



**ACES GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES
THURSDAY, May 13, 2021 Zoom Meeting at Noon**

Governing Board: Fran DiGiorgi, Ansonia; Anthony Perugini, Cheshire; Laura Harris, Derby; Michele DeLucia, East Haven; Lynn Campo, Hamden; Robert Kosienski, Meriden; Ethel Grant, Naugatuck; Jana Balsamo, North Branford; Dorothy Logan, North Haven; Susan Riccio, Orange; Shelly Lacey-Castelot; Oxford; Norman Hicks, RSD#13; Michael Votto, Wallingford; Elizabeth Brown, Waterbury

ACES: Olga Simoes, Steven Cook, Timothy Howes, Tomas Danehy, William Rice, Steven Cook

Not Present: Bethany, Branford, RSD #5, West Haven, Wolcott

1. Welcome/Call to Order

Mr. Norman Hicks called the ACES Governing Board meeting to order at 12:05 pm after determining a quorum was present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Jana Balsamo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Public Participation/Communications

N/A

4. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Elizabeth Brown motioned to accept the ACES Governing Board Minutes of April 8, 2021.
Mr. Robert Kosienski seconded.

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

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5. Executive Director's Report - Dr. Danehy

- a. Design Specifications for 88 Bassett Road, North Haven, were presented by David Stein from Silver Petrucelli Architects. Mr. Stein explained the rationale and specifications of the project to renovate the building as new with a 80% grant reimbursement.
- b. Elementary Special Education and SAILS configuration 2021-2022, Dr. Danehy and William Rice presented the reconfiguration of ACES Special Education programs designed to address enrollment trends, supporting additional students in high-demand programs, facility utilization, site limitation, current and future programming needs, and fiscal stability. The recommendation memo is attached.
- c. ACES at Chase update Dr. Danehy and Tim Howes. The receiver notified ACES that the Judge had approved the sale, and a closing date will be scheduled soon.
- d. ARP ESSER Letter from Commissioner. The letter describes guidance and allocations of the distribution of funds.

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

This month our financial position continues in a surplus. Our tuition-related revenue projections will remain with no reduction, and services continue with the positive income trend as we closely monitor revenue flow. Our special education schools and services' projected profitability helps offset the expected losses at our magnet schools. Furthermore, we anticipate the surplus to continue to increase as our year-end expenditures are winding down and will continue to reviewed current encumbrances in preparation for the FY21 close. We expect these strategies will keep us favorable financial outcomes for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year. Ms. Susan Riccio made a motion to approve the filing of the Fiscal Report Mr. Robert Kosienski seconded.

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

7. Approval of Human Resources Report - Mr. Cook

Mr. Cook presented the HR report and reported seven new hires in various positions, three transfer/position, one retirement, seven resignations, and two staff out on leave. We are preparing for our Summer School programs, and all that entails. We continue to guide staff who require FMLA and or Employee Assistance. Because we have such a high number of vaccinated staff,

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many of our Covid related HR issues have diminished, and most staff has returned to each of our buildings.

Ms. Jana Balsamo made a motion to approve the HR report

Ms. Elizabeth Brown seconded

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously

Opposed: None

Abstention: None VOTE

8. Curriculum & Instruction Report - Mr. Rice

Mr. Rice reported that TEMS/WIMS would offer summer programming and after-school programming in the fall. TEMS will continue with the hybrid model. WIMS will continue with a full in-person model. All Specialized Schools will return to in-person with no opt-out in the fall. We will offer in-person ESY this summer.

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

The Executive Director requests the approval of the Early Head Start monthly reports and contract summaries.

Ms. Ethel Grant made a motion to approve Early Head Start monthly reports and contract updates summaries.

Ms. Laura Harris seconded

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously

Opposed: None

Abstention: None VOTE

10. Old business

N/A

11. New Business

a. Approval for the renovation of 88 Bassett Road, North Haven, to begin in 2022 and submission for School Construction Grant.

Motion to approve the following resolution and approvals to be included as part of the State Department of Education application.

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1. That the Area Cooperative Educational Services (ACES) Governing Board authorizes the ACES Governing Board to apply to the Commissioner of Administrative Services and to accept or reject a grant for the **ACES Regional Arts Magnet School** located at 88 Bassett Road, North Haven.
2. That the Area Cooperative Educational Services (ACES) Governing Board authorizes the educational specifications for the **ACES Regional Arts Magnet School** located at 88 Bassett Road, North Haven.
3. That the **ACES Regional Arts Magnet School** located at 88 Bassett Road Building Committee is hereby established as the building committee with regard to the **ACES Regional Arts Magnet School** located at 88 Bassett Road, North Haven.
4. That the ACES Governing Board hereby authorizes at the preparation of construction documents including drawings and specifications for the **ACES Regional Arts Magnet School** located at 88 Bassett Road, North Haven.
5. The ACES Governing Board hereby authorizes the expenditure of 100% of the project revenues to complete the project.

6. That the ACES Governing Board authorizes expenditures from its retained earnings its local share in the amount of up to \$58,855,320, and in addition, the Board approves the ACES Executive Director to do the following:
 1. Apply for a grant for magnet school renovation as new or renovation/alterations for its ACES Regional Arts Magnet School located at 88 Bassett Road New Haven with an expected 80% reimbursement rate;
 2. Seek reimbursement for the purchase of the real property at 88 Bassett Road;
 3. If needed, amend the application for the purposes of renovation/alterations or renovation as new.

Ms. Elizabeth Brown made a motion to approve the renovation of 88 Bassett Road.

Ms. Susan Riccio seconded

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously

Opposed: None

Abstention: None

VOTE

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b. Approval for Elementary Special Education Schools configuration starting with 2021-2022.

Ms. Elizabeth Brown made a motion to approve the reconfiguration of Elementary Special Education Schools.

Ms. Dorothy Logan seconded

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously

Opposed: None

Abstention: Michael Votto VOTE

c. Approval of a 2% cost of living adjustment for Head Start grant employees.

Ms. Susan Riccio made a motion to approve the cost of living adjustment for Head Start grant employees.

Ms. Dorothy Logan seconded

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously

Opposed: None

Abstention: None

VOTE

12. Adjournment:

Mr. Robert Kosienski made a motion to adjourn at 1:26 pm

Ms. Susan Riccio seconded

13. Attachments

14. Other Next Meeting June 3, 2021

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