

Connecticut State Board of Education Hartford

Academic Standards and Assessment Committee Meeting

Monday, April 17, 2023

450 Columbus Blvd.
Plaza North, Hearing Room J
Hartford, Connecticut

Minutes
(Approved on May 15, 2023)

I. Call to Order

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, Committee Chairperson Erik Clemons called the meeting to order at 3:42 p.m.

Committee

Members Present: Erik M. Clemons
Erin D. Benham
Allan B. Taylor

Committee

Member Absent: Martha Paluch Prou
Awilda Reasco
Kelli-Marie Vallieres (Ex-Officio)

Staff Present:

Irene Parisi
Stephen Armstrong
Paul Castiglione
Nicole Jones

Guests Present:

II. Approval of Minutes

Erin D. Benham, moved, Allen B. Taylor seconded, that the committee approve the minutes of the January 9, 2023, Academic Standards and Assessment Committee meeting.

Vote: In Favor: Clemons, Benham, and Taylor
Abstained: 0
Opposed: 0
Absent: Paluch Prou and Reasco

Erin D. Benham, moved, Allen B. Taylor seconded, that the committee approve the minutes of the March 20, 2023, Academic Standards and Assessment Committee meeting.

Vote: In Favor: Clemons and Taylor
Abstained: Erin D. Benham
Opposed: 0
Absent: Paluch Prou and Reasco

III. Social Studies Update

Chair Erik Clemons recognized the meeting's agenda item and opened the meeting to Irene Parisi, Chief Academic Officer, who introduced Paul Castiglione, Project Manager, Stephen Armstrong, Education Consultant, and Nicole Jones, Humanities & Arts Project Manager to provide the timeline and development process of the draft *CSDE Elementary and Secondary Social Studies Standards* (draft of the CSDE social studies standards). Mr. Armstrong brought to mind that the latest State Board of Education (SBE) approved social studies framework is from 2014.

He informed the Committee that the draft of the CSDE social studies standards was co-directed by the CSDE and the Connecticut Council for Social Studies with the support from CT Humanities and the Connecticut Democracy Center, and the standards are the first social studies standards publication in Connecticut history. Moreover, the development of Connecticut's first set of social studies standards was initiated by June Special Session Public Act 12-21 (Public Act 21-2), which called for a Grades K-8 model curriculum addressing specific subject matter [including but not limited it to Native American studies, Asian American and Pacific Islander studies, and LGBTQ and other sexual orientations and gender identities studies].

He went on to share some highlights of the development timeline for the draft of CSDE social studies standards. Highlights included the creation of a standards steering committee, writing teams, and reviewers which consisted of elementary school, middle school, high school, and post-secondary faculty from across Connecticut and represented rural, suburban, and urban communities; the steering committee, content consultants, and project leaders, a team consisting of 45 educators, met on a continuous basis during the 2021-22 school year. Mr. Armstrong reported to the Committee that Ms. Jones and he are working closely with the 5 Connecticut Native American tribes to develop an accessible and equitable Native American studies model curriculum.

Ms. Jones went on to explain the structure of the standards and its development. Chair Erik Clemons opened the floor to questions and comments from the Committee. The Committee voted in favor of presenting the draft *CSDE Elementary and Secondary Social Studies Standards* to the full board in June.

The Committee commended Paul Castiglione, Project Manager, Stephen Armstrong, Education Consultant, and Nicole Jones, Humanities & Arts Project Manager on their work on the development of *CSDE Elementary and Secondary Social Studies Standard*.

The Committee agreed to change the venue of the Committee's May meeting to virtual and to add a planning meeting on the agenda.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:37 p.m.

Prepared by: Leslie Navarrete