



**ACES GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES  
THURSDAY, January 13, 2022 Meeting at Noon  
ZOOM**

- Governing Board:** Fran DiGiorgi, Ansonia; Laura Harris, Derby; Michele DeLucia, East Haven; Tony Martorelli, Meriden; Ethel Grant, Naugatuck; Jana Balsamo, North Branford; Amanda Gabriele, North Haven; Susan Riccio, Orange; Carol Oladele, RSD #5; Elizabeth Brown, Waterbury; Roberta Leonard, Wolcott
- ACES:** Olga Simoes, Steven Cook, Timothy Howes, Thomas Danehy, William Rice, Steven Cook
- Not Present:** Bethany, Branford, Cheshire, Hamden, Middletown, Milford, New Haven, Oxford, RSD #13, RSD#16, Seymour, Wallingford, West Haven, Woodbridge
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**1. Welcome/Call to Order**

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

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Susan Riccio

**3. Public Participation/Communications**

**4. Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Ethel Grant motioned to accept the ACES Governing Board Minutes of December 9, 2021.  
Ms. Elizabeth Brown seconded.

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

VOTE

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

- a. We are looking for Board Members to volunteer for the following ACES Committees.

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- Finance Committee, Policy Committee, and Negotiations/Expulsion Committee. Anyone interested in volunteering, please contact Susan Riccio. In addition, Elizabeth Brown volunteered for the Policy and Expulsion Committee, Fran DiGiorgi volunteered for Expulsion Committee.
- b. COVID Update – We are continuing to follow State Guidelines.
- Testing Kits are being distributed to our schools and programs. In addition, tests are being provided to those showing symptoms to test at home. More tests will be delivered from the state at the end of January.
  - PPE, we have a supply of medical masks, KN95, and N95 available, with more N95 being delivered end of the week.
  - SDE Guidelines require that the N95 be fitted for the nurses. Other staff not required to be fitted.
- c. ACES Audit for June 30, 2021, has been completed.
- d. ACES Policy Audit Process is about to commence.

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

January projections show a deficit in our budget’s bottom line. Special education schools and programs continue with a surplus trend while our Magnet schools are currently in a deficit position. ACES Service revenue stream remains steady, with RSET gaining positive momentum. We should see a break-even outcome for the group as we continue to monitor their performance to better estimate the bottom line. Building operations are trending unfavorably due to the unexpected maintenance costs at the ACES at Chase campus. We are taking a conservative approach to our spending and continue to closely monitor our cash flow to ensure a favorable financial position for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year.

Ms. Laura Harris motioned to accept the filing of the Fiscal Report.  
Ms. Elizabeth Brown 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 13 new hires, including three LEAP staff, ten resignations, 0 retirements, seven transfers, and 0 leaves. Regarding COVID and the Governors Executive order 13G: We have had a surge in cases for staff. With the new CDC guidelines, we can have staff return quicker resulting in getting staff back in the buildings. In addition, one outcome of staff getting sick means less compliance concern for HR as the unvaccinated staff does not have to test for 90 days post a positive COVID result.

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With home testing allowed, this has helped our unvaccinated staff test quickly. We are also continuing to participate in the Screen and Stay Pilot program.

Ms. Roberta Leonard motioned to accept the filing of the HR Report.  
Ms. Ethel Grant seconded.

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

VOTE

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

Our Magnet Schools, Specialized Schools, and Programs are in full in-person programming with appropriate COVID Protocols in place. Referrals continue to come in for specialized programs. The upcoming vaccine clinic at Chase, WIMS, and Leeder Hill, took place on January 14, 2022. A Vaccination Community Conversation will take place on January 26, 2022. In addition, updated guidelines for contact tracing, isolation, and quarantine have increased to 375% from November to December.

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

The Executive Director requests the approval of the Early Head Start monthly reports and contract summaries. Susan Riccio asked to make this a report with no approval needed.

Ms. Elizabeth Brown motioned to accept the filing of the Early Head Start report.  
Ms. Laura Harris seconded.

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

VOTE

**10. Adjournment:** 12:38 pm

**11. Attachments**

**12. Other** Next Meeting February 10, 2022

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