

Reading Leadership Implementation Council Meeting
September 17, 2024
Meeting Minutes

Connecticut Department of Education

Reading Leadership Implementation Council Virtual Meeting

450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, CT

September 17, 2024

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Present:

- Shandra Scott-Brown, Principal CREC Museum Academy
- Dr. Matthew Conway, Superintendent Derby Public Schools
- Dr. Michael Coyne, Department Head Educational Psychology, Professor of Special Education, NEAG School of Education, UCONN
- Dr. Margie Gillis, Founder and President, Literacy How, Inc.
- Kim Healy, Selectwoman, Wilton, CT
- Steven Hernandez, Executive Director, ConnCAN
- Dr. Melissa K. Wlodarczyk Hickey, Director of the Center for Literacy Research & Reading Success (Center), Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE).
- Yasmin Ithier-Vicenty, Teacher, Hartford Public Schools
- Dr. Tamu Lucero, Superintendent, Stamford Public Schools
- Dr. Ashley Oldham, Assistant Professor of Education, Department of Special Education, University of Saint Joseph
- Dr. James Zavodjancik, Chief Academy Officer, Fairfield Public Schools

Facilitator:

- Dr. Ellen Stoltz, Educational Leadership Consultant, ImproveYourSchools

Staff Present:

- Mrs. Katyria Rivera, Administrative Assistant, Connecticut State Department of Education

I. Welcome

Dr. Stoltz convened the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call and Introductions

Roll call commenced. Dr. Stoltz opened for introductions from both appointed and re-appointed members.

III. Roles, Responsibilities, and Goals of the Council

Dr. Hickey shared the following with Council members:

1. Council's Why, How, and What which were established by the first Council members,
2. Roles and Responsibilities Aligned to the Legislation,
3. Center for Literacy Research and Reading Goals, and
4. 2023-24 Reading Leadership Implementation Council Goals.

Dr. Hickey opened the floor for questions.

IV. Crucial Conversations

Dr. Stoltz discussed Crucial Conversations: Key Strategies. Council discussed. Dr. Stoltz, shared with the Council the seventh strategy intitled "Moves to Action", explained how the Council uses Roberts Rules to reach consensus.

V. For the Good of the Order

Dr. Stoltz opened the floor for any questions. Kim H. suggested changing the name of "For the Good of the Order". Kim H. mentioned how it would be good to know how school districts are doing, what's been happening the last 4 months. A question was raised pertaining to having hybrid and virtual meetings. Dr. Hickey shared with the Council that districts have created webinars on how things have been working for them, Dr. Hickey shared where this information can be found on the Center website. Links are included below.

- [Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success \(ct.gov\)](#)
- [Infinite Possibilities: Doing This Together Webinar Series \(ct.gov\)](#)
- [Reading Leadership Implementation Council \(ct.gov\)](#)

VI. Meeting Calendar

The Council discussed the proposed meeting dates and times. Consensus was reached to change start and end time.

The 2024-2025 meeting dates and approved times are the following:

- September 17, 2024
- October 15, 2024 (2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.)
- December 17, 2024 (2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.)
- February 25, 2025 (2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.)
- March 18, 2025 (2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.)
- May 20, 2025 (2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.)
- June 17, 2025 (2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.)

VII. Meeting Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 2:08 p.m.