STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Legislation and Bylaws Committee

January 6, 2010 8:30 a.m. State Office Building Hartford, CT

MINUTES

Approved February 3, 2010

Members Present

Theresa Hopkins-Staten, Janet Finneran, Hunter Kodama, John Voss, and Kathleen O'Connor.

Staff Present

Mark McQuillan, Daniel Murphy, Mark Linabury, Jennifer Widness and Janice Dinnall.

Others Present

Alex Johnston, Chief Executive Officer, and Jessica Stram of ConnCAN.

Call to Order

Chairwoman Hopkins-Staten called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

Minutes of Last Meeting

The December 2, 2009, meeting minutes were approved unanimously on a motion by Janet Finneran, seconded by John Voss.

Jennifer Widness reviewed the board report regarding legislative proposals for Race to the Top.

In discussing the various funding options for the state charter schools that were proposed in the Board report, the Committee agreed to remove item 2(a)(ii) from the resolution in order to allow more time to discuss the issue. A number of Board members wanted to explore in more detail the option of transitioning into a "money follows the child" funding model. Due to the fact that this model would not begin until, at the earliest, the 2012 fiscal year, Committee members agreed to vote on the

proposal to increase the per pupil grant for state charters in the interim. The Committee also agreed to conduct a workshop on this transitional funding model before the next Board meeting.

Jay Voss raised the motion to approve the proposals as revised. Kathleen O'Connor seconded the motion and all present voted in favor of the revised resolution.

Committee members scheduled the workshop on the transitional funding model for January 27, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon. In order to allow time for Committee members to adequately prepare for the meeting, a deadline of January 20th was set for public testimony to be submitted.

The Commissioner raised one additional legislative proposal for the Committee's future consideration that involved revising the accountability statute to grant the State Board the authority to reconstitute a local board of education for appropriate reasons, such as, a district has not shown any progress after two or three years of being in corrective action. The Commissioner suggested that a process would need to be established to allow for the appointment of the new board members that would serve.

Committee members agreed to consider the issue at a later date.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:29 a.m.