

Connecticut State Board of Education Hartford

Accountability and Support Committee

Thursday, December 16, 2021

A link to participate in the meeting was available on [the State Board of Education's Website](#) on December 16, 2021.

Minutes (Approved on February 10, 2022)

I. Call to Order

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State and posted on the agency's website, the Accountability and Support Committee (hereinafter "Committee") met virtually on December 16, 2021, via Microsoft Teams Meeting. A link to participate in the meeting was available on [the State Board of Education's Website](#) on December 16, 2021.

Committee Chairperson Erin D. Benham called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Erin D. Benham, Chairperson
Donald F. Harris, Jr.
Elwood Exley, Jr.
Malia K. Sieve

Committee Member Absent: Karen Dubois-Walton

Staff Present: Lisa Lamenzo
Irene Parisi
Leslie Navarrete
Greg Dresko

Guests Present: Greg Dresko, Education Consultant, CSDE
Carole Dibble, Former Teacher-in-Residence and Math Coach, West Hartford Public Schools

II. Approval of Minutes

Elwood Exley, Jr., moved, Malia K. Sieve., seconded, that the committee approve the minutes of the September 22, 2021 and October 14, 2021 Accountability and Support Committee meetings.

Vote: In Favor: Exley and Benham
Abstained: Sieve
Opposed: 0
Absent: Harris and Dubois-Walton

III. The CSDE Needs Assessment Toolkit

Lisa Lamenzo, Division Director for the CSDE Turnaround Office, introduced Mr. Greg Dresko and Ms. Carole Dibble, project leads of the CSDE Needs Assessment Toolkit (Toolkit), and Irene Parisi, Chief Academic Officer. Ms. Lamenzo provided an overview of how the CSDE Needs Assessment Toolkit was developed, and its importance in assisting schools/districts to identify root causes as it relates to effective planning and implementation of continuous improvement systems, leveraging strengths, and allocation of resources. Additionally, she noted the Toolkit fulfills the ESSA requirement for the CSDE to develop a comprehensive root cause toolkit to drive continuous improvement.

Ms. Carole Dibble explained the processes to develop and refine the Toolkit, including but not limited to – conducting a national landscape analysis, collaborating with interstate consultants and the CSDE’s cross-divisional team, and carrying out various external focus groups. Ms. Dibble also explained how the Toolkit aims to build capacity of school and district leaders through a comprehensive process. Mr. Greg Dresko demonstrated the Toolkit’s accessibility and functionality to the Committee.

Next steps involving the Toolkit were discussed with the Committee including the opportunity to collaborate with higher education systems and expanding technical support for schools/districts utilizing the Toolkit. Chair Benham opened the floor for questions and comments. The Committee commended the work committed to realize the CSDE Need Assessment Toolkit and its continuous progress. The Committee looks forward to future updates.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:07 p.m.

Prepared by: Leslie Navarrete