



ACES GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES
THURSDAY, January 9, 2025
SDA Building, 205 Skiff Street, Hamden, CT

Governing Board: Ellen Michaels, Branford; Ann Marie Cullen, Cheshire, Laura Harris, Derby; Mike Smith, Milford; Ethel Grant, Naugatuck; Martin Rudnick, North Haven; Susan Riccio, Orange; Carol Oladele, RSD #5 Amity, RSD #13; Thomas Van Stone, Ray Ross, Wallingford; Waterbury

ACES: Thomas Danehy, Timothy Howes, William Rice, Emily Freel, Rebecca Cuevas, Dee Colson

Not Present: Ansonia, Bethany, Cheshire, East Haven, Hamden Meriden, Middletown, Milford, Naugatuck, New Haven, North Branford, North Haven, Oxford, RSD #13, RSD #16, Seymour, West Haven, Wolcott, Woodbridge

I. Welcome/Call to Order

- a. Ms. Susan Riccio called the ACES Governing Board meeting to order at 12:01 pm after determining a quorum was present.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

- a. Ms. Susan Riccio

III. Public Participation/Communications

- a. Susan Riccio announced that the Amity Elected Officials Day for the Middle School and High School is approaching.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Ray Ross motioned to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes held on December 12, 2024. Ms. Ellen Michaels seconded.

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously

Opposed: None

Abstention: Martin Rudnick

VOTE

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

- a. Audit Completion FY ending June 30, 2024- Timothy Howes reported on the audit, which was completed and submitted to the State as required.

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- b. Budget Approval Process - Mr. Howes reviewed the process and steps taken so far to kick off the budget season.
- c. Dr. Danehy reported on the terms of the ratified Agreement with Administrators July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2028

VI. Filing of the Fiscal Report (subject to audit) - Mr. Thomas Van Stone

The Governing Board acknowledges and approves the fiscal report, reflecting sound financial management across all programs, with a strong year-to-date alignment of expenditures and revenues. The surplus in key areas demonstrates our commitment to fiscal responsibility and strategic planning. We will continue to seek new contracts and enrollment as well as monitor expenses. Motion to accept the Fiscal report for December subject to the annual audit.

Mr. Thomas Van Stone motioned to accept the filing of the fiscal report.
Mr. Martin Rudnick seconded.

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

VOTE

VII. Approval of Human Capital Development Report – Ms. Rebecca Cuevas

Ms. Cuevas presented the HR report and reported 18 new hires in various positions, five transfer/position changes, nine resignations, three terminations, and eight leaves. Ms. Cuevas also gave an update on the Human Capital Development Department and reported that the Human Capital Department completed the Glatfelter Insurance Risk survey. The review focused on the process for referrals of suspected abuse & neglect, Title IX, fingerprinting, and background checks.

Ms. Ethel Grant motioned to accept the Human Capital Report.
Ms. Ellen Michaels seconded.

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

VOTE

VIII. Operations and Early Head Start Report - Dr. William Rice

Dr. William Rice presented updates on ACES construction projects at CHASE, 670 Wintergreen Avenue, and 88 Basset Road. He also provided comprehensive updates on Capital Improvement Projects, Operations, Facilities, Maintenance, Internal Transportation, Security, Data Privacy, ACCESS, Magnet School Lottery, Oen Choice Program, Community Engagement initiatives,

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Nutrition Services, Network Services, and Early Head Start Program. Dr. Rice requests approval for the Early Head Start monthly reports and contract summaries.

Mr. Ray Ross motioned to accept the Early Head Start monthly reports and contract summaries.
Ms. Laura Harris seconded.

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously
Opposed: None
Abstention: Carol Oladele

VOTE

IX. Core Knowledge – Ms. Emily Freel

Ms. Emily Freel provided updated reports on Curriculum and Schools, Talent Development, Data Support, Educational Technology, and Professional Development Support.

X. Old business

- a. Possible action to approve the Agreement between the Administrators Association and Governing Board.

Mr. Martin Rudnick motioned to approve the Agreement between the Administrators Association and the Governing Board.
Ms. Ellen Michaels seconded.

VOTE

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

XI. New Business

- a. Possible action to approve audit for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024.

Ms. Ethel Grant motioned to approve the audit for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024.
Mr. Ray Ross seconded.

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

VOTE

XII. Other

- a. Finance Committee Meeting, February 13, 2025
- b. Regular Board Meeting, February 13, 2025

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XIII. Adjournment:

- a. Ms. Ellen Michaels motioned to adjourn at 12:32 p.m.
- b. Mr. Martin Rudnick seconded.

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