

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford**

Policy Development Committee

Janet M. Finneran, Chair
Lynne S. Farrell
Patricia B. Luke

Minutes of September 1, 2010, Committee Meeting

I. Call to Order

Chairwoman Janet Finneran called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m. Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of State, the meeting was held in Room 305 of the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT. Present were Janet Finneran, Lynne Farrell, and Patricia Luke. Also present were Commissioner Mark McQuillan; Deputy Commissioner George Coleman; Associate Commissioners Barbara Beaudin, Marion Martinez and Charlene Russell-Tucker; Education Consultant William Howe; and Assistant to the Commissioner Pamela Bergin.

II. Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mrs. Luke, seconded by Dr. Farrell, the committee unanimously approved the Minutes of the May 5, 2010, Policy Development Committee Meeting.

III. Discussion of Draft Position Statement on Culturally Responsive Education

Dr. Marion Martinez and Dr. William Howe made introductory remarks about the draft position statement. Discussion ensued. Committee members recommended the following:

- The term “culturally responsive” be clearly defined for the reader;
- Explain the relationship or connection between a culturally responsive education and the paragraph that addresses the achievement gap;
- Make sure the position statement expresses the importance of a culturally responsive education for all learners, and the importance of ensuring that all educators are competent in this area;
- Include “race” in the discussion of a culturally responsive education;
- Prepare related guidelines that addresses the involvement of students, teachers and others, to make the statement and the guidelines useful and personal to educators in all disciplines;
- Describe how a culturally responsive education can facilitate bringing students together;
- Link to who we are as Americans;
- Present as a way to teach, not as something you teach about.

Grammatical edits were provided to staff members. This statement will be revised and presented to the committee for further discussion at its October 6 meeting.

IV. The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Prepared by Pamela V. Bergin
Draft Minutes 9.1.10

