

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Hartford**

Minutes of Meeting  
November 5, 2008

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the State Board of Education (hereinafter "Board") met on Wednesday, November 5, 2008, at the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

**I. Call to Order**

Chairman Taylor called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

Present: Allan Taylor, Chair  
Donald Coolican  
Lynne Farrell\*  
Janet Finneran  
Theresa Hopkins-Staten  
Christine Larson  
Patricia Luke  
Brandt Smallwood  
Jay Voss

Absent: Beverly Bobroske  
Michael Meotti, Ex-Officio

**IV. Consideration of Minutes of the October 2, 2008, State Board of Education Meeting**

Ms. Finneran moved, Mrs. Luke seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the October 2, 2008, State Board of Education meeting.

VOTE: In Favor: Coolican, Luke, Hopkins-Staten, Finneran,  
Taylor, Voss  
Opposed: 0  
Abstained: 0  
Absent: Bobroske, Farrell

Motion carried unanimously.

**V.A. Capital Budget Request**

Ms. Finneran moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, that the Board approves the Capital Budget Request for Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE:      In Favor:            Coolican, Luke, Hopkins-Staten, Finneran,  
   Taylor, Voss  
                 Opposed:            0  
                 Abstained:            0  
                 Absent:                Bobroske, Farrell

Motion carried unanimously.

**V.B. Budget Reduction and Expansion Options**

Brian Mahoney, Chief Financial Officer, presented the report to the Board.  
Discussion followed.

[\*Dr. Farrell arrived at 9:05 a.m.]

**VI.A. Approval of District Improvement Plan: Middletown**

Ms. Finneran moved, Mrs. Luke seconded, that the Board, pursuant to Section 10-223e of the Connecticut General Statutes, approves and directs the Middletown Board of Education to implement the District Improvement Plan for the Middletown Public School System, and directs the Commissioner to take necessary action.

VOTE:      In Favor:            Coolican, Luke, Hopkins-Staten, Farrell, Finneran,  
   Taylor, Voss  
                 Opposed:            0  
                 Abstained:            0  
                 Absent:                Bobroske

Motion carried unanimously.

**VI.B. Approval of District Improvement Plan: Meriden**

Ms. Finneran moved, Mr. Coolican seconded, that the Board, pursuant to Section 10-223e of the Connecticut General Statutes, approves and directs the Meriden Board of Education to implement the District Improvement Plan for the Meriden Public School System, and directs the Commissioner to take necessary action.

Mrs. Luke moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded that the motion be amended to read:

**RESOLVED**, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-223e of the Connecticut General Statutes, conditionally approves, and directs the Meriden Board of Education to implement, the District Improvement Plan for the Meriden Public School System, and be it further **RESOLVED**, That this approval is conditioned on receipt by the Commissioner of Education by March 30, 2009, of an acceptable plan with regard to the reformation of the district's system of academic levels, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE TO	In Favor:	Coolican, Luke, Hopkins-Staten, Farrell, Finneran,
AMEND:		Taylor, Voss
	Opposed:	0
	Abstained:	0
	Absent:	Bobroske

Motion to amend carried unanimously.

VOTE ON	In Favor:	Coolican, Luke, Hopkins-Staten, Farrell, Finneran,
MOTION		Taylor, Voss
AS AMEND-	Opposed:	0
ED:	Abstained:	0
	Absent:	Bobroske

Motion, as amended, carried unanimously.

By unanimous consent, the Board recessed its meeting at 11:00 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 11:22 a.m. Present: Mr. Coolican, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Smallwood, Mrs. Luke, Ms. Finneran, Ms. Larson, Dr. Farrell, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten and Dr. Voss. Mr. Meotti and Mrs. Bobroske were absent.

**VI.C. Approval of District Improvement Plan: Windham**

Mrs. Luke moved, Dr. Farrell seconded, that the Board, pursuant to Section 10-223e of the Connecticut General Statutes, approves and directs the Windham Board of Education to implement the District Improvement Plan for the Windham Public School System, and directs the Commissioner to take necessary action.

VOTE:      In Favor:            Coolican, Luke, Hopkins-Staten, Farrell, Finneran,  
   Taylor, Voss  
                 Opposed:            0  
                 Abstained:            0  
                 Absent:                Bobroske

Motion carried unanimously.

**X. Consent Agenda**

Mrs. Hopkins-Staten removed agenda item VII.A., Designation of Use of Restricted Funds (6.25%) by Regional Education Service Centers (RESCs).

Mr. Coolican removed agenda item VII.E., Trade Authorization Report – Facilities Management.

Mrs. Luke removed agenda item VII.I., Resolution Commemorating 150 Years Anniversary of Killingly Public Schools.

Mrs. Luke moved, Ms. Finneran seconded, to approve the following consent agenda items: VII.B., Appointments to the Connecticut Advisory Council for Teacher Professional Standards; VII.C., Appointments to the review Committee for the Approval of Educator Preparation Programs; VII.D., Regulations Concerning State Department of Education Organization; VII.F., Trade Authorization Report – Media Production; VII.G., Trade Authorization Report – Music and Theatre Production and VII.H., Trade Authorization Report – Business Management.

Dr. Voss recused himself on the following consent agenda item: VII. B., Appointments to the Connecticut Advisory Council for Teacher Professional Standards.

**VII. B. Appointments to the Connecticut Advisory Council for Teacher Professional Standards**

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to subsection (b) of Section 10-144d of the Connecticut General Statutes, reappoints Dr. Edward W. Malin and Mr. Brian Maitland to serve on the Connecticut Advisory Council for Teacher Professional Standards for the period effective November 5, 2008, through September 30, 2011, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE:      In Favor:            Coolican, Luke, Hopkins-Staten, Farrell, Finneran,  
   Taylor  
                 Opposed:            0  
                 Abstained:            Voss  
                 Absent:                Bobroske

Motion carried unanimously.

**VII.C. Appointments to the Review Committee for the Approval of Educator Preparation Programs**

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-145d-9(f)(1) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, appoints Kelly J. Houston and Christina M. Kishimoto to serve on the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) Review Committee for the Approval of Connecticut Educator Preparation Programs from November 5, 2008, through September 30, 2011, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

**VII.D. Regulations Concerning State Department of Education Organization**

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-3a of the Connecticut General Statutes, declares its intent to amend Subsections (b), (c) and (e) of Section 10-3a-4 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies regarding the description of the organization of the State Department of Education to realign the Department's structure, and to amend Section 10-3a-5 of said Regulations regarding the description of the Office of the Commissioner of Education, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

**VII.F. Trade Authorization Report – Media Production**

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to subsection (c) of Section 10-95i of the Connecticut General Statutes, authorizes the establishment of the Media Production trade for the period September 2009 through June 2014, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

**VII.G. Trade Authorization Report – Music and Theatre Production**

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to subsection (c) of Section 10-95i of the Connecticut General Statutes, authorizes the establishment of the Music and Theatre Production trade for the period September 2009 through June 2014, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

**VII.H. Trade Authorization Report – Business Management**

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to subsection (c) of Section 10-95i of the Connecticut General Statutes, authorizes the establishment of the Business Management trade for the period September 2010 through June 2015, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE	In Favor:	Coolican, Luke, Farrell, Hopkins-Staton,
ON		Finneran, Taylor, Voss
MOTIONS:	Opposed:	0
	Abstained:	0
	Absent:	Bobroske

Motions carried unanimously.

**VII.A. Designation of Use of Restricted Funds (6.25%) by Regional Education Service Centers (RESCs)**

Ms. Finneran moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staton seconded, that the Board, pursuant to subsection (c) of Section 10-66j of the Connecticut General Statutes, directs that each regional educational service center shall annually expend at least six and one quarter percent of the amount received to: (A) support the state obligation to reduce racial, ethnic and economic isolation in accordance with subsection (3) of Section 10-4a of the Connecticut General Statutes; and (B) support the

Board's *Five-year Comprehensive Plan for Education 2006-2011* by targeting resources for one or more of the following activities:

- (1) minority teacher recruitment activities and outcomes;
- (2) data collection and analysis of school district efforts to reduce the racial, ethnic and economic isolation of students;
- (3) professional development opportunities for teachers in educating students from diverse racial, ethnic and economic backgrounds, including evaluating the efficacy and outcomes of these sessions;
- (4) support for students participating in the Open Choice program; and
- (5) support for interdistrict magnet schools operated by the regional educational service centers, at the direction of the Commissioner;

and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

Mrs. Luke moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, that agenda item VII.A. Designation of Use of Restricted Funds (6.25%) by Regional Education Service Centers (RESCs) be postponed to January 2009.

VOTE	In Favor:	Coolican, Luke, Farrell, Hopkins-Staten,
TO		Finneran, Taylor, Voss
POSTPONE:	Opposed:	0
	Abstained:	0
	Absent:	Bobroske

Motion carried unanimously.

#### **VII.E. Trade Authorization Report – Facilities Management**

Mr. Coolican moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, that the Board, pursuant to subsection (c) of Section 10-95i of the Connecticut General Statutes, authorizes the establishment of the Facilities Management trade for the period September 2009 through June 2014, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE: In Favor: Coolican, Luke, Hopkins-Staten, Farrell, Finneran,  
Taylor  
Opposed: 0  
Abstained: Voss  
Absent: Bobroske

Motion carried unanimously.

**VII.I. Resolution Commemorating 150 Year Anniversary of Killingly Public Schools**

Mrs. Luke moved, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten seconded, the following resolution:

Whereas in November 2008, the Town of Killingly is celebrating its 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and the Killingly Public School System is celebrating its 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary; and

Whereas over the course of 150 years, the school system has documented significant accomplishments and growth, and has received numerous awards for educational excellence from state and national organizations; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved* That the Connecticut State Board of Education honors Killingly's students, faculty, administration, parents, and community on the occasion of the school system's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and extends best wishes for continued success.

VOTE: In Favor: Coolican, Luke, Hopkins-Staten, Farrell, Finneran,  
Taylor  
Opposed: 0  
Abstained: Voss  
Absent: Bobroske

Motion carried unanimously.

By unanimous consent, the Board recessed its meeting at 12:04 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 12:40 p.m. Present: Mr. Coolican, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Smallwood, Mrs. Luke, Ms. Finneran, Ms. Larson, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten, Dr. Farrell and Dr. Voss. Mr. Meotti and Mrs. Bobroske were absent.



**IX.A. 2009 Legislation Proposals**

Mrs. Katherine Nicoletti, Legislative Liaison, reviewed the 2009 Legislative Proposals. Discussion followed.

**IX.B. Scientific Research-Based Interventions: Relationship to Proposed 2014 Certification Regulations**

Nancy Cappello, Education Consultant, made a power point presentation. Discussion followed.

[Ms. Larson left the meeting at 1:43 p.m.]

**IX.C. Position Statement on English Language Arts**

Barbara Westwater, Chief, Bureau of Curriculum and Instruction, presented the report to the Board. Discussion followed.

[Mr. Coolican left the meeting at 2:18 p.m.]

**X. Report of the Chair** – Allan Taylor distributed a written report, including the following:

(A copy can be found in the official file of this meeting)

- NASBE Conference - Northeast Area Directors Meeting; Theresa Hopkins-Staten has expressed her interest in serving on the Power of Partnerships: Supporting Student Learners to Improve Graduation Rates Study Group; Mrs. Bobroske will serve on the Nominations Committee, and I will serve as the Northeast Area Director.
- Teacher of the Year Ceremony - Joining me at this year's ceremony at Central Connecticut State University on November 13 are Janet Finneran, Brandt Smallwood and Christine Larson.
- The CABE/CAPSS Convention will be held November 14 at the Mystic Marriott Hotel in Groton. The Board will sponsor a session from 10:45 a.m. to 12:05 p.m., "Dialogue with the State Board of Education." Members are invited to stay for lunch, and to attend any other sessions they chose. Ms. Finneran, Dr. Farrell, Mrs. Luke and I will be attending.

- Budget Workshop: November 17<sup>th</sup> – Room 307A-B, beginning at 9:00 a.m.
- December 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting – begin at 8:30 a.m. to accommodate three remaining districts whose District Improvement Plans are scheduled for Board approval.
- Recognition Ceremony of Outstanding Educators: In an effort to reduce costs, staff is trying to combine the recognition event with the January SBE meeting.
- Process regarding interim reports on grants: In past years, we've had on our agendas "renewal of grant funds." These reports have contained interim updates on the use of multi-year grant funds, as well as how funds will be used in the ensuing year. Janet Finneran and I agree that it would be appropriate to present new grant applications for our approval, and to submit periodic (i.e., annual) progress reports thereafter via our weekly mailing packets.
- High School Reform Forum at Manchester Community College, November 10, (registration begins at 8:00 to 8:30); Commissioner McQuillan, Jay Voss, Chancellor Herzog and I will serve on a panel to discuss the secondary school reform initiatives. All are welcome.
- Lynne Farrell will join this year's delegation to China in mid-December.
- Beverly Bobroske will represent the Board at the Killingly Public School System's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on November 22, and will present a framed certificate on behalf of the Board.
- Mr. Taylor informed the Board of the resignation of Dr. Alice Carolan from the State Board of Education, and noted that she certainly will be missed.

**XI. Report of the Commissioner** – Commissioner McQuillan distributed a written report, including the following. (A copy can be found in the official file of this meeting)

- **Priority 1 Early Childhood Education**
  - Cabinet Meetings on October 16, 29 for budget development
  - Stone Soup Conference on October 14

- Research and Policy Development Council Meeting on November 2

- **Priority 2 Academic Improvement, Achievement Gaps**
  - CAPSS Policy Conference on October 24
  - Reading Conference Presentation on October 23
  
- **Priority 3 Secondary School Reform**
  - CT Coalition for Child Development Forum, October 7
  - Citizen's Network Presentation, October 7
  - Representatives Fleischman, Hovey, October 10
  - CAS Conferences October 20, 22
  - Division meetings with George to begin implementation of plan
  - Community Colleges Meeting on November 10
  
- **BEST Task Force**
  - Meetings on October 3, 10, 17, 27
  
- **Certification Regulations Revisions**
  - Stakeholder Meetings: October 16
  
- **Sheff**
  - Meeting with Sheff Plaintiffs to discuss Comprehensive Management Plan, November 7

## **XII. Committee Reports**

- **Finance, Audit and Department Matters** – Mrs. Luke reported that minutes from the September committee meeting were distributed and the committee will meet again in December.
  
- **Legislation and Bylaws** – Discussion will continue on the Legislative Proposals at the November 17 Special State Board of Education meeting.

- **Policy Development** – Ms. Finneran reported that the committee will meet immediately following the regularly scheduled meeting to discuss the revised Position Statement on International Education and Prioritization of Consideration of Position Statements.
- **Connecticut Technical High Schools (CTHSS)** – Mr. Coolican reported that the committee will meet on November 12 at Cheney Tech in Manchester.

By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mark K. McQuillan, Secretary