

Connecticut State Board of Education Hartford

Accountability and Support Committee

Wednesday, December 14, 2022

450 Columbus Blvd.
Plaza North, Meeting Room C
Hartford, Connecticut

Minutes

(Approved on February 15, 2023)

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 3:32 p.m.

Committee

Members Present: Erin D. Benham
Malia K. Sieve (via Microsoft Teams)
Donald F. Harris, Jr.
Elwood Exley, Jr.

Committee

Member Absent: Karen Dubois-Walton

Staff Present:

Irene Parisi
Robert Kelly
Leslie Navarrete
Donna Pasternak

Guests Present:

John Scalise, Executive Director, Great Oaks Charter School, Bridgeport
Latoya Hubbard, Director of Operations, Great Oaks Charter School, Bridgeport
Erica Forti, Superintendent, East Haven Public Schools
Michele Delucia, Board Chairperson, East Haven Public Schools
Laura Cretella, Principal, Deer Run Elementary School, East Haven

II. Approval of Minutes

Elwood Exley, Jr., moved, Donald F. Harris, Jr., seconded, that the committee approve the minutes of the October 19, 2022, Accountability and Support Committee meeting.

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

III. Great Oaks Charter School, Bridgeport, Progress Updates

Irene Parisi, Chief Academic Officer for the CSDE Academic Office, provided an overview of the work to date with Great Oaks Charter School, Bridgeport. Ms. Parisi welcomed Great Oaks Charter School Executive Director John Scalise, and Great Oaks Charter School Director of Operations Latoya Hubbard, to provide a progress update. Great Oaks Charter School shared highlights of their progress in their corrective action focus points of Student Achievement ELA, Student Achievement mathematics, and reduction of suspensions. Highlights included: the implementation of a new ELA and mathematics curriculum in all grade levels, expansion of AP courses, creation of

an in-house educator pipeline with AmeriCorps fellows and career pathway, trauma and de-escalation professional development through their partnership with Fairfield and Sacred Heart Universities. Additionally, Great Oaks Charter reported implementing a high dosage tutoring model based on their data analysis and research. The charter school also continues to strengthen family engagement and curriculum monitoring.

Chair Benham opened the floor to questions and comments. The Committee thanked the Great Oaks Charter School team for their presentation.

IV. Alliance District Showcase: East Haven Public School and their WIN (What I Need) Intervention Block

Irene Parisi, Chief Academic Officer for the CSDE Academic Office, provided an overview of East Haven Public Schools' Alliance District Showcase. Ms. Parisi welcomed Erica Forti, Superintendent, East Haven Public Schools, Michele Delucia, Board Chairperson, East Haven Public Schools, and Laura Cretella, Principal, Deer Run Elementary School, East Haven, to present their "What I Need (WIN) Intervention Block using recovery funds. Dr. Forti and Ms. Delucia explained their "WIN" block is a targeted instructional block that supports the academic and social emotional growth and development of every EHPS student everyday. Ms. Cretella provided daily schedule details. WIN occurs every single day, regardless of early or late dismissal. Each student meets with one adult for thirty minutes, focusing on what that student needs (intervention). Dr. Forti provided data to support the positive impact "WIN" Intervention Block has had on academics.

Chair Benham opened the floor for questions and comments. The Committee thanked the East Haven Public School team for their presentation.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

Prepared by: Donna Pasternak