

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Hartford**

**The Legislation and Policy Development Committee**  
Wednesday, December 4, 2019, 8:30 a.m.  
State Office Building, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, Connecticut  
Conference Room: **North Plaza, Meeting Room E**

*Erin D. Benham, Chair, William P. Davenport*  
*Donald F. Harris, Malia K. Sieve*

**Minutes**  
**(Approved March 4, 2020)**

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the Board of Education Legislation and Policy Development Committee met in the North Plaza, Meeting Room E, 450 Columbus Blvd., Hartford, Connecticut, on December 4, 2019.

**I. Call to Order**

Committee Chair Erin Benham called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m. Also present were Committee members: Donald Harris, William Davenport, and Malia Sieve. In addition, Board Member Robert Trefry (ex-officio) was present.

Presenters: Laura Stefon, Chief of Staff for the State Department of Education (SDE). Also present for all or part of the meeting was SDE Legal Director Jessa Mirtle.

**II. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

A vote to approve the minutes of the November 6, 2019 Legislation and Policy Development Committee meeting was raised by Chair Benham and duly seconded. All voted in favor and the minutes were approved.

**III. Discussion Regarding Draft Proposed Resolution on Access to Public School Choice Programs**

Discussion regarding the Draft Proposed Resolution on Access to Public School Choice Programs started with an update on Chair Benham on her expectation that the issues would be raised with the Education Committee Chairs at the legislature. Also discussed was the Commissioner's December 2, 2019 memo to all superintendents on Choice Program Recruitment, and the suggestion it be a yearly correspondence earlier in the school year.

*At 8:47 am, after a motion by Committee Member Davenport to go into Executive Session and second of that motion, the Committee unanimously voted to go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation and the drafted resolution's relationship to the litigation. The Committee voted to return to public session at 8:54 am.*

## **V. Discussion and Action Regarding Legislative Proposals**

Laura Stefon, Chief of Staff for the SDE, delivered a presentation on the SDE's draft legislative proposals, which are proposed to be introduced to the full State Board of Education, and subsequently the Legislature should they vote to move forward with the proposals. The Committee engaged in conversation about the proposals.

Committee Member Sieve moved to present all legislative proposals to the full board, and the motion was duly seconded. All voted in favor and the draft legislative proposals will go to the full board for discussion and action.

## **VI. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:36 a.m.

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