CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION Hartford

Minutes of the June 30, 2014, Special State Board of Education Meeting

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the State Board of Education (hereinafter "Board") met on Monday, June 30, 2014, in Room 307 of the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Allan Taylor called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

Present: Allan Taylor, Chairperson

Charles Jaskiewicz

Terry Jones

Patricia Keavney-Maruca

Estela López

Robert Trefry, ex officio

Joseph Vrabely Stephen Wright

Absent: Andrea Comer

Gregory Gray, ex officio

Theresa Hopkins-Staten, Vice Chairperson

II. Discussion and potential action: operations and governance of Family Urban Schools of Excellence, Jumoke Academy, and charter schools

Commissioner Pryor made an opening statement to the Board regarding the operations and governance of Family Urban Schools of Excellence (FUSE), Jumoke Academy, and charter schools. His comments included general background information; an update on the status of Booker T. Washington School (New Haven), Milner School (Hartford), and Dunbar School (Bridgeport); and potential actions the Board might wish to pursue, including the appointment of a special investigator to examine the operations, finances, governance and other issues related to FUSE and Jumoke Academy, Inc. He noted that he was recommending for this investigatory role Attorney Frederick L. Dorsey, of the Hartford law firm Kainen, Escalera & McHale, P.C. Commissioner Pryor also described proposed immediate and long-term administrative actions on the part of the State Department of Education with regard to charter schools.

Responding to questions raised by members of the Board were Morgan Barth, Division Director, Turnaround Office; Mark Linabury, Bureau Chief, Bureau of Choice Programs; Gloria McCree, Director of Internal Audit; and Kathy Demsey, Chief Financial Officer.

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Recommendation to Appoint a Special Investigator

Mr. Jaskiewicz moved, Mr. Vrabely seconded, that the Board approves the Commissioner's recommendation for the Connecticut State Department of Education to appoint a special investigator to examine the operations, finances, governance, and other issues related to Family Urban Schools of Excellence, Inc. and Jumoke Academy, Inc., and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

VOTE ON	In favor:	Jaskiewicz, Jones, Keavney-Maruca, Lopez, Taylor
MOTION:		Vrabely, Wright

Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0

Absent: Comer, Hopkins-Staten

Motion carried unanimously.

III. Adjourn

By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at 11:36 a.m.

Prepared by:	
	Stefan Pryor, Secretary