

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Legislation and Bylaws Committee

March 4, 2009
8:30 a.m.
State Office Building
Hartford, CT

MINUTES

Members Present

Janet Finneran, Acting Chair, and Jay Voss, Member

Staff Present

Mark McQuillan, George Coleman, Pam Bergin, Karen Flanagan, Katherine Nicoletti, Jennifer Widness and Carol Basile

Members Absent

Beverly Bobroske, Chair

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.

Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes from the October 2, 2008, meeting were approved with no changes.

Legislative Update

RESC Indirect Rate Funds

Katherine Nicoletti discussed an amendment brought forward from the Policy Committee which would better focus the use of RESC indirect rate funds, and this issue was discussed. Mrs. Nicoletti indicated that she would draft language to amend the statutes to allow for this and when finalized have it shared with the SBE.

Restraint and Seclusion Regulations

Mrs. Nicoletti noted that the Restraint and Seclusion Regulations on the SBE agenda had been previously approved by the State Board, but the Regulations Review Committee rejected them without prejudice in order to have the regulations redrafted so that several phrases are clearer. The regulations have

been amended in accordance with the committee's direction and are being brought to the SBE once again for approval.

Education Committee

Mrs. Nicoletti informed the Committee that the Education Committee deadline for completing its regular work has been extended two weeks. All State Board of Education bills have been drafted by the Committee, with the exception of the technical revisions bill. All of the SBE bills drafted have had a public hearing except for the Secondary School Reform and Teacher Certification bills. The hearing for those bills should take place within the next few weeks.

Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee

As a result of a study by the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee (LPRIC), that committee prepared a report on teacher certification and made administrative and legislative recommendations. The legislative recommendations became Raised Bill 6392, An Act Implementing the Recommendations of the Program Review and Investigations Committee Concerning Teacher Certification, and there was a public hearing on it last week.

Committee members requested a copy of the LPRIC Report. They also requested that they be kept better informed and updated regularly on the status of legislation. The Committee was advised that the CAGE legislative update would be circulated to all members.

Governor's Budget

Commissioner McQuillan and Mrs. Nicoletti noted that some of the State Board proposals were not included in the Governor's budget, e.g., the recommendations concerning Sheff.

An Act Concerning a Plan for Academic and Personal Success for Every Middle and High School Student

A copy of Raised Bill 944, An Act Concerning a Plan for Academic and Personal Success for Every Middle and High School Student, was distributed and possible changes were discussed, including the idea of providing students, who graduate from a high school that has participated in the reform program, with a certificate or other form of recognition of having completed such a program.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Basile