

## Minutes

### ACES Governing Board March 11, 2010

205 Skiff Street  
Hamden, CT 06517

Present: Sally Boske, Middletown; Alicia Clapp, North Haven; Michael Dolan, Hamden; Sheryl Feducia, Regional District #16; Janet Finneran, Bethany; Lisa Hellauer, Oxford; Thomas Hennessey, Wallingford; Judith Hotz, Branford; Nancy Lappie, North Branford; Thomas McKirryher, Naugatuck; Stephen Mrowka, Cheshire; John Theriault, Waterbury

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

Regrets: Meriden, Regional District #5, Regional District #13, Seymour, Wolcott

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Prior to the meeting the ACES Governing Board recognized ECA students and staff from the visual arts, creative writing, and dance departments. Students won gold, silver, or received honorable mentions in the Scholastic Writing Competition, national writing prizes, and recognized by the National Dance Honor Society.

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#### 1. Call to Order

Sally Boske called the ACES Governing Board meeting to order at 12:20 PM after it was determined that a quorum was present. Ms. Boske commented on the talent of the students and thanked Dr. Edmondson for the opportunity to share in their achievements.

#### 2. Public Participation/Communications

N/A.

#### 3. Approval of Minutes

Janet Finneran moved to accept the ACES Governing Board minutes of February 11, 2010. Thomas McKirryher seconded.

In favor: Bethany, Branford, Cheshire, Hamden, Middletown, Naugatuck, North Branford, North Haven, Oxford, Regional District #16, Wallingford, Waterbury

Abstention: None

Opposed: None

VOTED

#### 4. Executive Director's Report

- a) Dr. Edmondson greeted the ACES Governing Board.
- b) Dr. Edmondson shared that the CMT/CAPT testing ends on March 12<sup>th</sup> followed by two weeks of make-ups.
- c) Dr. Edmondson introduced Carolyn McNally, ACES, Director of Program Development. Dr. McNally invited the ACES Governing Board to attend the Annual ACES Education Foundation Gala on March 25<sup>th</sup> at ECA to support the educational experiences of ACES students. She commented that the fundraising event will recognize families, PTA/PTO, and local legislatures that have supported ACES. Ms. Clapp encouraged the ACES Governing Board to attend the gala.
- d) Dr. Edmondson updated the ACES Governing Board on the Race to the Top Application, noting that Connecticut was not selected in the first round and that the commissioner of education is committed to submitting another application in the second round. The original submission is under review to enable the state in preparing for the next submission. Dr. Edmondson indicated that the RESC Alliance is supportive of the initiative and has offered assistance. The second submission is due June 1<sup>st</sup> and districts will have a 90 day withdrawal period if approved. Future meetings are pending and the RESCs will help facilitate either by providing on-site meetings or conference calls. The RESC Alliances role will be to provide professional development in support of the grant.
- e) Dr. Edmondson announced that the South Central Area Superintendents' Association (SCASA) will be hosting their annual student recognition luncheon on March 19 recognizing nearly 100 for their outstanding academic and community achievements. Students from ECA and WIMS will represent ACES. Administrators and parents will be in attendance to support the students. ACES is organizing the event.
- f) Dr. Edmondson indicated that he has met with Speaker of the House Donovan and Senator Gaffey concerning base RESC funding and regional cooperation. Regional cooperation will allow options in areas such as health services and transportation.
- g) Dr. Edmondson distributed two letters addressed to the board.
- h) Dr. Edmondson reported that the budget process will conclude at the next meeting.

5. Fiscal Services

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

Sally Boske reviewed the fiscal report indicating that ACES is still trying to increase revenue by attracting new students in both the special education and magnet schools. Ms. Boske indicated that the special education schools have increased enrollment and expects to end the year with a positive balance. Ms. Boske indicated that the magnet schools will end in significant deficit because the state is no longer providing supplemental funding. Ms. Boske added that investment returns are low compared to prior years. Ms. Boske added that ACES Professional Development and School Improvement and Early Childhood have been impacted by the loss of state grants and have been implementing plans to reduce the impact on their budgets accordingly. Sally Boske moved to accept the fiscal report as presented (subject to audit).

Sheryl Feducia seconded.

In favor: Bethany, Branford, Cheshire, Middletown, Naugatuck, North Branford, North Haven, Oxford, Regional District #16, Wallingford, Waterbury

Abstention: None

Opposed: None

VOTED

6. Human Resources Report

Claudette Beamon reviewed the Human Resources Report indicating that the report consisted of transfers from teacher assistant to teacher assistant/driver positions for staff that have completed the requirements for the public service driver's license. Ms. Beamon indicated that there were substitute positions to cover staff leaves. Ms. Beamon indicated that at the request of districts certain staff are hired and that individual aides were hired either for staff replacements or new students. Ms. Beamon acknowledged the retirement of Sharyn Esdaile and indicated that a retirement event is being planned and will be shared with the board. The remainder of the report was routine. Sheryl Feducia moved to authorize the hirings, accept the resignations and retirement, and grant the leaves as detailed on the Human Resources Report.

Thomas Hennessey seconded.

In favor: Bethany, Branford, Cheshire, Middletown, Naugatuck, North Branford, North Haven, Oxford, Regional District #16, Wallingford, Waterbury

Abstention: None

Opposed: None

VOTED

Ms. Beamon also shared that, due to recent law requiring fingerprinting of education students, she has been contacted by local universities to provide services for over 1000 students.

Dr. Edmondson and Ms. Beamon indicated that as a result of the CAMS closing a Reduction in Force meeting is scheduled with CEA representatives. Dr. Edmondson indicated a report will be shared with the board at the next meeting.

#### 7. Approval of Budgets

Gary Shettle, accompanied by Jo-Anne Cegan, were available to answer questions. Mr. Shettle had available documented back up information.

The budgets were presented by category giving the ACES Governing Board the opportunity to ask specific questions. Each budget included a narrative of the program.

The Executive Director recommended that the ACES Governing Board approve the following program budgets for the 2010-2011 school year.

#### ***Technology Services:***

Mr. Shettle indicated that software costs were incorporated within individual program budgets thus reducing the Technology Services budget.

Thomas McKirryher moved to approve the **Technology Services** program budgets for 2010-2011. John Theriault seconded.

In favor: Bethany, Branford, Cheshire, Middletown, Naugatuck, North Branford, North Haven, Oxford, Regional District #16, Wallingford, Waterbury

Abstention: None  
Opposed: None

VOTED

#### ***Central Office***

Mr. Shettle indicated that Central Office budget is supported by the management fee to individual program budgets. The management fee is driven by salaries and benefits. Mr. Shettle added that he is confident that the proposed 25% increase in health benefits will be reduced.

Thomas McKirryher moved to approve the **Central Office** (below) program budget for 2010-2011.

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  
Program Development

Nancy Lappie seconded.

In favor: Bethany, Branford, Cheshire, Middletown, Naugatuck, North Branford, North Haven,  
Oxford, Regional District #16, Wallingford, Waterbury

Abstention: None  
Opposed: None

VOTED

***Operations:***

Dr. Edmondson indicated that the Operation budgets below requiring action are of not supported by individual program budgets. Mr. Shettle added that there were savings in electricity as a result of ACES participating in a consortium.

Thomas McKirryher moved to approve the **Operations** (below) program budgets for 2010-2011.

*Action required for the following:*

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

Judith Hotz seconded.

In favor: Bethany, Branford, Cheshire, Middletown, Naugatuck, North Branford, North Haven,  
Oxford, Regional District #16, Wallingford, Waterbury

Abstention: None  
Opposed: None

VOTED

***For informational purposes only - No action required for the following:***

- Operations-204 State Street
- Operations-Village School
- Operations-ECA
- Operations-Whitney North & West
- Operations-Whitney East
- Operations-Thomas Edison

8. Appointment to Early Head Start Policy Council

The Executive Director requested the appointment of an ACES Governing Board member to serve on the Early Head Start Policy Council as required by the federal government. The appointment will

require participation in a monthly meeting and summary report to the board. Ms. Clapp indicated interest. Judith Hotz moved to appoint Alicia Clapp to serve on the Early Head Start Policy Council. Nancy Lappie seconded.

In favor: Bethany, Branford, Cheshire, Middletown, Naugatuck, North Branford, North Haven, Oxford, Regional District #16, Wallingford, Waterbury

Abstention: None

Opposed: None

VOTED

#### 9. Approval of RESC Resolution

Dr. Edmondson indicated that older legislation prohibits RESCs to provide service outside their catchment area and that the resolution will allow for the sharing of capacities. It will also allow regional options for districts. At the advice of legal counsel the RESC Alliance will propose the following resolution to their respective boards and will become affective after approval by all.

The Executive Director recommended that the ACES Governing Board approve the following resolution.

Nancy Lappie moved approve the recommendation of the Executive Director, and in recognition that service to member districts may be enhanced by providing programs and services to entities other than member districts in accordance with statute, it is moved that ACES, acting through its Executive Director, is authorized as follows:

- a) to join the RESC Alliance, a group of all Connecticut RESCs, to provide programs and services on a statewide basis, including but not limited to applying for and dispersing State and grant funds, and to act on behalf of all RESCs as a group;
- b) to provide programs and services as may be requested by non-member school districts, provided such program or service is not available from the RESC of which such board is a member; and
- c) to provide programs and services as may be requested by two or more boards of education in accordance with statute, and
- d) with one or more other RESCs jointly to provide programs and services as the respective executive directors may recommend and the respective boards may approve.

Lisa Hellauer seconded.

In favor: Bethany, Branford, Cheshire, Middletown, Naugatuck, North Branford, North Haven, Oxford, Regional District #16, Waterbury

Abstention: Wallingford

Opposed: None

VOTED

10. Approval of E-Rate Resolution

The Executive Director recommended that the ACES Governing Board approve the following E-Rate resolution.

Nancy Lappie moved to approve the following E-Rate resolution:

1. Authorizing the filing of FCC Form 471, Schools and Libraries Universal Service Program Services Ordered and Certification Form for the services and/or products as detailed below, “E-Rate Requests, FY 2010”, for the fiscal year 7/01/2010-6/30/2011.
2. Authorizing payment of the applicant’s share subject to the following conditions: (1) approval of funding of the discounted portion by the Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) of the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) and (2) receipt of services during the fiscal year 7/1/2010-6/30/2011.

Application #	Pre-Discount Amount	E-Rate Amount	Applicant’s Share
719634	\$500,059.32	\$345,040.93	\$155,018.39
742668	\$ 44,477.60	\$ 40,029.84	\$ 4,447.76
Totals	\$544,536.92	\$385,070.77	\$159,466.15

Judith Hotz seconded.

In favor: Bethany, Branford, Cheshire, Middletown, Naugatuck, North Branford, North Haven, Oxford, Regional District #16, Wallingford, Waterbury

Abstention: None

Opposed: None

VOTED

11. Old Business

- Facilities Update – Mr. Shettle indicated that a decision on the contractor will be made in the next couple of weeks and is hopeful construction can begin by mid April.
- Policy Update – No report.
- Curriculum & Instruction – Dr. Dombroski reported that school based professional development will be held on March 24<sup>th</sup> and she will share the activities with the board at the next meeting.

9. New Business

- Next Meeting: April 8, 2010.

- Mr. Theriault suggested collaboration between ECA and Waterbury Arts Magnet School students. He indicated a joint project can be held at Palace Theater and offered his assistance if there was interested. Dr. Edmondson was appreciative of the suggestion.
- Ms. Boske indicated that legislatures spoke at the CABA Day on the Hill indicating that state aid is expected to decrease up to 50% in the next biannual budget and that the state economy would not improve until 2014. Ms. Boske encouraged community discussions. Dr. Edmondson offered to invite Representative Sharkey to a meeting to start discussion.

10. Adjournment

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

In favor: Bethany, Branford, Cheshire, Middletown, Naugatuck, North Branford, North Haven,  
Oxford, Regional District #16, Wallingford, Waterbury

Abstention: None

Opposed: None

VOTED

Submitted by,

Elaine Sein  
Secretary to the ACES Governing Board