connecticut State University, Sacred Heart University, Southern Connecticut State University, University of Bridgeport, and UConn currently offer this endorsement. Fairfield University has proposed a partnership model with a focus on neighboring Alliance Districts so that the program can be tailored to the needs of students.

Committee members thanked Dr. Barzee and Director Marimón for presenting on this important endeavor by Fairfield University.

IV. Wrap-Up of 2017 Legislative Session

Committee Chair Vrabely introduced SDE Chief of Staff/Legislative Liaison Laura Stefon. Ms. Stefon began her presentation by expressing that CSDE had a successful year. She reported that the Department's education bills, which she described briefly, passed both chambers including, Senate Bill 910, An Act Implementing the Recommendations of the Department of Education. This bill was very important because it included most of the State Board's and Department's proposals for the session. Ms. Stefon was happy to announce that it was signed by the Governor. She also reported that House Bill 7159, An Act Concerning Connecticut's Seal of Biliteracy, passed both chambers and was also signed by the Governor. She briefly discussed other bills and answered questions from members of the Committee.

V. Update regarding Enrollment Policies Guidance

Legal Director Peter Haberlandt reported that they are moving along with the Enrollment Policies Guidance. He explained that although federal enrollment policies are clear in that LEAs cannot inquire into the student's legal status and whether they have all the documents or not to enroll in school, CSDE came across a road block which they need to look into carefully. Director Haberlandt explained that CSDE collects enrollment data – it is part of a broader data collection; and so this causes tension with the federal policy. CSDE is looking to see what other states are doing in this regard.

VI. Other Matters

VII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Mildred Pagán, Recorder