

Minutes

ACES Governing Board October 8, 2009

205 Skiff Street
Hamden, CT 06517

Present: Bruce Baker, Seymour; Lynn Campo, Hamden; Alicia Clapp, North Haven; Sue Cohen, Regional District #5; William Currlin, Regional District #13; Sheryl Feducia, Regional District #16; Nancy Lappie, North Branford; Thomas McKirryher, Naugatuck; Stephen Mrowka, Cheshire; Kristen Powell, Orange; Jim SantaBarbara, Milford; Barbara Sokol, Meriden

ACES: Craig W. Edmondson, Gary J. Shettle, Ann P. Dombroski, Claudette Beamon, Elaine Sein

Regrets: Bethany, Branford, Oxford, Waterbury, West Haven, Wolcott

Guests: Robert Boudreau, Buckley, Frame & Boudreau, LLC; Patrick Flynn, ACES

Prior to the business meeting William Currlin thanked and presented Jim SantaBarbara with a token of appreciation for his contributions to the ACES Governing Board. Mr. SantaBarbara will no longer serve on the Milford Board Education and this was his last meeting on the ACES Governing Board. Mr. Currlin also wished luck to the members of the Governing Board seeking re-election or running for office.

1. Call to Order

William Currlin called the ACES Governing Board meeting to order at 12:20 PM and announced that since there was not a quorum present the meeting was declared an "Executive Committee" meeting.

2. Public Participation/Communications

No public participation/communications.

3. Approval of Minutes

Thomas McKirryher moved to accept the ACES Governing Board minutes of September 10, 2009. Alicia Clapp seconded.

In favor: Hamden, Milford, Naugatuck, North Branford, North Haven, Orange, Regional District #5, Regional District #13, Seymour

Abstention: Cheshire, Meriden

Opposed: None

VOTED

4. Executive Director's Report

- a) Dr. Edmondson welcomed the ACES Governing Board.
- b) Dr. Edmondson indicated that it didn't appear that the governor would take action on the implementer bill and therefore would automatically go into law. The implementer bill includes subsidies for Meriden and Hamden.
- c) Dr. Edmondson informed the Governing Board that he has met with both the TEMS and WIMS Steering Committees and discussions have begun on revising both partnership agreements. The agreements set out the conditions of the partnerships, commitment to seats, identifies roles and responsibilities, and renewals. After all revisions have been made and approved by the respective steering committees the agreements will be brought for Governing Board approval.
- d) Dr. Edmondson informed the Governing Board that the Applied Behavior Analysis Trainers (ABAT) have petitioned for inclusion in the Connecticut State Employees Association (CSEA) and a vote will be held on October 15th. Dr. Edmondson reminded the Governing Board that the individual aides recently petitioned the association and were successful. He added that the next step would be to include the individual aides in negotiations.

Ms. Clapp inquired about the status of the CSEA contract. Dr. Edmondson replied that he was hopeful he would be able to move on item #8 - CSEA Contract as indicated on the agenda but the contract was not ratified by the association. After board discussion, Dr. Edmondson was directed to inform the association that the Governing Board will move to into arbitration if the contract is not ratified by the next Governing Board meeting.

- e) Dr. Edmondson reported that Senators Looney and Crisco held a press conference at WIMS on September 21st to acknowledge and celebrate the WIMS subsidies and thank the WIMS community for their efforts and support.
- f) Dr. Edmondson reported that he visited with the superintendents from North Branford, West Haven, and Wolcott to discuss district needs and areas of support and improvement. There is a pending meeting in Wallingford.
- g) Dr. Edmondson informed the Governing Board that the RESC Alliance will present "Getting to Know the Regional Educational Service Centers" at the CABE/CAPSS conference on November 20th.

- h) Dr. Edmondson announced that the ACES annual convocation will be held on November 3rd at TEMS and indicated that Dr. Dombroski will highlight the day in her Curriculum & Instruction report.
- i) Dr. Edmondson reported that ACES is a finalist for an \$800,000 early head start grant in Middlesex County. Federal auditors met with Central Office Administrators to assess ACES capability of delivering services.

5. Fiscal Services

a. Filing of Fiscal Report (Subject for Audit)

Summary/Detail by Category

Gary Shettle reviewed the fiscal report indicating that tuition is slightly down compared to previous years. Mr. Shettle added that he expects the special education schools to continue to enroll students throughout the year. Otherwise he indicated that figures are typical for this time of year. Alicia Clapp moved to accept the fiscal report as presented (subject to audit). Thomas McKirryher seconded.

In favor: Cheshire, Hamden, Meriden, Milford, Naugatuck, North Branford, North Haven, Orange, Regional District #5, Regional District #13, Seymour

Abstention: None

Opposed: None

VOTED

b. Robert Boudreau of Buckley, Frame, Boudreau & Co.

Mr. Boudreau reviewed the draft audit for fiscal year 2008-2009 and indicated that ACES is in compliance with state and federal guidelines. Mr. Boudreau reviewed the figures on pages 5-8 adding that he did not expect them to change and added that \$200,000 was returned to retained earnings. Mr. Boudreau asked Mr. Shettle to review the figures for Unrestricted, Reserve for 09-10. Mr. Shettle discussed and distributed the break-down of the funds. Mr. Boudreau indicated that the report includes a new fund for the bookstore. Mr. Shettle indicated that he is hopeful the bookstore will have a successful holiday season with the additional advertising. Mr. Boudreau encouraged board questions and indicated he will return next month with the final audit and would also submit the audit "Management Letter". The Management Letter consists of recommendations to strengthen internal controls and operating efficiency.

Mr. Currin thanked Mr. Boudreau for his work and understanding the complexity of the organization.

6. Human Resources Report

Claudette Beamon reviewed the Human Resources Report indicating that the new hires were to cover existing vacancies, medical leaves or late resignations. Ms. Beamon added that a new behavior analyst position was created through federal funding and that there was one termination. The remainder of the

report was routine. Lynn Campo moved to authorize the hirings, accept the resignations, confirm the termination, and grant the leaves as detailed on the Human Resources Report. Kris Powell seconded.

In favor: Cheshire, Hamden, Meriden, Milford, Naugatuck, North Branford, North Haven, Orange, Regional District #5, Regional District #13, Regional District #16, Seymour

Abstention: None

Opposed: None

VOTED

7. Professional Development/School Improvement Presentation

Patrick Flynn, Director, Professional Development and School Improvement presented an overview of programs and services offered to school districts. The presentation included PDSI's beliefs, description of staff, and partnerships.

8. CSEA Contract

Discussed during the Executive Director's Report. Dr. Edmondson has been directed by the Governing Board to notify the association of the decision to go into arbitration if the contract is not ratified by the next Governing Board meeting.

9. Old Business

- Facilities Update - Mr. Shettle reported that the final plans have been submitted to the State Department of Education for review and at their request a few minor items need to be addressed.
- Policy Update – Mr. Shettle reported that CAFE is reviewing the Governing Board series and is hopeful to bring them forward for a first reading next month.
- Curriculum & Instruction – Dr. Dombroski reported that curriculum revisions for social studies and physical education have begun. Dr. Dombroski also reported that software programs ISafe, SchoolKit, and Parent Portal through PowerSchool are being implemented. Dr. Dombroski indicated that parent sessions for Parent Portal will be made available. Dr. Dombroski invited the Governing Board to attend the ACES annual convocation on November 3rd at Thomas Edison Middle School. She indicated that LouAnne Johnson, author of *Dangerous Minds* will be the keynote speaker. Peter C. Young will also join us to provide 40 years in review. The day also includes staff recognition, wellness fair, and afternoon break-out sessions.

10. New Business

- Mr. Currin thanked the Governing Board for attending and asked them to secure an alternate when they cannot attend.
- Mr. Currin encouraged the Governing Board to attend the annual convocation.
- Next meeting: November 12, 2009.
- Mr. Currin reminded the Governing Board that the student designers will attend the December 10th meeting and encouraged the board to make themselves available for the meeting.

11. Adjournment

Sue Cohen moved to adjourn the ACES Governing Board meeting at 1:40 PM.
Alicia Clapp seconded.

In favor: Cheshire, Hamden, Meriden, Milford, Naugatuck, North Branford, North Haven,
Orange, Regional District #5, Regional District #13, Regional District #16, Seymour

Abstention: None

Opposed: None

VOTED

Submitted by,

Elaine Sein
Secretary to the ACES Governing Board