CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION Hartford

The Legislation and Policy Development Committee

Tuesday, July 14, 2020, 8:30 a.m.
State Office Building, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, Connecticut
Conference Room: Virtual due to COVID-19

Erin D. Benham, Chair Donald F. Harris, Malia K. Sieve, Bonnie E. Burr, Karen DuBois-Walton, Elwood Exley, Jr., Robert J. Trefry

Minutes (Approved September 2, 2020)

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the Board of Education Legislation and Policy Development Committee met virtually due to COVID-19, on July 14, 2020.

I. Call to Order

Committee Chair Erin Benham called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. Also present were Committee members: Donald F. Harris, Malia K. Sieve, Bonnie E. Burr, Karen DuBois-Walton, Elwood Exley, Jr, and Robert J. Trefry.

Presenters: Deputy Commissioner Charlene Russell-Tucker; John D. Frassinelli, Division Director, Kimberly Traverso, LPC, State Education Consultant; Dr. Adrian Wood, State Education Consultant; Dr. Chris Clouet, Special Advisor to the Commissioner. Also present for all or part of the meeting was SDE Legal Director Jessa Mirtle.

II. Approval of Minutes – March 4, 2020 and June 17, 2020

The Committee unanimously voted to approve the minutes for March 4, 2020 and June 17, 2020.

III. Update on By-laws

Discussion of portions of by-laws that may need updating, such as related to location and time.

IV. Review and Discussion regarding the Connecticut Comprehensive School Counseling Framework and Guide

Presentation by Deputy Commissioner Charlene Russell-Tucker; John D. Frassinelli, Division Director; Kimberly Traverso, LPC, State Education Consultant related the Connecticut Comprehensive School Counseling Framework and Guide.

Discussion by Board members about importance of these standards to provide support to students and consistent expectations for schools, and more in depth accompanying guidance that is expected to support the framework. Plan to continue review and vote to move forward to the full Board at future meeting.

V. Discussion Regarding Racial Justice and Equity

Introduction to topic of updating prior position statements on equity to confirm subsequent action by the SDE on the SBE's behalf to implement those positions presented by Dr. Adrian Wood. Brief summary by Dr. Chris Clouet regarding the previously approved legislative proposal "Related to Establishing A Systems Framework for Addressing Achievement Disparities." Discussion of the importance of continuing this conversation and the action items to avoid performative engagement without accompanying change to combat issues of racial justice and equity in schools.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:24 a.m.

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