



**DRAFT**  
**ACES GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES**  
**THURSDAY, October 12, 2023**  
**SDA Building, 205 Skiff Street, Hamden, CT**

**Governing Board:** Fran DiGiorgi, Ansonia; Susan Bradford, Bethany; Ellen Michaels, Branford; Laura Harris, Derby; Ethel Grant, Naugatuck; Jana Balsamo, North Branford; Martin Rudnick, North Haven; Susan Riccio, Orange; Carol Oladele, RSD #5 Amity; Lindsay Dahlheimer, RSD #13; Ray Ross, Wallingford; Thomas Van Stone, Waterbury

**ACES:** Olga Simoes, Andy Skarzynski, Timothy Howes, Thomas Danehy, William Rice, Emily Freel, Rebecca Cuevas, Dee Colson

**Not Present:** Cheshire, East Haven, Hamden Meriden, Middletown, Milford, New Haven, North Haven, Oxford, RSD #16, Seymour, West Haven, Wolcott, Woodbridge

**Guests:** David Stein, Silver Petrucelli, Tim Gunn, Consultant, Wintergreen Construction Update.  
William Jacobs, CSEA

**1. Welcome/Call to Order**

Ms. Susan Riccio called the ACES Governing Board meeting to order at 12:02 p.m. after determining a quorum was present.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance Lead by: Ms. Susan Riccio**

**3. Public Participation/Communications**

Dr. Thomas M. Danehy presented the upcoming events of ACES.  
23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Tee Off for Turkeys, Saturday, October 21, 2023  
ACES Laces Up for Education, Sunday, October 15, 2023, Light House Point, New Haven.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

Approval of the Regular Board Meeting minutes held on September 14, 2023.

Ms. Fran DiGiorgi motioned to accept the minutes of the ACES Governing Board on September 14, 2023.

Ms. Ellen Michaels seconded.

WWW.ACES.ORG

---

Peter C. Young Building • 350 State Street • North Haven, CT 06473-3108 | Phone (203) 498-6800 • Fax (203) 498-6890

---

The Regional Educational Service Center Serving South Central Connecticut.  
ACES does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, ethnicity, national origin, gender, disability or sexual orientation.



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

VOTE

**5. Executive Director’s Report** – Dr. Thomas M. Danehy

- a. Wintergreen Construction update – David Stein, Silver Petrucelli
- b. Executive Director Draft Goals 2023-2024
- c. Policies for first read- 4118.11 Chest Feeding and 0521 Affirmative Action
- d. Tentative agreement with Behavior Technicians
- e. Status of Construction projects at ACES at CHASE and 88 Bassett Road

**6. Filing of the Fiscal Report (subject to audit)** – Dr. Thomas M. Danehy

October report provides a snapshot of the agency’s financial standing, reflecting the year-to-date expenditures and encumbrances. The current preliminary projections indicate a favorable financial position. These surplus projections are expected to fluctuate as we continue to gather data, such as student enrollment figures and service contract numbers. The final numbers will depend on various factors, including actual enrollment and unforeseen circumstances. We are on track to complete October billing, which will provide us with financial data for future cash flow projections. It is essential to monitor our cash flow to ensure that we have the liquidity needed to meet our financial obligations. While early projections suggest a surplus, the dynamic nature of our operations and the education sector means that we must remain vigilant and adaptable to changing circumstances. By actively evaluating staffing needs, processing encumbrances, and closely monitoring our cash flow, we aim to ensure the continued success and stability of ACES.

Ms. Ethel Grant motioned to accept the filing of the fiscal report.  
Ms. Fran DiGiorgi seconded.

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

VOTE

**7. Approval of Human Capital Development Report** – Ms. Rebecca Cuevas

Ms. Rebecca Cuevas presented the HR report and reported 35 new hires, 15 resignations, eight transfers/position changes, eight leaves, 0 terminations, and no new retirements. Ms. Susan Bradford suggested a report be created for exit surveys of employees.

Ms. Ellen Michaels motioned to approve the Human Capital Report.  
Ms. Fran DiGiorgi seconded.

WWW.ACES.ORG

---

Peter C. Young Building • 350 State Street • North Haven, CT 06473-3108 | Phone (203) 498-6800 • Fax (203) 498-6890

---

The Regional Educational Service Center Serving South Central Connecticut.  
*ACES does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, ethnicity, national origin, gender, disability or sexual orientation.*



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

VOTE

**8. Schools Report** - Mr. Andrew Skarzynski

Mr. Skarzynski reported on the upcoming Magnet, Specialized Schools and Programs.

**9. Operations and Early Head Start Report** - Mr. William Rice

Mr. William Rice reported on Construction Project Updates for 88 Bassett, WIMS, and Chase. He also reported on the Capital Improvement Annual Report for ACES Properties and the upcoming move of 370 James Street for the Central Office.

Mr. William Rice requests the approval of the Early Head Start monthly reports and contract summaries.

Mr. Ray Ross motioned to accept the filing of the Early Head Start and Operations contract summaries.

Ms. Ethel Grant seconded.

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

VOTE

**10. Core Knowledge Report** – Ms. Emily Freel

Ms. Emily Freel reported that the **ACES Curriculum Advisory Committee** would review a more formalized process for curriculum-related decisions, including curricular resources and programming, enrichment programs, and initiatives. **Data-Informed PLCs:** School-level teams are gearing up to meet soon, and many will have their benchmark iReady and DIBELS data to review. Quarterly administrator data meetings will be held with the Director of Core Knowledge and Assistant Superintendent. The purpose of these meetings is to review high-level school data, related goals, and actions. Professional Development & School Improvement: **ACES PDSI** provides professional learning, coaching, and additional support in 26 districts throughout the region and the state.

**11. New Business**

1. Review Draft Language of New Policies:
  - a. Chest feeding Policy # 4118.11
  - b. ACES Affirmative Action Policy #0521

WWW.ACES.ORG

---

Peter C. Young Building • 350 State Street • North Haven, CT 06473-3108 | Phone (203) 498-6800 • Fax (203) 498-6890

---

The Regional Educational Service Center Serving South Central Connecticut.  
ACES does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, ethnicity, national origin, gender, disability or sexual orientation.



- 2. Possible motion to approve the design and cost estimate certification for Project 244045MAG 670 Wintergreen Avenue.

Ms. Lindsay Dahlheimer motioned to accept the approval of the design and cost estimate certification for Project 244045MAG, 670 Wintergreen Ave, Hamden.  
Mr. Ray Ross seconded.

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

- 3. Possible action to approve a tentative agreement with Behavior Technicians.

Ms. Fran DiGiorgi motioned to accept the tentative agreement with Behavior Technicians.  
Ms. Lindsay Dahlheimer seconded.

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

**12. Other**

- a. Finance Committee Meeting, November 9, 2023
- b. Regular Board Meeting, November 9, 2023

**13. Adjournment:** 1:26 pm

Ms. Fran DiGiorgi motioned to adjourn.  
Ms. Carol Oladele seconded.

WWW.ACES.ORG

---

Peter C. Young Building • 350 State Street • North Haven, CT 06473-3108 | Phone (203) 498-6800 • Fax (203) 498-6890

---

The Regional Educational Service Center Serving South Central Connecticut.  
*ACES does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, ethnicity, national origin, gender, disability or sexual orientation.*