

Minutes

ACES Governing Board December 11, 2008

205 Skiff Street
Hamden, CT 06517

Present: Bruce Baker, Seymour; Sally Boske, Middletown; Lynn Campo, Hamden; Sue Cohen, Regional District #5; William Currin, Regional District #13; Sheryl Feducia, Regional District #16; John Finkle, East Haven; Thomas Hennessey, Wallingford; Nancy Lappie, North Branford; Thomas McKirryher, Naugatuck; Stephen Mrowka, Cheshire; Lucy Painter, Bethany; Debby Pines, Woodbridge; Jim SantaBarbara, Milford; Barbara Sokol, Meriden; John Theriault, Waterbury

ACES: Craig W. Edmondson, Gary J. Shettle, Ann Dombroski, Robert Parker, Claudette Beamon, Elaine Sein, Karen McHugh

Regrets: Branford, North Haven, Wolcott

- Prior to the meeting we were joined by the students who designed the annual ACES holiday cards and t-shirt. Parents, families and ACES staff were also in attendance to recognize the students for their art work. Craig Edmondson introduced the students to the Governing Board and had a photograph taken. Craig Edmondson and William Currin acknowledged students and thanked the families for attending.
 - The Executive Director and board chair thanked Robert Parker for coordinating the holiday art project.
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1. Call to Order

William Currin called the ACES Governing Board meeting to order at 12:38 PM after it was determined that a quorum was present.

2. Public Participation/Communications

No public participation/communications.

3. Approval of Minutes

Sue Cohen moved to accept the ACES Governing Board minutes of November 13, 2008.
Lynn Campo seconded.

In favor: Bethany, Cheshire, East Haven, Hamden, Meriden, Middletown, Milford, Naugatuck,
North Branford, Regional District #5, Regional District #13, Regional District #16,
Seymour, Wallingford, Waterbury, Woodbridge

Abstention: None

Opposed: None

VOTED

4. Executive Director's Report

Dr. Edmondson devoted the Executive Director's report to the discussion of magnet funding and its impact on ACES' ability to provide high quality programming, in particular, Wintergreen Interdistrict Magnet School (WIMS). Dr. Edmondson informed the Governing Board that the State Department of Education will be proposing to legislature 10-12% cuts in ECS funding and 25% cuts for magnet schools outside the Hartford region. Both reductions will have ramifications for ACES run magnet schools; the potential cuts in state aid are threatening the future of WIMS. Hamden is facing a \$3.5 million reduction and is considering cost effective options for the school. Dr. Edmondson indicated that he has been working with the Hamden Superintendent, Fran Rabinowitz and local legislature to petition the governor and state representatives to provide the non-Hartford districts the same student reimbursement as Hartford, remove the 55% rule so that all magnet school partners receive the same reimbursement for the state per student, or remove the 25% cut in ECS funding for students attending interdistrict magnet school. Dr. Edmondson indicated that he would be attending a meeting with the Wintergreen PTO to discuss funding and that he will continue to work with Superintendent Rabinowitz to review possible options for the school. In addition, the SDE will recommend eliminating the parent-pay option for part-time interdistrict magnet schools; this will impact Educational Center for the Arts (ECA). Some parents currently subsidize the tuition and if there was an elimination of the parent-pay option districts may not consider ECA a viable option. Governing Board discussion followed. The SDE proposals and town reductions information was distributed to the board.

5. Fiscal Services

Filing of Fiscal Report (Subject for Audit)

Summary/Detail by Category

Sally Boske reviewed the fiscal report indicating the numbers are typical for this time of year then moved to accept the fiscal report as presented. (subject to audit).

John Theriault seconded.

In favor: Bethany, Cheshire, East Haven, Hamden, Meriden, Middletown, Milford,
Naugatuck, North Branford, Regional District #5, Regional District #13,
Regional District #16, Seymour, Wallingford, Waterbury, Woodbridge

Abstention: Branford
Opposed: None

VOTED

6. Human Resources Report

Claudette Beamon reviewed the Human Resources Report. Sue Cohen moved to authorize the hirings, accept the resignations, confirm the termination, and grant the leaves as detailed on the Human Resources Report.
Debbie Pines seconded.

In favor: Bethany, Cheshire, East Haven, Hamden, Meriden, Middletown, Milford, Naugatuck, North Branford, Regional District #5, Regional District #13, Regional District #16, Seymour, Wallingford, Waterbury, Woodbridge

Abstention: None
Opposed: None

VOTED

7. Approval of Calendar

The Executive Director recommended that the Governing Board approve the 2009-2010 calendar for ACES/CAMS/TEMS without the payroll dates identified on the draft. The payroll dates will be reviewed to determine if the dates need to be aligned with the closing of the fiscal year.

Sally Boske moved to approve the 2009-2010 calendar for ACES/CAMS/TEMS without the payroll dates identified on the draft. John Theriault seconded.

In favor: Bethany, Cheshire, East Haven, Hamden, Meriden, Middletown, Milford, Naugatuck, North Branford, Regional District #5, Regional District #13, Regional District #16, Seymour, Wallingford, Waterbury, Woodbridge

Abstention: None
Opposed: None

VOTED

8. Old Business

- Facilities Update – Mr. Shettle indicated that the 60 United Drive project should be completed within two weeks. The Little Theatre project should go out to bid in April with the start of construction to begin in August.
- Policy Update – The policy sub-committee is continuing to meet monthly before the meeting and once a series has been reviewed they will be brought forward for a first reading.

The Executive Director recommended that the ACES Governing Board approve policy 4118.5 Acceptable Computer Network Use (AUP) as a second reading. John Theriault approved the ACES Governing Board approve policy 4118.5 Acceptable Computer Network Use (AUP) as a second reading. Barbara Sokol seconded.

In favor: Bethany, Cheshire, East Haven, Hamden, Meriden, Middletown, Milford, Naugatuck, North Branford, Regional District #5, Regional District #13, Regional District #16, Seymour, Wallingford, Waterbury, Woodbridge

Abstention: None

Opposed: None

VOTED

9. New Business

- Next Meeting: January 8, 2009.
- 403(B) Plan – To conform with IRS requirements a written plan concerning 403(B) Plan needs to be in place by December 31, 2008. Sheryl Feducia move to approve the resolutions below to conform with IRS requirements.

WHEREAS, the ACES Governing Board has established a retirement plan named the ACES 403(b) Plan (the “Plan”) under Section 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”);

WHEREAS, the Internal Revenue Service has issued final regulations under Section 403(b) of the Code that would, in relevant part, require the ACES Governing Board to assume oversight functions in connection with the Plan, including administrative functions, to ensure compliance with Section 403(b) of the Code and the regulations thereunder;

WHEREAS, ING Life Insurance and Annuity Company (“ILIAC”) offers administrative services through planwithease.com for 403(b) programs sponsored by public educational institutions and organizations exempted from federal taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRC (the “Services”); and

WHEREAS, the ACES Governing Board wishes to engage ILIAC to provide the Services in connection with the Plan;

RESOLVED: Effective no later than January 1, 2009, or such later date permitted in applicable IRS guidance relating to 403(b) Plans, the ACES Governing Board (the “Board”) shall enter into an agreement with ILIAC under which ILIAC will provide the Services through planwithease.com in connection with the Plan.

RESOLVED: That the Board authorizes the adoption of a ACES 403(b) Plan document, to be effective no later than January 1, 2009, or such later date permitted in applicable IRS guidance relating to 403(b) Plans, in accordance with the requirements of the 403(b) regulations issued by the Internal Revenue Service in 2007, and any other IRS guidance applicable to the ACES 403(b) Plan, in order for the Plan to comply in a timely manner with the requirements of said regulations and any other IRS guidance applicable to said Plan.

RESOLVED: That the approved 403(b) provider/vendor list for the Plan, effective January 1, 2009, or as of such later date permitted in applicable IRS guidance relating to 403(b) Plans, which list may be revised from time to time by the Executive Director or his/her designee through additions or deletions of companies thereto without further Board approval, is hereby approved, and contract exchanges (other

than eligible rollover distributions) by Plan participants to vendors not on said approved 403(b) provider/vendor list shall not be permitted by the Plan, after December 31, 2008, or after such later date permitted in applicable IRS guidance relating to 403(b) Plans.

RESOLVED: That the Executive Director or the Executive Director's designee, is authorized, on behalf of the Board, to execute the aforementioned ACES 403(b) Plan document, including any amendments to said Plan document as may from time to time be required for the Plan to remain in compliance with applicable law, and to execute such further documents as may be necessary or desirable, or any other agreement, contract, addendum or amendment necessary for the Plan to comply with the requirements of the aforementioned 403(b) regulations and any other IRS guidance applicable to the Plan; and a third party administration agreement and other related agreements with ILIAC to administer the Plan; and any revisions from time to time to the approved 403(b) provider/vendor list for the Plan; and any investment contracts with the approved investment vendors for the Plan, to ensure that the Plan will be in compliance with the requirements of the aforementioned 403(b) regulations and any other IRS guidance applicable to the Plan.

RESOLVED: that the Executive Director may appoint one or more employees of ACES to serve as named Administrator of the Plan to carry out any of the administrative duties of the Plan.

Nancy Lappie seconded.

In favor: Bethany, Cheshire, East Haven, Hamden, Meriden, Middletown, Milford, Naugatuck, North Branford, Regional District #5, Regional District #13, Regional District #16, Seymour, Wallingford, Waterbury, Woodbridge

Abstention: None

Opposed: None

VOTED

11. Executive Session

Sheryl Feducia moved to go into Executive Session for the purposes of discussing personnel issue.
Sue Cohen seconded.

In favor: Bethany, Cheshire, East Haven, Hamden, Meriden, Middletown, Milford, Naugatuck, North Branford, Regional District #5, Regional District #13, Regional District #16, Seymour, Wallingford, Waterbury, Woodbridge

Abstention: None

Opposed: None

VOTED

Executive Session held.
Return to Public Session.

12. Adjournment

The ACES Governing Board meeting adjourned at 2:05 PM.

Submitted by,

Elaine Sein
Secretary to the ACES Governing Board