

**Connecticut State Board of Education
Hartford**

Accountability and Support Committee

Thursday, February 10, 2022

450 Columbus Blvd.

Plaza North Hearing Room C

Hartford, Connecticut.

Minutes

(Approved on May 19, 2022)

I. Call to Order

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, Committee Chairperson Erin D. Benham called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

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

Committee
Member Absent:

Staff Present: Lisa Lamenzo
 Irene Parisi
 Leslie Navarrete
 Nicole Jones
 Jennifer Webb

Guests Present: Nathan Quesnel, Superintendent, East Hartford Public Schools
 Christopher Wethje, Director of Human Resources, East Hartford Public Schools

II. Approval of Minutes

Elwood Exley, Jr., moved, Malia K. Sieve., seconded, that the committee approve the minutes of the December 16, 2021, Accountability and Support Committee meeting.

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

III. Alliance District Showcase of Best Practices, East Hartford Public Schools

Irene Parisi, Chief Academic Officer, provided an overview of the purpose for the Alliance District Showcase of Best Practices. She highlighted the work and efforts of East Hartford Public Schools with minority teacher recruitment. Ms. Parisi welcomed Mr. Nathan Quesnel, Superintendent of East Hartford Public Schools, and Christopher Wethje, Director of Human Resources of East Hartford Public Schools, to highlight the current work of the district.

East Hartford Public Schools shared highlights and ongoing efforts to strengthen minority teacher recruitment and culture competency. In particular, the district highlighted its' work to develop, maintain, and expand partnerships with high education institutions, state agencies and work groups to diversify, grow, and support their workforce. The district also noted that minority teacher recruitment is a priority in their district improvement plan.

East Hartford Public Schools provided an overview to the Committee on its talent and cultural strategies and their success rate due to ongoing efforts. The district explained the next steps on continuing to strengthen minority teacher recruitment and support systems.

Chair Benham opened the floor for questions and comments. The committee commended Mr. Nathan Quesnel and his team for their commitment to minority teacher recruitment.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Prepared by: Leslie Navarrete