



ACES GOVERNING BOARD
THURSDAY, November 12, 2020 Zoom Meeting /SDA Building at Noon

Governing Board: Ellen Michaels, Branford; Laura Harris, Derby; Michele DeLucia, East Haven; Robert Kosineski, Meriden; Ethel Grant, Naugatuck; Jana Balsamo, North Branford; Dorothy Logan, North Haven; Susan Riccio, Orange; Robyn Berke, RSD#5; Norman Hicks, RSD#13; Michael Votto, Wallingford; Elizabeth Brown, Waterbury; Stephanie Miller, Oxford

ACES: Thomas Danehy, Steve Cook, William Rice, Evelyn Rossetti-Ryan, Olga Simoes, Dee Colson

Not Present: Ansonia, Bethany, Cheshire, Hamden, West Haven, Wolcott, Woodbridge

Others: Tom Ariola, Hamden

1. Welcome/Call to Order

Norman Hicks called the ACES Governing Board meeting to order at 12:09 pm after determining a quorum was present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Ellen Michaels led the Pledge of Allegiance

3. Public Participation/Communications

None

4. Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Rob Kosinski moved to accept the ACES Governing Board Minutes of October 8, 2020
Ms. Ethel Grant seconded

All in favor: Passed Unanimously

Opposed: None

Abstained: Ellen Michaels, Branford

VOTE

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5. Executive Director's Report- Dr. Danehy

Dr. Danehy proposed a freeze on ACES service rates and tuition rate increases for special education school tuitions for 2020-2021 ranging from 1.62% - 3.89%. He also announced that to date 11 teachers and 2 Physical Therapists have submitted paperwork for the Early Retirement Incentive Plan. Among other news Thomas Edison Magnet School's new location is still in negotiations. A special Board Meeting may be necessary, as we get closer to the year's end and a potential closing date. Parties understand that time is of the essence. Dr. Danehy also provided an update on COVID related issues at ACES and announced that we have scattered closings with remote learning in place as well as schools that are open for in person instruction. At this point all schools have been affected by the pandemic.

6. Filing of the Fiscal Report (subject to audit) **-Mrs. Simoes/Ms. Riccio

We started the month of November with a slight deficit in our budget bottom-line projections. ACES cash flow is monitored closely as invoices and payment receipts are being processed and currently trending on target. Our special education schools are strong in their performance, and we expect that the magnet schools will be able to outperform current projections as enrollment numbers solidified. ACES Support Services are in high demand, yet we are conservative in our forecasts and will continue to monitor performance diligently. Our operations are trending in a deficit as we continue to mitigate the COVID by further increasing our cleaning and disinfecting efforts. Hence, we anticipate some variations in our cash flow trends as we deal with COVID-related matters, so we are prepared to adjust the spending and always actively seek out grant opportunities to ensure a positive outcome for the year-end. Despite these challenging times, we continue to successfully support our districts and their families to ensure quality service delivery.

Ms.Susan Ricco moved to approve the filing of the Fiscal Report (subject to audit)
Ms. Elizabeth Brown seconded

All in favor: Passed Unanimously
Opposed: None
Abstention: None

VOTE

7. Approval of Human Resources Report-**Steven Cook

Mr. Cook presented the HR Report. He reported that we have partnered with CREC for our Teacher in Residence Program as a means to diversify our teaching ranks. ACES fingerprinting services are up and running. We have other districts that have signed up to participate in this service. Our virtual orientation for all new staff is going exceptionally well. In October, we had a Tee off for Turkeys – Golf and virtual party to raise money for two of our schools to provide gift cards and baskets for families in need.



Ms. Ethel Grant motioned to approve the Human Resources Report.
Ms. Liz Brown seconded

All in favor: Passed Unanimously
Opposed: None
Abstention: None

VOTE

8. Curriculum & Instruction, Report-Mr. Rice

William reported on the COVID status of ACES Magnet Schools, Specialized Schools, and Programs concerning Hybrid and Virtual Learning. He also provided an update on the newly opened childcare center which currently has 30 enrolled students. He also noted that referrals continue to come in for all specialized programs.

9. Early Head Start Update** -Dr. Danehy

Dr. Danehy provide the monthly Early Head Start report.
Ms. Ethel Grant Motion to approve
Ms. Elizabeth Brown seconded

All in favor: Passed Unanimously
Opposed: None
Abstention: None

VOTE

10. Old Business – There was no Old Business.

11. New Business

I. Rates and tuitions for 2020-2021

Service Rates frozen, tuitions as proposed

Ms. Laura Harris made a motion to approve the proposed service rates and tuitions for 2021-2022.

Ms. Ellen Michaels seconded

All in favor: Passed Unanimously
Opposed: None
Abstention: None

VOTE



II. Approval of proposed salaries & benefits for non-bargaining employees FY21-22, effective July 1, 2021

Ms. Ethel Grant made a motion to approve the following wage and benefit changes, effective July 1, 2021:

- A. Non-bargaining employees who are not on maximum step shall move up one step on the salary/wage scale. Employees on maximum step shall remain on maximum step. There will be no general wage increase.
- B. The health insurance plan and rates shall remain the same as that of the 2020-2021 with premium percentage co-share increase to employees. The 3% reduction for participation in the wellness program shall continue.
- C. The dental insurance plan shall be the new plan that went into effective July 1, 2020 and rates shall remain the same as that of the 2020-2021 year with premium percentage co-share increase to employees.
- D. The maximum match for 403b plan shall be the same as in the past with a maximum match by ACES of the higher of either \$3,500 or 3% of salary.

Ms. Laura Harris seconded

All in favor: Passed Unanimously

Opposed: None

Abstention: None

VOTE

12. Adjournment:

Ms. Elizabeth Brown made a motion to adjourn at 12:52 pm

Many members seconded.

13. Attachments:

October Student Enrollment Report

14. Other

Next Meeting: December 10, 2020