

Connecticut State Board of Education
Hartford

Minutes of the
January 28, 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, January 28, 2016, in Room 223, State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

I. Call to Order

Allan Taylor called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Allan Taylor
Stephen Wright
Theresa Hopkins-Staten (via telephone 9:00 a.m.)

Absent:

I. Approval of the Minutes of the October 13, 2015, Academic Standards and Assessment Committee Meeting

Theresa Hopkins-Staten moved, Allan Taylor seconded, that the committee approve the minutes.

Vote:	In Favor:	Hopkins-Staten, Taylor
	Abstained:	Stephen Wright
	Opposed:	0
	Absent:	0

Motion carried.

II. New Connecticut Arts Standards Stakeholder Engagement

Jackie Coleman, Education Consultant for the Arts, presented an overview of the proposed draft position statement for the implementation of the CT arts standards. The committee was provided with an analysis of the crosswalk process comparing the 1998 Arts Curriculum Framework and the National Core Arts standards. This process led to the recommendations concerning from the five standards review teams – dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual arts (adoption of the National Standards.) Following that a presentation on the stakeholder engagement process was presented including an update on data collected to date.

Questions

Mr. Taylor questioned the “Essential questions” and “Enduring understandings” part of the model, very common in CT – model curriculum design. Mrs. Butler gave an overview of the Understanding by Design model.

Mr. Wright questioned if locomotor movement is defined differently at the Prekindergarten or Kindergarten level vs. upper grades. Mrs. Coleman indicated locomotor movement is the same at all ages. Locomotor is defined as movement through space (like skipping or walking) as opposed to movement while one is still (like waving or typing).

Ms. Butler questioned if there was resistance to the media arts being incorporated. Mrs. Coleman responded there have been conversations about this subject. The concept is good for children.

Mr. Taylor questioned if there is an actual difference between the CT Arts Standards and the National Arts Standards. Mrs. Coleman explained this draft position statement is intended to be the lens through which CT looks at the NCAS. It focuses on the implementation of the standards. She suggests there is interest in the arts community to work on a separate document/position statement after the standards are adopted to frame arts learning in CT.

Discussion topics:

Mr. Taylor mentioned the standards match up well with the Common Core, especially with the English Language Standards.

Mrs. Hopkins-Staten advised Mrs. Coleman to share the schedule for art presentations with our new board member.

Mrs. Hopkins-Staten noted that arts are valuable for growth and development for all of us. Mrs. Hopkins-Staten suggested additional resources be provided to teachers for instructing and inspiring students of special populations. Districts need to understand how to bring programs into the school district. CSDE must take a leadership role to make this happen.

Mr. Taylor agreed with Mrs. Hopkins-Staten. Mr. Taylor commented NCAS' site is a great tool.

Mrs. Hopkins-Staten indicated many school districts are bringing art programming but there is a variation around the state. Mrs. Hopkins-Staten expressed the need to identify available resources by region on what districts can access to support art education.

The committee requested the following information be provided to them:

- Ensure the position statement articulates supports for students with learning disabilities and EL students.
- As part of the roll out process after adoption, cultivate external partners through the developing Arts Councils hosted at the RESCs.
- Communicate with the Artists' Collective and the Bushnell to garner their feedback in this process.
- Identify resources and post by region for schools to use in planning for educational events in the arts.

The committee recommended that the proposed draft position statement on the implementation of the CT arts standards be posted for the month of March on the SDE Web site with an accompanying survey to provide opportunity for further feedback. Following the assimilation of that feedback into the draft statement, the committee recommends a presentation to the full board in April 2016.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Prepared by: Carla Ghostlaw