

Minutes

ACES Governing Board April 9, 2009

205 Skiff Street
Hamden, CT 06517

Present: Bruce Baker, Seymour; Sally Boske, Middletown; Lynn Campo, Hamden; Alicia Clapp, North Haven; Sue Cohen, Regional District #5; William Currin, Regional District #13; Sheryl Feducia, Regional District #16; John Finkle, East Haven; Howard Horvath, West Haven; Thomas McKirryher, Naugatuck; Stephen Mrowka, Cheshire; Debby Pines, Woodbridge; Kristen Powell, Orange; John Theriault, Waterbury

ACES: Craig W. Edmondson, Gary J. Shettle, Ann P. Dombroski, Robert Parker, Claudette Beamon, Jo-Anne Cegan, Elaine Sein

Regrets: Ansonia, Bethany, Branford, Meriden, Milford, North Branford, Wallingford, Wolcott

Prior to the beginning of the Board meeting the Board Chair welcomed and introduced Howard Horvath, ACES Board Member representing West Haven.

1. Call to Order

William Currin called the ACES Governing Board meeting to order at 12:19 PM after it was determined that a quorum was present.

2. Public Participation/Communications

No public participation/communications.

3. Approval of Minutes

Alicia Clapp moved to accept the ACES Governing Board minutes of March 12, 2009. Sue Cohen seconded.

In favor: Cheshire, East Haven, Hamden, Naugatuck, North Haven, Orange, Regional District #5,
Regional District #13, Seymour, Waterbury, West Haven, Woodbridge

Abstention: Middletown

Opposed: None

VOTED

4. Executive Director's Report

- a) Dr. Edmondson greeted the ACES Governing Board.
- b) Dr. Edmondson provided a legislative update to the Governing Board. Dr. Edmondson indicated that the Education Committee passed Bill 6688 increasing the state reimbursement for Hamden's participation of Wintergreen Interdistrict Magnet School and Meriden's participation of Thomas Edison Middle School to \$6750.00. The bill now moves to the Appropriations Committee for review. Dr. Edmondson expressed his optimism that the bill will make it into law. In addition the Appropriations Committee marked specific funds of \$750,000 to assist Hamden over the next two years. He acknowledged that ACES has been supported by many parents, families, and board members. Dr. Edmondson also indicated that the elimination of parent pay option for part time magnet schools did not make it out of the Education Committee. Dr. Edmondson added that language concerning requiring certification for part time magnet school instructors needs to be amended and that ACES is working with Representative Staples in crafting new language.

The Governing Board inquired on the status of the recruitment efforts made by ACES. Dr. Edmondson indicated that there has been interested generated for all of the full time magnet schools and that he would provide a full report at next months meeting.

- c) Dr. Edmondson reported that the Meriden Board of Education unanimously approved becoming a member district of Wintergreen Interdistrict Magnet School. Dr. Edmondson added that he and other ACES administration will be meeting with Meriden administration to discuss recruitment efforts. ACES has offered Meriden up to 40 seats.
- d) Dr. Edmondson updated the Governing Board on the 7th Annual ACES Education Foundation Gala held on April 2nd indicating that over \$19,000 was raised. The fundraising event celebrated ACES 40th year of service and recognized ACES founders and founding school districts. Dr. Edmondson added that the ACES Education Foundation members will gather in May to review grant applications and begin to disperse some of the monies.
- e) Dr. Edmondson reminded the Governing Board that the ACES Daycare and the Town Campus Learning Center (TCLC) program in Madison will be closing at the end of the school year. The Daycare was phased out over the last three years and the children aged out of the program. The TCLC program was a pilot program with the understanding that Madison would take ownership after a few years. Dr. Edmondson also reported that he was notified by Hamden Pupil Services that beginning next school year they will provide instruction to the one classroom at their high school that ACES currently manages. ACES Human Resources has met

with the staff involved and are determining if there are other employment opportunities. In keeping with the Strategic Plan; ACES goal is to ensure that all programs are self-sufficient.

- f) Dr. Edmondson indicated that ACES will be hosting a series of round table discussions to disseminate information on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and strategize on the most effective ways to utilize the federal monies. Dr. Edmondson added that Meriden BOE may be able to use some of the funds for their new partnership at Wintergreen Interdistrict Magnet School.
- g) Dr. Edmondson announced that ACES is hosting an agency wide retirement reception on June 2nd.
- h) Dr. Edmondson indicated that next month's agenda will include a presentation and approval for the Educational Technology Plan. The plan was distributed at the meeting. He also indicated that the agenda will include a progress report on the Strategic Plan and approval for implementation of the plan for year II will be sought at the June meeting.
- i) Dr. Edmondson reported that negotiations with the CSEA union at are an impasse and will move into arbitration. The CSEA represents teacher assistant/drivers, job coaches, and drivers.

Sheryl Feducia joined the meeting at 12:40 pm.

5. Fiscal Services

Filing of Fiscal Report (Subject for Audit)

Summary/Detail by Category

Gary Shettle reviewed the fiscal report indicating a favorable report and that ACES is in good standing. Sally Boske moved to accept the fiscal report as presented (subject to audit). Sheryl Feducia seconded.

In favor: Cheshire, East Haven, Hamden, Middletown, Naugatuck, North Haven, Orange, Regional District #5, Regional District #13, Regional District #16, Seymour, Waterbury, West Haven, Woodbridge

Abstention: None

Opposed: None

VOTED

6. Human Resources Report

Claudette Beamon reviewed the Human Resources Report indicating that some of the new hires were to cover medical leaves. Ms. Beamon indicated she met with the staff impacted by the programs closures a couple of times and is working with them to find other positions. There was one retirement of a long term principal. The remainder of the report was routine. Sheryl Feducia moved to authorize the hirings, accept the resignations and retirement, confirm the lay-offs, and grant the leaves as detailed on the Human Resources Report.

Sue Cohen seconded.

In favor: Cheshire, East Haven, Hamden, Middletown, Naugatuck, North Haven, Orange,
Regional District #5, Regional District #13, Regional District #16, Seymour,
Waterbury, West Haven, Woodbridge

Abstention: None

Opposed: None

VOTED

7. Approval of Budgets

The Executive Director recommended that the ACES Governing Board approve the following program budgets for the 2009-2010 school year. Each budget was presented separately giving the ACES Governing Board the opportunity to ask specific questions.

Lynn Campo moved to approve the **Professional Development** program budget for 2009-2010.
Sheryl Feducia seconded.

In favor: Cheshire, East Haven, Hamden, Middletown, Naugatuck, North Haven, Orange,
Regional District #5, Regional District #13, Regional District #16, Seymour,
Waterbury, West Haven, Woodbridge

Abstention: None

Opposed: None

VOTED

Dr. Edmondson indicated that the Professional Development program provides a direct service to school districts and that there will not be an increase.

Sally Boske moved to approve the **Technology Services** program budget for 2009-2010.
Sheryl Feducia seconded.

In favor: Cheshire, East Haven, Hamden, Middletown, Naugatuck, North Haven, Orange,
Regional District #5, Regional District #13, Regional District #16, Seymour,
Waterbury, West Haven, Woodbridge

Abstention: None

Opposed: None

VOTED

Dr. Edmondson indicated that Technology Services provides internal and external services to school districts and that there will not be an increase.

Sally Boske moved to approve the **Early Childhood Services** program budget for 2009-2010.
Sheryl Feducia seconded.

In favor: Cheshire, East Haven, Hamden, Middletown, Naugatuck, North Haven, Orange,
Regional District #5, Regional District #13, Regional District #16, Seymour,
Waterbury, West Haven, Woodbridge

Abstention: None
Opposed: None

VOTED

Dr. Edmondson indicated that the Early Childhood Services budget is grant driven and that the decrease in the budget was due to the elimination of state and federal grants. Early Childhood Services may be able to expand community based services using stimulus funds.

Lynn Campo moved to approve the **Central Office** program budgets (see below) for 2009-2010. Sheryl Feducia seconded.

In favor: Cheshire, East Haven, Hamden, Middletown, Naugatuck, North Haven, Orange,
Regional District #5, Regional District #13, Regional District #16, Seymour,
Waterbury, West Haven, Woodbridge

Abstention: None
Opposed: None

VOTED

Central Office:

ACES Governing Board
Office of the Executive Director
Office of the Assistant Executive Director for Curriculum & Programs
Office of the Assistant Executive Director for Finance & Operations
Fiscal Services
Human Resources
Program Development
Information and Marketing Services

Dr. Edmondson indicated that the Central Office budgets are presented as a package. He indicated that there were some reductions and modest increases due to contractual obligations.

Lynn Campo moved to approve the **Operations** program budgets (see below) for 2009-2010. Sheryl Feducia seconded.

In favor: Cheshire, East Haven, Hamden, Middletown, Naugatuck, North Haven, Orange,
Regional District #5, Regional District #13, Regional District #16, Seymour,
Waterbury, West Haven, Woodbridge

Abstention: None
Opposed: None

VOTED

Operations:

Action required for the following:

Operations-Peter C Young Building
Operations-60 United Drive
Operations-Mill Road
Operations-Little Theatre
Operations-ECA/Little Theatre Community Use
Operations-Food Services
Operations-Central Maintenance

No action required for the following:

Operations-Wintergreen
Operations-204 State Street
Operations-Village School
Operations-ECA
Operations-Whitney North & West
Operations-CAMS
Operations-Whitney East
Operations-Staff Development
Operations-Thomas Edison

Dr. Edmondson indicated that the Operations budgets requiring action are stand alone budgets and those not requiring action were previously approved as part of specific program budgets.

Mr. Currlin indicated that the budget process has concluded and encouraged the Governing Board to contact Dr. Edmondson with specific questions on the budgets. Dr. Edmondson thanked the ACES administration for their hard work during the budget process and indicated to the Governing Board that each budget has back-up information and welcomed any further questions the Governing Board may have.

8. Old Business

- Facilities Update - Mr. Shettle provided an update on the constructions projects for 60 United Drive and the Little Theatre.
 - 60 United Drive – The vehicle maintenance garage is complete and DMV inspectors have begun to inspect the vehicles. Mr. Shettle added that ACES may have the opportunity to contract the space and generate revenue.
 - Little Theatre – A construction manager was hired. There is a meeting scheduled with the State Department of Education-School Facilities to estimate schematic costs. Mr. Shettle is optimistic that construction will begin in October.
- Policy Update – The Executive Director recommended that the Series 1000 policies “Community Relations” be approved as a second reading. Alicia Clapp moved to approve the Series 1000 policies “Community Relations”. Sheryl Feducia seconded.

In favor: Cheshire, East Haven, Hamden, Middletown, Naugatuck, North Haven, Orange,
Regional District #5, Regional District #13, Regional District #16, Seymour,
Waterbury, West Haven, Woodbridge

Abstention: None

Opposed: None

VOTED

Mr. Currilin thanked the policy committee for their time and effort.

9. New Business

- Next Meeting: May 14, 2009.
- Mr. Currilin thanked the Governing Board for attending and ensuring a quorum in order to conduct business.
- Mr. Currilin indicated that the Executive Director's evaluation packet will be mailed and asked the Governing Board to return them so he can compile the information for the June meeting.
- Dr. Edmondson mentioned that Technology Plan will be presented next month and reminded the Governing Board that each board is required to have a plan.

10. Adjournment

Sheryl Feducia moved to adjourn the ACES Governing Board meeting at 1:05 PM.
Sally Boske seconded.

In favor: Cheshire, East Haven, Hamden, Middletown, Naugatuck, North Haven, Orange,
Regional District #5, Regional District #13, Regional District #16, Seymour,
Waterbury, West Haven, Woodbridge

Abstention: None

Opposed: None

VOTED

Submitted by,

Elaine Sein
Secretary to the ACES Governing Board