



**ACES GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES  
THURSDAY, May 12, 2022, Meeting at Noon  
205 Skiff Street, Hamden, CT**

**Governing Board:** Ellen Michaels, Branford; Laura Harris, Derby; Kevin Shea, Hamden; Ethel Grant, Naugatuck; Jana Balsamo, North Branford; Amanda Gabriele, North Haven; Susan Riccio, Orange; Lindsay Dahlheimer, RSD #13; Thomas Van Stone, Waterbury; Roberta Leonard, Wolcott.

**ACES:** Olga Simoes, Steven Cook, Timothy Howes, Thomas Danehy, William Rice, Steven Cook, Rebecca Cuevas.

**Not Present:** Ansonia, Bethany, Cheshire, East Haven, Hamden, Meriden, Middletown, Milford, New Haven, Oxford, RSD #5, RSD #16, Seymour, Wallingford, West Haven, Woodbridge.

**Members of Audience:** William Jacobs, AEA

**1. 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.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Ms. Susan Riccio

**3. Public Participation/Communications**

N/A

**4. Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Ethel Grant motioned to accept the minutes of the ACES Governing Board on April 21, 2022.

Ms. Roberta Leonard seconded.

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously

Opposed: None

Abstention: Amanda Gabriele & Lindsay Dahlheimer

VOTE

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**5. Executive Director’s Report - Dr. Thomas Danehy**

- a. Remote High School update
- b. Create a Facility Naming Committee
  - WIMS, 88 Bassett St. North Haven
  - ACES at CHASE, 565 Chase Pkwy, Waterbury
  - Wintergreen, 670 Wintergreen Ave, Hamden
- c. Draft Policy concerning Transgender and Gender Non-conforming students

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

May 2022 fiscal report increased by \$9,335 from the figure reported in April 2022, with a fund balance of \$140,388 (surplus). During May 2022, we are continuing to review open purchase orders and adjust them accordingly. All final expenditure requests have been submitted and accounted for in the May 2022 forecast, along with the salary projections for the remainder of the year. Our Special Education Schools surplus remains steady, and our efforts are focused on reducing Magnet School Deficit. Operations deficit will be reduced by the proceeds from the sale of the property. We anticipate the surplus to increase and include the receipt of E-Rate funding to cover technology costs.

Ms. Laura Harris motioned to accept the filing of the Fiscal Report.  
Ms. Roberta Leonard seconded.

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

VOTE

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

Mr. Cook presented the HR report and reported 19 new hires, 14 resignations, six transfers/position changes, six leaves, and 0 retired. In addition, Mr. Cook noted that the new EAP program has begun. Dr. Danehy and Mr. Cook had an opportunity to participate in a news conference with Senator Blumenthal. Senator Blumenthal has helped fund the Teacher Residency Program with 275,000.00 dollars that will allow for the development of a Special Education certification program that will benefit ACES to increase the diversity of our teacher ranks.

Ms. Ethel Grant motioned to accept the filing of the HR Report.  
Ms. Ellen Michaels seconded.

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

VOTE

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**8. Curriculum & Instruction Report** - Mr. William Rice

Mr. Rice reported that all programs and schools are in-person with appropriate COVID Protocols. We continue to work on upcoming construction projects for CHASE, 88 Bassett, and 670 Wintergreen Ave.

**9. Early Head Start Update** – Ms. Rebecca Cuevas

Ms. Rebecca Cuevas requests the approval of the Early Head Start monthly reports and contract summaries.

Ms. Amanda Gabriele 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: None

VOTE

**10. New Business**

**a. Granting of Signing Authority**

“That Dr. Thomas M. Danehy, Executive Director, and in his absence or incapacity, Timothy Howes, Deputy Executive Director, be authorized to make, sign, execute and approve on behalf of the ACES Governing Board all grants/contracts with the State of Connecticut and its Agencies and school districts and municipalities. “This authorization shall remain in force until rescinded by the action of the ACES Governing Board.”

Ms. Ethel Grant motioned to accept the approval of Dr. Danehy and Timothy Howes, the Signing Authority for ACES.

Ms. Ellen Michaels seconded.

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

VOTE

**b. Possible action to create a nomination committee for elections of Board Officers: Chair, Vice-Chair, Fiscal Officer, and Executive Committee Members.**

Ms. Ethel Grant volunteered to lead the Nomination Committee for Board Officers. Ms. Roberta Leonard and Lindsay Dahlheimer have volunteered to assist on the committee.

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**c. Governing Board meeting schedule for 2022-2023**

**d. First Read on Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Students**

Second read in June's ACES Governing Board Meeting.

**11. Possible Executive Session**

- a. Possible approval of Stipulated Agreement regarding Expulsion.

Ms. Roberta Leonard moved to enter into Executive Session at 12:43 pm with the Governing Board, Dr. Thomas Danehy, and William Rice for approval of a Stipulated Agreement regarding an Expulsion.

Ms. Laura Harris seconded.

**12. Adjournment**

Adjourn out of Executive session at 1:02 pm.

**13. Other**

- a. Finance Committee Meeting, June 2, 2022  
b. Regular Board Meeting, June 2, 2022

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