

Connecticut State Board of Education Hartford

State Board of Education Meeting February 1, 2023

(Approved March 1, 2023)

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State and posted on the agency's Web site, the members of State Board of Education (hereinafter "Board") held a meeting on Wednesday, February 1, 2023, in Plaza North Meeting Room C and D of the State Office Building, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, Connecticut. Public access to the building allowed for public attendance at the meeting.

The meeting can be viewed here: <https://youtu.be/eV3Wk3abeXA>.

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Karen DuBois-Walton called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

Present: Karen DuBois-Walton, Chairperson
Erin D. Benham, Vice Chairperson
Bonnie E. Burr
Donald F. Harris, Jr.
Patricia M. Keavney-Maruca, Ex Officio
Valli Pendyala, Student Member
Awilda Reasco
Malia K. Sieve
Allan B. Taylor*
Praja Tickoo, Student Member

Absent: Erik M. Clemons
Elwood Exley, Jr.
Dr. Rai Kathuria (designee for Terrence Cheng, Ex Officio)
Martha Prou
Kelli-Marie Vallieres, Ex Officio

II. Public Participation

1. Dr. Lauren B. Carpenter, Director of Education Programs, Albertus Magnus College, represented AACTE-CT and spoke in support of agenda item IX.B., Continuing Educator Preparation Provider Program Approval: Albertus Magnus College. A copy of Dr. Carpenter's written statement is in the official file of this meeting.
2. Christine Rebstock, of Middletown, spoke on SEL, gender issues in elementary and middle schools.
3. Georgann Stokes, special education teacher in Cromwell, spoke on her challenges with CT-SEDS.

[*Board Member Allan Taylor arrived at approximately 9:41 a.m.]

4. Danielle Frogoso, a special education teacher in Madison, spoke on teaching pressures, challenges of COVID, post-COVID teaching, and CT-SEDS.
5. Elizabeth Sked, Special Issues Specialist, Connecticut Education Association, read testimony on behalf of Stephanie Wanzer, a special education teacher at CES, about CT-SEDS. A copy of Ms. Wanzer's testimony is in the official file of this meeting.
6. Kate Dias, president of the Connecticut Education Association, spoke on issues related to special education and CT-SEDS.
7. Dr. Aram Ayalon, retired professor, CCSU, spoke on teacher shortages, the remedy for increasing the number of students in educator preparation programs and edTPA.
8. Dr. James Mulrooney, Dean of Education for Professional Studies at Central Connecticut State University (CCSU), spoke regarding agenda item, IX.A., Continuing Educator Preparation Provider Program Approval: Central Connecticut State University. A copy of Dr. Mulrooney's written statement is in the official file of this meeting.
9. Thomas Stringfellow, of Manchester, spoke on the month of February being Black History Month and various topics.

III. Executive Session

The Board did not meet in executive session.

IV. Consideration of Minutes:

A. January 11, 2023, State Board of Education Meeting

Board Member Reasco moved, Board Member Sieve seconded, that the Board adopt the minutes of the January 11, 2023, State Board of Education Meeting.

VOTE ON

MOTION:	In favor:	Benham, Burr, DuBois-Walton, Harris, Sieve, Reasco, Taylor
	Opposed:	0
	Abstained:	0
	Absent:	Clemons, Exley, Prou

Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Executive Session

The Board did not meet in executive session.

V. Report of the Chair

Chair DuBois-Walton, the Chair's written report was provided to Board members.

- Noted that February is Black History Month.
- Kick off of Black History Month with a Celebration of the Connecticut Black and Latino history curriculum with Governor Lamont, Commissioner Russell-Tucker, SERC Executive Director Ingrid Canady, Representative Bobby Gibson, at the CREC International Studies School.
- Thanked Vice Chair Benham for presiding over the January 11th meeting in her absence.
- Congratulated Vice Chair Benham on being renominated by Governor Lamont to the Board.
- Last month offered an opportunity to celebrate the Teacher of the Year and the finalists.
- Commissioner Russell-Tucker rolled out the evaluation LEAP attendance initiative.
- Provided an update on the Killingly complaint.
- Thanked members for presiding over charter school hearings.
- The opening of the CT legislative session.

VI. Report of the Commissioner and Agency Update

The Commissioner referenced her written report and highlighted the following key items before transitioning to Agency Updates:

- Update on agency staffing.
- Reimagining Educator Evaluation with the Talent Office and Vice Chair Benham.
- Modernizing Certification Regulations.
- Convened Teacher Roundtable and invited the recent Teachers of the Year and Milken Educator Award winners.
- Facilitated Center for Connecticut Education Research Collaboration (CCERC) press event on the Learner Engagement and Attendance Program (LEAP) – Evaluation Results
- Attended and spoke at the 2023 Kid Governor Inauguration
- CT Teacher of the Year Carolyn Kielma – Named One of Five Finalists for 2023 National Teacher of the Year.
- Kickoff of Black History Month Press Event with Governor Lamont.

Feature Presentation: McKinney-Vento Update/No Matter What Campaign

Division Director John Frassinelli, Education Consultant Louis Tallarita, and Director of Communications Eric Scoville presented. Mr. Frassinelli provided an overview of the federal law for McKinney-Vento's definition of homeless governs the supports for students experiencing homelessness and unstable housing, including sources of federal funding to support the McKinney-Vento Act.

Mr. Tallarita provided an overview of CT's five-year McKinney-Vento trends in terms of identifying students experiencing homelessness, including student rights and supports that are available for qualifying students under the definition, and school district requirements for identifying and enrolling students.

No Matter What Campaign

Mr. Scoville introduced the "No Matter What" Campaign, designed to increase awareness of McKinney-Vento Act supports that are available and connects students and parents to their district liaisons. He highlighted that the campaign is also to increase the ability of school-based staff to identify all students experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity. The campaign targets parents and

caregivers of school-aged children, youth and young adults. He described the media marketing toolkits, customizing messages to the audience, platforms, and grassroots outreach.

Alliance District

Chief Academic Officer Irene Parisi provided an update on the 36 Alliance Districts. She discussed the tiers of classification of the districts, funding and access to support, and accountability to monitor.

CT-SEDS Update

Division Director Bryan Klimkiewicz presented that the system was designed to increase efficiency. He responded to comments made during public participation and highlighted that the RESC Alliance continues to assist with targeted sessions and office hours.

Shoutouts!

- Legislative Updates: Welcoming Packet for 2023 Legislative Session
- National School Choice Week: Keith Norton appeared on Great Day Connecticut
- Connecticut's 2022-23 Milken Educator Award Winner - Elaine Hill, 4th Grade Teacher, Michael F. Wallace Middle School, Waterbury, CT
- 2023 Connecticut Teacher of the Year Carolyn Kielma: Finalist for National Teacher of the Year
- CT's Kid Governor 2023 - Elisavent "Ellie" Mendez, Monroe Elementary School, Monroe, CT
- Celebrating Black History Month: African American Black and Puerto Rican Latino Course of Study at CREC Academy of International Studies

[Board Member Bonnie Burr left the meeting at approximately 10:59 a.m.]

VIII. Financial Matters

There was no financial report.

IX. Consent Agenda

Board Member Sieve requested to remove IX.A., Continuing Educator Preparation Provider Program Approval: Central Connecticut State University, and IX.B., Continuing Educator Preparation Provider Program Approval: Albertus Magnus College from the Consent Agenda.

Chair DuBois-Walton called for a motion on the Consent agenda. Board Member Harris moved, Board Member Taylor seconded, that the Board approve the following Consent agenda items: IX.C., Continuing Educator Preparation Provider Program Approval: University of Connecticut, and IX.D., Revised Menu of Researched-based Grades K-3 Universal Screening Reading Assessments.

C. Continuing Educator Preparation Provider Program Approval: University of Connecticut

Resolved, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-145d-9(g)(1)(A) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, grants full continuing approval to the University of Connecticut (UConn) for the period February 1, 2023, through March 31, 2030, until UConn's 2029 CAEP site visit, for the purpose of certifying graduates from UConn in the following areas and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

<u>Program</u>	<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Program Level</u>	<u>Program Type</u>
Agriculture	PK-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Elementary Education ¹	K-6	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
English	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
History/Social Studies	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Mathematics	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Music Education ²	PK-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Science:			
Biology	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Chemistry	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Earth Science	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
General Science	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Physics	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Special Education	K-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
World Languages:			
American Sign Language	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Chinese	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
French	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Italian	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Latin	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Spanish	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
German	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Intermediate Administration/ Supervision	PK-12	Advanced	Graduate
Reading/Language Arts Consultant	PK-12	Advanced	Graduate
Remedial Reading/ Language Arts	1 – 12	Advanced	Graduate
School Counselor ³	PK – 12	Advanced	Graduate

D. Revised Menu of Researched-based Grades K-3 Universal Screening Reading Assessments

Resolved, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-14t, approves the Acadience RAN, Acadience Reading (formerly DIBELS Next), aimswebPlus RAN, Amira Learning, DIBELS 6th Edition, mCLASS RAN, and mCLASS Vocabulary reading assessments for use by school districts beginning with the 2023-24 school year, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action including:

¹ Pursuant to section 10-145d (f) of the Connecticut General Statutes, on or after July 1, 2017, an endorsement for elementary education will be issued for Grades 1-6 only to in-state graduates.

² Accredited by National Association of Schools of Music

³ Accredited by Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs

- Providing districts with a revised *Menu of Research-based K-3 Universal Screening Reading Assessments* with earlier editions of DIBELS and Section 2: Computer Adaptive Assessments removed, and to include:

Additions:

- Acadience RAN;
- Acadience Reading (formerly DIBELS Next);
- aimswebPlus RAN;
- Amira Learning;
- DIBELS 6th Edition;
- mCLASS RAN;
- mCLASS Vocabulary;

Deletions:

- NWEA MAP Growth
 - STAR
 - i-Ready; and
- Providing districts with a newly developed Grades K-3 Universal Screening Reading Assessments Guide.

VOTE ON

MOTION: In favor: Benham, DuBois-Walton, Harris, Sieve, Reasco, Taylor
 Opposed: 0
 Abstained 0
 Absent: Burr, Clemons, Exley, Prou

Motions carried unanimously.

Chair DuBois-Walton called for a motion for agenda item IX.A., Board Member Harris moved, Board Member Taylor seconded, that the Board approve the following agenda item IX.A., Continuing Educator Preparation Provider Program Approval: Central Connecticut State University.

A. Continuing Educator Preparation Provider Program Approval: Central Connecticut State University

Chief Talent Officer Shuana Tucker and EPP Program Approval Coordinator, Lauren Tafrate joined Dr. James Mulrooney, Dean, School of Education and Professional Studies, and Dr. Kimberly Kostelis, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and presented on the CAEP accreditation findings and accreditation decision for CCSU.

Resolved, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-145d-9(g)(1)(A) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, grants full continuing approval to Central Connecticut State University (CCSU) for the period February 1, 2023, through March 31, 2030, until CCSU's 2029 CAEP site visit, for the purpose of certifying graduates from CCSU in the following areas and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

Program	Grade Level	Program Level	Program Type
Art Education	PK-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Comprehensive Special Education	K-12	Initial	Graduate
Elementary Education	K-6 ⁴	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
English	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
History/Social Studies	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Mathematics	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Music Education	PK-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Physical Education	PK-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Science:			
Biology	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Chemistry	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Earth Science	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
General Science	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Physics	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Technology Education	PK-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
TESOL	PK-12	Initial	Graduate
World Languages:			
French	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
German	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Italian	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Spanish	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate/Graduate
Intermediate Administration/Supervision	PK-12	Advanced	Graduate
Reading/Language Arts Consultant	PK-12	Advanced	Graduate
Remedial Reading/Language Arts	1-12	Advanced	Graduate
School Counselor	PK-12 ⁵	Advanced	Graduate
Superintendent of Schools	PK-12	Advanced	Graduate

VOTE ON

MOTION: In favor: Benham, DuBois-Walton, Harris, Sieve, Reasco, Taylor
 Opposed: 0
 Abstained: 0
 Absent: Burr, Clemons, Exley, Prou

Motion carried unanimously.

Chair DuBois-Walton called for a motion for agenda item IX.B., Board Member Harris moved, Board Member Taylor seconded, that the Board approve the following agenda item IX.B., Continuing Educator Preparation Provider Program Approval: Albertus Magnus College.

B. Continuing Educator Preparation Provider Program Approval: Albertus Magnus College

⁴Pursuant to section 10-145d (f) of the Connecticut General Statutes, on or after July 1, 2017, an endorsement for elementary education will be issued for Grades 1-6 only to in-state graduates.

⁵ Accredited by Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs

Chief Talent Officer Shuana Tucker and EPP Program Approval Coordinator, Lauren Tafrate joined Lauren Carpenter, Director of Education Programs, and presented on the CAEP accreditation findings and decision for Albertus Magnus College.

VOTE ON

MOTION: In favor: Benham, DuBois-Walton, Harris, Sieve, Reasco, Taylor
 Opposed: 0
 Abstained 0
 Absent: Burr, Clemons, Exley, Prou

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolved, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-145d-9(g)(1)(A) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, grants full continuing approval to Albertus Magnus College for the period February 1, 2023, through March 31, 2030, until Albertus Magnus College’s 2029 CAEP site visit, for the purpose of certifying graduates from Albertus Magnus College in the following areas and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

<u>Program</u>	<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Program Level</u>	<u>Program Type</u>
Secondary Areas:			
Business	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate
English	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate
History and Social Studies	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate
Mathematics	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate
Biology	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate
Chemistry	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate
General Science	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate
Spanish	7-12	Initial	Undergraduate
Middle Level Areas:			
English	4-8	Initial	Undergraduate
History and Social Studies	4-8	Initial	Undergraduate
Mathematics	4-8	Initial	Undergraduate
General Science	4-8	Initial	Undergraduate
Art	PK-12	Initial	Undergraduate
Alternate Route to Certification:			
Remedial Reading/ Remedial Language Arts	1-12	Advanced	Non-Credit Bearing

VOTE ON

MOTION: In favor: Benham, DuBois-Walton, Harris, Sieve, Reasco, Taylor
 Opposed: 0
 Abstained 0
 Absent: Burr, Clemons, Exley, Prou

Motion carried unanimously.

X. Committee Reports

A. Academic Standards and Assessment

There was no report to present.

B. Accountability and Support

Vice Chair Benham reported that the committee will next meet on February 15, 2023, the New Haven Public Schools Alliance District will present a progress update.

C. Finance, Audit, and Budget

There was no report to present.

D. Legislation and Policy Development

Committee Chair Sieve reported that the committee met earlier in the morning and discussed Emergency Educator Certification Endorsements for the 2023-23 School Year. Student Member Valli Pendyala presented on sex education curriculum and its impact on LGBTQ+ students.

E. Connecticut Technical Education and Career System Board

Chairperson Patricia Keavney-Maruca reported Senator Murphy announced the 15 winners of the 7th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Essay contest with over 2,000 entries, and three winners were students from CTECS.

F. NASBE

There was no report to present.

G. SERC

Committee Member Benham referenced her SERC report in the Supplemental Folders.

Chair DuBois-Walton asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting, Board Member Sieve moved, Board Member Reasco seconded.

Chair DuBois-Walton adjourned the meeting at 11:57 a.m.

Prepared by: _____
Charlene M. Russell-Tucker, Secretary
State Board of Education