



ACES GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES
Thursday, January 12, 2023
SDA Building, 205 Skiff Street, Hamden, CT

Governing Board: Fran DiGiorgi, Ansonia; Ellen Michaels, Branford; Anthony Perugini, Cheshire; Laura Harris, Derby; Kevin Shea, Hamden; Ethel Grant, Naugatuck; Jana Balsamo, North Branford; Martin Rudnick, North Haven; Susan Riccio, Orange; Thomas Van Stone, Waterbury; Kimberly Kenny, West Haven.

ACES: Olga Simoes, Timothy Howes, Thomas Danehy, William Rice, Rebecca Cuevas

Not Present: Bethany, East Haven, Meriden, Middletown, Milford, New Haven, Oxford, RSD #5, RSD #13, RSD#16, Seymour, Wallingford, Woodbridge, Wolcott

Guests: William Jacob, AEA

1. Welcome/Call to Order

Ms. Susan Riccio called the ACES Governing Board meeting to order at 12:07 pm after determining a quorum was present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Susan Riccio

3. Public Participation/Communications

Thomas Van Stone shared that fourth-grade teacher Elaine Hill who teaches at Waterbury’s Michael F. Wallace Middle School was awarded one of the nation’s top education honors—one that there is no application or nomination for the Milken Educator Award, which is given to early and mid-career teachers for their achievements and the promise of what they will accomplish.

4. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Fran DiGiori motioned to accept the minutes of the ACES Governing Board of December 8, 2022.

Ms. Ellen Michaels seconded the motion.

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously

Opposed: None

Abstention: None

VOTE

WWW.ACES.ORG

Peter C. Young Building • 350 State Street • North Haven, CT 06473-3108 | Phone (203) 498-6800 • Fax (203) 498-6890

The Regional Educational Service Center Serving South Central Connecticut.

ACES does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, ethnicity, national origin, gender, disability or sexual orientation.



5. Executive Director's Report - Dr. Thomas M. Danehy

1. **ACES Design Plan Update Content and Pain Points**
 - a. Prioritize Academic Achievement – prioritize students’ academic performance and exact results.
 - b. Innovate – create processes for starting new work.
 - c. Manage long-term losses and either change the business model and/or structure of the unit or sunset the program.
 - d. Manage administrative costs effectively to minimize cost of services
 - e. Communicate – sharing the data and the why of decision-making.
 - f. Manage Data effectively - using data to inform decision-making.

2. **Process** – When the Design Team meets again On February 2, they team will formalize both content areas and bold steps to prioritize work over the next three years. The team will also establish the organizational structure needed to carry out the work. So far bold steps may include the following:
 - a. Bold Step in improving academic achievement outcomes for students.
 - b. Bold Step around sharing ideas on innovation to include a Pitch Day wherein employees can come forward to make a pitch on how to innovate, improve, and begin pilots on a small scale for improvements of deliverables to districts and agency.
 - c. Bold Step in creating a Core Knowledge platform uniting capacity building, professional development, data acquisition, management, grant development, research and development, curriculum development, and talent development.
 - d. Bold Step on sunsetting what is no longer as relevant and/or creates an ongoing, unsustainable loss.

3. **Structure**
 - a. Balance organizational chart to meet expected outcomes of bold steps.

4. **Status Update on 350 State Street and 370 James Street, New Haven.**
 - o Leasing back half of 350 State Street until 9/15/2023 to move once into 370 James Street
 - o Working with an architect on the design of the new central office space at James Street.

5. **Naming Process for 88 Bassett Road, North Haven**
 - o Peter C. Young Learning Center.

6. **ACES 2022 Annual Audit Report Filing**
 - a. Copies were distributed to Board members.
 - b. Highlights

WWW.ACES.ORG

Peter C. Young Building • 350 State Street • North Haven, CT 06473-3108 | Phone (203) 498-6800 • Fax (203) 498-6890

The Regional Educational Service Center Serving South Central Connecticut.

ACES does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, ethnicity, national origin, gender, disability or sexual orientation.



- Increase in net position on June 30, 2022, of \$5.5M over the amount audited on June 30, 2021, page 4a.
- Increase in the general fund of \$2.2M over the prior year, page 4c.
- Resources available of \$35.9M in the general fund.
- Long-term liabilities to \$28M from \$17M, pg 4f.

6. Filing of the Fiscal Report (subject to audit) - Mrs. Simoes/Ms. Harris

January projections reflect a surplus based on the projected revenues, encumbrances, and expenditures. We continue to monitor our spending as projections will fluctuate based on the special education school enrollment and service contracts. ACES has completed or is working on several grant opportunities to enhance magnet school programming and fund various facility improvement projects. December billing has been completed and reflected in the billed-to-date column of the fiscal report along with the projected revenues, which presents a positive outlook for the year-end cash flow position.

Ms. Ethel Grant motioned to accept the filing of the fiscal report.
Ms. Fran DiGiorgi seconded the motion.

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously
Opposed: None
Abstention: None

VOTE

7. Approval of Human Resources Report – Dr. Thomas Danehy

Dr. Danehy presented the Human Resources Report and reported 27 new hires in various positions, one transfer/position, one retirement, 14 resignations, one termination, and nine leaves. In addition, Human Resources will be hosting its annual ACES Career Fair at our Leeder-Hill campus on Wednesday, March 8, 2023, from 3:00 pm-6:00 pm. ACES Teacher Residency Program (TRP), we are now reaching out to districts and actively recruiting for the Comprehensive Special Education Alternate Route to Certification.

Mr. Martin Rudnick motioned to accept the filing of the Human Resources Report.
Ms. Ellen Michaels seconded the motion.

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously
Opposed: None
Abstention: None

VOTE

WWW.ACES.ORG

Peter C. Young Building • 350 State Street • North Haven, CT 06473-3108 | Phone (203) 498-6800 • Fax (203) 498-6890

The Regional Educational Service Center Serving South Central Connecticut.
ACES does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, ethnicity, national origin, gender, disability or sexual orientation.



8. Curriculum & Instruction Report - Mr. Rice

Mr. Rice reported on the upcoming Magnet, Specialized Schools, and Programs. The Bridge program enrollment is steadily increasing. ACES Schools will pilot a partnership with BHCare in Branford to provide Mental Health Services to one of our schools. We submitted information to the CSDE to inform them that ACES will comply with the Science of Reading mandate.

9. Early Head Start Update - Rebecca Cuevas

Rebecca Cuevas requests the approval of the Early Head Start monthly reports and contract summaries.

Ms. Fran DiGiorgi motioned to accept the filing of the Early Head Start report.
Mr. Martin Rudnick seconded the motion.

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously
Opposed: None
Abstention: None

VOTE

10. New Business

- 1. Possible action to approve the ACES Educational Association Teachers Contract Agreement for the period of June 30, 2023, through June 30, 2026.

Mr. Martin Rudnick motioned to approve the ACES Education Association Teachers Contract Agreement.
Ms. Ellen Michaels seconded the motion.

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously
Opposed: None
Abstention: None

VOTE

- 2. Possible change for April 13, 2023, Governing Board Meeting to April 5, 2023, due to Spring Break.

Mr. Martin Rudnick motioned to approve the Governing Board Meeting of April 13, 2023, to April 5, 2023.
Ms. Ellen Michaels seconded the motion.

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously
Opposed: None
Abstention: None

VOTE

WWW.ACES.ORG

Peter C. Young Building • 350 State Street • North Haven, CT 06473-3108 | Phone (203) 498-6800 • Fax (203) 498-6890



11. Adjournment: 1:09 pm

12. Other

- a. Finance Committee Meeting, February 9, 2023
- b. Regular Board Meeting, February 9, 2023

WWW.ACES.ORG

Peter C. Young Building • 350 State Street • North Haven, CT 06473-3108 | [Phone \(203\) 498-6800](tel:(203)498-6800) • [Fax \(203\) 498-6890](tel:(203)498-6890)

The Regional Educational Service Center Serving South Central Connecticut.

ACES does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, ethnicity, national origin, gender, disability or sexual orientation.