

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford**

**Draft Minutes
June 23, 2016
Academic Standards and Assessment Committee Meeting**

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the Academic Standards and Assessment Committee met on Thursday, June 23, 2016, in Room 302, State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

I. Call to Order

Committee Chair Stephen Wright called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

Present: Stephen Wright, Committee Chair
Erik M. Clemons
Theresa Hopkins-Staton
Allan Taylor

Absent: None

I. Approval of the Minutes of the April 28, 2016, Academic Standards and Assessment Committee Meeting

Stephen Wright moved, Theresa Hopkins-Staton seconded, that the committee approve the minutes of the April 28, 2016, Academic Standards and Assessment Committee meeting.

Vote:	In Favor:	Hopkins-Staton, Taylor, Wright, Clemons
	Abstained:	0
	Opposed:	0
	Absent:	0

Motion carried unanimously.

II. Report of the Biennial Open Review Period for Universal Screening Reading Assessments, Grades K-3 (Ellen Cohn, Deputy Commissioner; Isabelina Rodriguez, Interim Chief Academic Officer)

The State Board of Education Academic Standards and Assessment Committee received a summary of the Annual Open Review Period for research-based reading assessments for Grades K-3, by Ms. Joanne White. The purpose of this proactive process is to help the CSDE guide CT LEAs as research and assessment practices evolve over time. During this review process the CSDE will consider additional research-based assessments, as recommended by school districts to be included in the Menu. The first annual review process occurred in March of 2016. Three assessments were reviewed. After a rigorous review by Academic Office and Performance Office consultants, it was determined that one assessment, the i-Ready Diagnostic reading assessment, met the technical standards and efficiency standards as set forth in the open review period guidance documents. The committee asked questions and requested clarification about the i-Ready program and discussion ensued. The Department proposed a presentation

to the Board leading to adoption of the i-Ready Diagnostic reading assessment during the July 2016 State Board meeting. The Standards and Assessment Committee approved moving the proposal to the full Board.

III. Presentation on Computer Science Position Statement (Ellen Cohn, Deputy Commissioner; Isabelina Rodriguez, Interim Chief Academic Officer)

The revised draft position statement for computer science was presented for consideration to the Standards and Assessment Committee of the State Board of Education by Jennifer Michalek, Education Consultant from the Academic Office. During this presentation the committee was provided with a copy of the draft position statement as well as a recent brief from the National Association of State Boards of Education related to computer science. A history of the development of the position statement and the revisions to the document were highlighted.

Committee members asked questions regarding computer science and the position statement in general. Some of the topics of these questions included:

- an explanation of computational thinking;
- getting students interested in taking AP classes;
- the reference to a core credit for graduation and its implications; and
- the current activities across the state working to advance computer science education.

The Academic Standards and Assessment Committee approved moving this position statement forward to full board approval in the fall pending two minor revisions. The first was an elaboration of computational thinking and the second was in related to the responsibilities of the State Department of Education with regard to supporting the creation of a framework. Since a timeline is not in place, it was recommended that the language be changed.

IV. CT Arts Standards Update (Ellen Cohn, Deputy Commissioner; Isabelina Rodriguez, Interim Chief Academic Officer)

Jackie Coleman, Education Consultant, gave an overview of parent and arts organization engagement in the review process. There will be two final webinars this summer; one geared for parents and one for board of education. The minor edits to the draft first presented in January were discussed. A few additional edits were suggested. The committee members are in full agreement that the recommendations are ready to go to the full board in the fall.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Prepared by: Irma Francis