

CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford

Minutes of the
December 11, 2017
Academic Standards and Assessment Committee Meeting

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the Academic Standards and Assessment Committee met on Monday, December 11, 2017, at the State Department of Education, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, CT

Call to Order

Committee member Allan Taylor called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

Present: Allan Taylor
Estela Lopez

Absent: Erik M. Clemons
Maria I. Mojica

Staff Present: Ellen Cohn
Melissa Hickey
Jennifer Michalek – via telephone
Ron Michaels
Harold Mackin

I. Approval of the Minutes of the October 11, 2017, Academic Standards and Assessment Committee Meeting

Estela Lopez moved, Allan Taylor seconded, that the committee approve the minutes of the October 11, 2017, Academic Standards and Assessment Committee meeting.

Vote:	In Favor:	Taylor, Lopez
	Abstained:	0
	Opposed:	0
	Absent:	Clemons, Mojica

Motion carried.

II. Introduction to the K-12 Computer Science Standards and Implementation Document

Jennifer Michalek, Education Consultant in the Academic Office, introduced the K-12 Computer Science Standards and Implementation Document to the Standards and Assessment subcommittee of the State Board of Education. The board members were pleased with the standards and understood the need to have computer science standards in the state. Mr. Taylor raised a concern over the technical language in the standards and it was decided that a glossary of terms will be accompanying the document. Committee members raised questions in regards to the implementation of the standards and who is best suited to teach these standards. There was discussion led by Deputy Commissioner

Cohn about the work currently underway in the Talent Office to address this concern. In addition, Jennifer Michalek explained how the implementation document's purpose was to assist districts in putting the standards into practice. Furthermore, the partnership with the Connecticut Computer Science Teachers Association will be valuable in assisting the state in providing professional learning in this content area. At the conclusion of the presentation, next steps were discussed. A survey will be distributed to obtain stakeholder feedback on the standards and Jennifer Michalek will continue to facilitate the working group to complete a final draft of the implementation document to present at the February 26, 2018, committee meeting. Based upon the outcome of the February meeting, these standards will go before the full board for adoption in April 2018.

III. Introduction to the Position Statement on Comprehensive STEM Education for all Students K-12

Ron Michaels, Education Consultant in the Academic Office, presented the Position Statement on Comprehensive STEM Education for All Students K-12. The committee suggested including a statement addressing STEM K-12 program alignment Kindergarten through the college and university level. Committee members asked about the State Department of Education's (SDE) certification process for K-12 STEM educators. Dr. Michaels stated that the SDE has an on-going committee that is tackling the issues of certification (especially in the shortage areas). Recommendations for changes in the certification process are presently under review in the Commissioner's office.

The report will be brought back February 26, 2018, to the committee for review with the recommendations of the committee.

IV. Introduction to the Agriculture Education Frameworks, Set 1

Harold Mackin, Education Consultant in the Academic Office, introduced the history and structure of the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Frameworks (AFNR), Connecticut Edition. The committee on the AFNR frameworks adopted the complete national AFNR frameworks and added specific Connecticut agriculture frameworks: Aquaculture, Marine Trades, beekeeping, and maple syrup production. Committee members stated that the standards were well organized and designed to assist in producing relevant course work. Teachers are currently using the frameworks and there will be continual professional development throughout the next couple of years.

The first set of frameworks will be introduced to the full Board in February 2018 followed by sets 2 and 3 presented to the full Board in March of 2018.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Prepared by Elizabeth Rivera

Minutes approved at the February 26, 2018 meeting