



**ACES GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES**  
**THURSDAY, September 9, 2021 Meeting at**  
**Noon 205 Skiff Street, Hamden, CT**

**Governing Board:** Fran DiGiorgi, Ansonia; Laura Harris, Derby; Lynn Campo, Hamden; Ethel Grant, Naugatuck; Jana Balsamo, North Branford; Dorothy Logan, North Haven; Susan Riccio, Orange; Norman Hicks, RSD#13; Karen Hlavac, Wallingford; Elizabeth Brown, Waterbury; Roberta Leonard, Wolcott

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

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

**Member of Audience:** William Jacobs from AEA

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**1. Welcome/Call to Order**

After determining a quorum was present, Mr. Norman Hicks called the ACES Governing Board meeting to order at 12:11 pm.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

**3. Public Participation/Communications**

**4. Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Ethel Grant motioned to accept the ACES Governing Board Minutes of June 3, 2021.  
Ms. Elizabeth Brown seconded.

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

VOTE

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Ms. Susan Riccio motioned to accept the ACES Governing Board Minutes of June 25, 2021.  
Mr. Norman Hicks seconded.

VOTE

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

VOTE

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

- a. Dr. Danehy shared his draft goals for the 2021-2022 year. He asked Board members to let him know if there are other areas to include by September 23, 2021 so that the goals can be finalized by that time.
- b. Dr. Danehy reviewed the application for the ESSR III Grant.
- c. Dr. Danehy highlighted the notes from the ACES Administrators’ Retreat held in July.

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

Our bottom line projections reflect a surplus at the beginning of September as we estimate the revenues and expenses for FY22. We processed September invoicing for tuition and transportation, which is showing promising results as we look ahead. Our expenditures are being monitored, and we are prepared to adjust the spending if needed to ensure a positive outcome for the year-end. We continue to monitor student enrollment numbers and requests for services better to estimate the cash position of the agency for FY22.

Ms. Laura Harris motioned to accept the filing of the Fiscal Report.  
Ms. Dorothy Logan 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. There are 158 new hires, 31 transfers or position changes, 69 resignations, two retirements, and five leaves.

There are also 97 LEAP staff members who were newly hired for Meriden and Waterbury. The LEAP grant is specific to support chronic absenteeism in the three districts that we support (Waterbury, Meriden, and New Haven).

In regards to Covid and the Governors Executive Order 13d, we have:

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1. Collected vaccination cards.
2. We created application questions for new hires and the need for them to show proof of vaccination.
3. For unvaccinated staff, we developed a process for them to upload test results.

Our focus areas for HR this year include:

- a. Growing enrollment in the Teacher Residency Program.
- b. Working with partner districts and providing HR/Benefits support.

Ms. Susan Riccio motioned to accept the Human Resources Report.

Ms. Laura Harris seconded.

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously

Opposed: None

Abstention: None

VOTE

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

Mr. Rice reported on the COVID status of ACES Magnet Schools, Specialized Schools, and Programs. Magnet Schools, Specialized Schools, and Programs are all full in-person programming with appropriate COVID protocols in place.

ACES Schools and Programs are experiencing significant bussing issues due to a shortage of drivers as our surrounding districts are.

Mr. Rice reported on ACES Programs. ACES West Haven Collaborative, ACES West Haven Collaborative a Mackrille Elementary (New), Urban Youth at Elementary, ASPIRE, Early Head Start/Head Start, and Regions Hartford/Hamden.

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

The Executive Director requests the approval of the Early Head Start monthly reports and the FY2022 Continuation Application Summary.

Ms. Dorothy Logan motioned to accept the ACES Early Head Start Report and Continuation Application Summary.

Ms. Susan Riccio seconded.

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously

Opposed: None

Abstention: None

VOTE

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**10. Old Business**

**11. New Business**

- a. 2021-2022 ACES Substitute Rates.

Ms. Susan Riccio motioned to accept the ACES Substitute Rates.  
Ms. Dorothy Logan seconded.

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously  
Opposed: None

VOTE

- b. Policy on leave time for staff.

Ms. Elizabeth Brown motioned to accept the ACES Policy on Staff.  
Ms. Ethel Grant seconded.

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously  
Opposed: None

VOTE

**12. Possible Executive Session**

Real Estate Matters – Hamden and Clinton. Whitney High East School, 261 Skiff Street, Hamden, Wintergreen School in Hamden, and Early Head Start lease in Clinton.

A motion was made to enter an Executive Session at 1:11.

**13. Adjournment:** 1:33 pm

**14. Informational Materials**

- a. 2021-2022 Governing Board Meeting Dates.
- b. Information on Future of Remote Learning in Connecticut Schools.

**15. Other:** October 14, 2021

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