

Minutes

ACES Governing Board December 10, 2009

205 Skiff Street
Hamden, CT 06517

Present: Alicia Clapp, North Haven; Sue Cohen, Regional District #5; William Currlin, Regional District #13; Sheryl Feducia, Regional District #16; Janet Finneran, Bethany; Judith Hotz, Branford; Thomas McKirryher, Naugatuck; Stephen Mrowka, Cheshire; Kristen Powell, Orange; John Theriault, Waterbury

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

Regrets: North Branford, Seymour, Wallingford, West Haven, Wolcott

Prior to the meeting the board was 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. Mr. Parker introduced the students as Mr. Currlin and Dr. Edmondson presented the students each with a set of their designed cards or t-shirt. Craig Edmondson and William Currlin acknowledged students and thanked the families for attending.

1. Call to Order

William Currlin called the ACES Governing Board meeting to order at 12:50 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 November 12, 2009. Judith Hotz seconded.

In favor: Bethany, Branford, Cheshire, Naugatuck, North Haven, Regional District #5, Regional District #13, Regional District #16, Waterbury

Abstention: Orange

Opposed: None

VOTED

4. Executive Director's Report

- a) Dr. Edmondson greeted and welcomed the ACES Governing Board.
- b) Dr. Edmondson indicated that many member districts have not appointed Governing Board representation due to transitions in their own boards and thus the quorum has been reduced. ACES currently has sixteen appointed representatives. Dr. Edmondson expects new appointments after the new year.
- c) Dr. Edmondson informed the Governing Board that the commissioner of education is holding Race to the Top informational meetings at each of the RESCs for superintendents, board chairs, and union representatives in their respective membership area. A date for ACES has not been determined but it is expected to be held in early January. Dr. Edmondson indicated that the commissioner's office will send out the invitations directly to superintendents.
- d) Dr. Edmondson informed the Governing Board that the governor's mitigation plan proposes the elimination of the recently allocated funds of \$750,000 for TEMS and WIMS for two years. The proposal would require legislative action as since it would require a change in the law. Dr. Edmondson indicated that he has been in contact with many representatives and senators and is hopeful that that the proposal will be opposed. Dr. Edmondson also indicated that Hamden and Meriden facilitated testimony to legislature through their lobbyists.
- e) Dr. Edmondson reminded the Governing Board of their board discount at Sleeping Giant Book and Toy and indicated that identification cards were included in the package hand-out.
- f) Dr. Edmondson indicated that bound copies of the audit will be distributed at the January meeting giving an opportunity for ACES member districts to appoint representation.
- g) Dr. Edmondson announced that Mr. Shettle and associates from Svigals and Partners will provide an update on the Little Theatre renovation project at the next meeting.
- h) Dr. Edmondson wished the Governing Board a Happy Holiday. (The Governing Board was presented each with a holiday package which included the ACES holiday cards and t-shirt)

5. Fiscal Services

- a. Filing of Fiscal Report (Subject for Audit)
Summary/Detail by Category

Gary Shettle reviewed the fiscal report indicating that ACES is working to reduce existing deficits and is hoping to increase revenue through continued student referrals. Mr. Shettle added that ACES is being cautious with projections for next school year. Thomas McKirryher moved to accept the fiscal report as presented (subject to audit). Sheryl Feducia seconded.

In favor: Bethany, Branford, Cheshire, Naugatuck, North Haven, Orange, Regional District #5, Regional District #13, Regional District #16, Waterbury

Abstention: None
Opposed: None

VOTED

6. Human Resources Report

Claudette Beamon reviewed the Human Resources Report indicating that there were few staff changes and reminded the Governing Board that once teacher assistants obtain their public service driver's license they are increased 40 hours with driving responsibilities. There were few resignations and one termination. The remainder of the report was routine. Judith Hotz moved to authorize the hirings, accept the resignations, confirm the termination, and grant the leaves as detailed on the Human Resources Report.

Kristen Powell seconded.

In favor: Bethany, Branford, Cheshire, Naugatuck, North Haven, Orange, Regional District #5, Regional District #13, Regional District #16, Waterbury

Abstention: None
Opposed: None

VOTED

7. Appointment of Officers

The Executive Director recommended the appointment of Vice Chair and Executive Committee member.

Alicia Clapp nominated and moved to appoint Kristen Powell as Vice Chair.
Sue Cohen seconded.

In favor: Bethany, Branford, Cheshire, Naugatuck, North Haven, Orange, Regional District #5, Regional District #13, Regional District #16, Waterbury

Abstention: None
Opposed: None

8. Old Business

- Facilities Update - Mr. Shettle reported that a final presentation is scheduled with the State Bureau of School Facilities to finalize approval. Mr. Shettle also indicated that a detailed letter was being sent to the Historical Society.
- Policy Update – The Executive Director recommended that the Governing Board approve Series 0000 (Mission-Goals-Objectives) for a first reading with the correction to 0200 ACES Objectives as distributed. Sheryl Feducia moved to approve Series 0000 (Mission-Goals-Objectives) for a first reading with the correction to 0200 ACES Objectives as distributed. Sue Cohen seconded.

In favor: Bethany, Branford, Cheshire, Naugatuck, North Haven, Orange, Regional District #5, Regional District #13, Regional District #16, Waterbury

Abstention: None

Opposed: None

VOTED

- Curriculum & Instruction – Dr. Dombroski shared a list of the ACES Central Curriculum Committee. The committee will be responsible for approving textbooks and resources for ACES. There was a recent change in legislation that allows for the option of Curriculum Committees to approve textbooks and other resources. Each ACES school is represented and each curriculum area has a subcommittee that will review materials and make recommendations. Dr. Dombroski is creating an approval process.

9. New Business

- Mr. Currlin inquired about the inclement weather policy. Dr. Edmondson indicated that if ACES closed due to inclement weather board meetings would be cancelled and that the board would be contacted.
- Next Meeting: January 14, 2010.

10. Adjournment

Sheryl Feducia moved to adjourn the ACES Governing Board meeting at 1:25 PM.
Alicia Clapp seconded.

In favor: Bethany, Branford, Cheshire, Naugatuck, North Haven, Orange, Regional District #5, Regional District #13, Regional District #16, Waterbury

Abstention: None

Opposed: None

VOTED

Submitted by,

Elaine Sein
Secretary to the ACES Governing Board