



**,ACES GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES
THURSDAY, December 11, 2025
SDA Building, 205 Skiff Street, Hamden, CT**

Governing Board: Ann Marie Cullinan, Cheshire; Greta Johnson, Hamden; Nickimmy Hayes, Meriden; James Scully, Naugatuck; Susan Riccio, Orange; Carol Oladele, RSD #5; Robert Moore, RSD #13; Thomas Van Stone, Waterbury, Roberta Leonard, Wolcott

ACES: Thomas Danehy, Timothy Howes, William Rice, Rebecca Cuevas, Michelle Coogan, Dee Colson

Not Present: Ansonia, Bethany, Branford, Derby, East Haven, Middletown, Milford, New Haven, North Branford, North Haven, Oxford, RSD #16, Seymour, West Haven, Woodbridge

Guests: Michelle Metzger, Occupational Therapist, Village School

I. Welcome/Call to Order

Ms. Susan Riccio called the ACES Governing Board Meeting to order at 12:07 pm after determining a quorum was present.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Susan Riccio

III. Public Participation

N/A

IV. Approval of Minutes

- a. Approval of minutes of the regular board meeting held on November 13, 2025.

Ms. Roberta Leonard motioned to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes held on November 13, 2025.

Mr. Robert Moore seconded.

All in favor: Motion passed unanimously.

Opposed: None

Abstention: Carol Oladele and James Scully

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- b. Approval of minutes of Special Board Meeting held on November 19, 2025, for the purpose of continuing interviews with the search firm for the Executive Director Search.

Ms. Roberta Leonard motioned to approve the minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on November 19, 2025, for the purpose of continuing interviews with the search firm for the Executive Director Search.

Mr. Robert Moore seconded.

All in favor: Motion passed unanimously.

Opposed: None

Abstention: Carol Oladele and James Scully

V. **Executive Director's Report** - Dr. Thomas M. Danehy

- a. ACES Student Holiday Presentation Awards
- b. Future Salary and Benefits for non-bargaining and tentative agreement with the Teachers' Association. Salary increase: 2.5% and a step.
- c. Tax Exempt Bond Issue update – Mr. Timothy Howes

VI. **Possible Executive Session with Mary Broderick, CABE, for the purpose of searching for an Executive Director.**

Ms. Susan Ricco moved to enter Executive Session with the Governing Board and Dr Thomas Danehy at 12:31 pm.

Mr. Robert Moore motioned to enter Executive Session.

Ms. Nickimmy Hayes seconded.

All in favor: Motion passed unanimously.

Opposed: None

Abstention: None

The Board reconvened in Regular Session at 2:10 pm.

VII. **Filing of the Fiscal Report (subject to audit)** – Thomas Van Stone

Mr. Thomas Van Stone moved that the ACES Board of Directors accept the December financial report as presented, subject to audit. Magnet schools continue to operate at a deficit, with no additional state funding information available at this time, and recruitment efforts to increase enrollment will remain ongoing. Special education

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enrollments and service contracts remain robust, and management continues to control expenses to maintain the agency's surplus position.

Mr. Thomas Van Stone motioned to accept the filing of the fiscal report subject to audit.
Ms. Roberta Leonard seconded.

All in favor: Motion passed unanimously.
Opposed: None
Abstention: None

VIII. Approval of Human Capital Development Report – Ms. Rebecca Cuevas
See information submitted in Board Packet.

IX. Operations and Early Head Start Report - Mr. William Rice
X. See information submitted in Board Packet.

XI. Schools and Programs Report – Ms. Michelle Coogan
XII. See information submitted in Board Packet.

XIII. Old business

- a.** P1312.3/6161.12 Library Material Review and Reconsideration
- b.** P6171 Special Education
- c.** P6159 Individualized Education Program
- d.** P5118.2 Educational Opportunities for Military Children
- e.** P 7551 Naming of Facility Policy
- f.** P 6141.3273 Generative AI (Artificial Intelligence)
- g.** P5114 Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Ms. Roberta Leonard motioned to approve the proposed policies.
Ms. Nickimmy Hayes seconded.

All in favor: Motion passed unanimously.
Opposed: None
Abstention: None

XIV. New Business

- a. Possible action to approve tentative agreement with ACES Education Association for the period July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2029.**

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Mr. Robert Moore motioned to approve the tentative agreement with ACES Education Association for the period July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2029.

Ms. Nickimmy Hayes seconded.

All in favor: Motion passed unanimously.

Opposed: None

Abstention: None

b. Possible action to approve non-bargaining wages and benefits for the period July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027.

Mr. Robert Moore motioned to approve non-bargaining wages and benefits for the period July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027.

Ms. Nickimmy Hayes seconded.

All in favor: Motion passed unanimously.

Opposed: None

Abstention: None

c. Possible action to approve tuition and service fees for 2026-2027.

Ms. Roberta Lenoard motioned to approve tuition and service fees for 2026-2027.

Mr. Robert Moore seconded.

All in favor: Motion passed unanimously.

Opposed: None

Abstention: None

XV. Other

a. Finance Committee Meeting: February 12, 2026

b. Regular Board Meeting: February 12, 2026

XVI. Adjournment:

Ms. Susan Riccio moved to adjourn at 2:21 pm

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