

CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Remote Learning Commission Meeting

September 27, 2021

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

- Present:** Charlene M. Russell-Tucker, Commissioner of Education, Chairperson
Doug Casey, Connecticut Commission for Educational Technology
Katharine Dias, Connecticut Education Association (CEA)
Dr. Karen DuBois-Walton, Connecticut State Board of Education
Dr. Charles Dumais, RESC Alliance
Katharine Gabrielson, ConnCASE
Ed Klonoski, Charter Oak State College
Tim Larson, Connecticut Office of Higher Education (OHE)
Michelle Levy, Connecticut Office of Early Childhood (OEC)
Lauren A. Mancini-Averitt, American Federation of Teachers-Connecticut (AFT)
Frances Rabinowitz, Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents (CAPSS)
Dr. Evelyn Robles-Rivas, Connecticut Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents (CALAS)
Lon Seidman, Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE)
- Absent:** Amy Wiltsie, State Education Resource Center of Connecticut (SERC)
- Facilitator:** Ingrid Canady, Executive Director, SERC
- Staff:** Ajit Gopalakrishnan, Chief Performance Officer, Connecticut State Department of Education
Irene Parisi, Chief Academic Officer, Connecticut State Department of Education

I. Call to Order

Charlene M. Russell-Tucker called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

III. Opening Remarks and Introduction

Charlene M. Russell-Tucker, Commissioner, State of Connecticut Department of Education provided opening remarks and opened the floor to each Commission member for introductions, including Ingrid Canady, Executive Director for SERC as the facilitator of the Commission.

II. Establishment of Norms and Decision Making of the Commission

Ingrid Canady as facilitator reviewed the proposed norms of the Commission and opened the floor to facilitate discussion of Commissioner's "proposed" norms, governance, and decision-making process. Commission members were provided with the opportunity to provided feedback on utilizing the Consensus Building Protocol for decision making.

III. Purpose of the Commission

Charlene M. Russell-Tucker, Commissioner, State of Connecticut Department of Education shared the purpose of the Commission is to coordinate, research and develop recommendations on the feasibility of creating a statewide remote learning school that will serve students in grades kindergarten to twelve.

V. Tasks of the Commission

Charlene M. Russell-Tucker, Commissioner, State of Connecticut Department of Education shared the legislated tasks of the Commission is to analyze the current landscape in Connecticut and nationwide to provide recommendations concerning the provision of Remote Learning for students in grades kindergarten to twelve. The Commissioner added that the Commission will create a report that includes the analysis and recommendations including the impact of remote learning on student performance, access to programs and services, and quality of learning. The report will include the feasibility of creating a statewide remote learning school, as well as fiscal impact, educational support, technical assistance and appropriate supervision of staff, teaching and learning.

VI. Current Discourse

Chief Performance Officer Ajit Gopalakrishnan shared an overview of the published 2020-21 Statewide Summative Assessment Report. Commission members asked questions related to the use of data as a Commission for future analysis and decision making. Chief Academic Officer Irene Parisi shared an overview of the current legislation specific to remote learning for Connecticut.

VII. Opportunities and Impediments

Ingrid Canady as facilitator opened the floor to facilitate a discussion to assess and determine opportunities and threats of the efforts of the Commission. Commission members were asked what resources can we leverage to establish our success as a Commission and what impediments should we consider as we forge ahead. The facilitator opened the floor for a discussion to the Commission members.

VII. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be October 18, 2021, 1:00 p.m. via Teams Meeting Link

VIII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.