



**DRAFT**  
**ACES GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES**  
**THURSDAY, June 6, 2024, Noon**  
**SDA Building, 205 Skiff Street, Hamden, CT**

**Governing Board:** Rich Bshara, Ansonia; Ann Marie Cullinan, Cheshire; Laura Harris, Derby; Mike Smith, Milford; Ethel Grant, Naugatuck; Martin Rudnick, North Haven; Susan Riccio, Orange; Ray Ross, Wallingford; Thomas Van Stone, Waterbury.

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

**Not Present:** Bethany, Branford, East Haven, Hamden Meriden, Middletown, North Branford, New Haven, Oxford, RSD #5 Amity, RSD #13, RSD # 16, Seymour, West Haven, Wolcott, Woodbridge

**1. Welcome/Call to Order**

Ms. Susan Riccio called the ACES Governing Board meeting to order at 12:00 pm after determining a quorum was present.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Ms. Susan Riccio

**3. Public Participation/Communications**

Board members spoke about what is happening in their district regarding their ceremonies, field days, and student projects.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Martin Rudnick motioned to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting held on May 9, 2024.

Mr. Ray Ross seconded the motion.

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously

Opposed: None

Abstention: None

VOTE

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

- A. Presentation of proposed Local contribution to the Magnet School Tuition for Educational Center for the Arts, Wintergreen Interdistrict Magnet School, and ACES at CHASE. Tim Howes and Olga Simoes.
- B. Budget Proposals
  - 1. Educational Center for the Arts
  - 2. Wintergreen Interdistrict Magnet School
  - 3. ACES at CHASE
- C. Construction contract between ACES and Downs Construction Management Company for project #244-0045MAG alterations for 670 Wintergreen Ave. and project code #244-0044MAG alterations for CHASE. William Rice.
- D. HVAC Indoor Air Quality Grant Program for Public Schools.
- E. ACES Leader and Educator Evaluation and Support Plan 2024. Emily Freel.

**6. Filing of the Fiscal Report (subject to audit) - Mr. Thomas Van Stone**

As of June 1, 2024, ACES has achieved a surplus financial position. The fiscal team is diligently preparing for the year-end process to ensure a smooth and accurate fiscal year closure. The detailed fiscal report indicates a positive overall financial standing with a surplus. The surplus is primarily driven by the positive balances in Special Education and Regular Education programs, despite shortfalls in some areas like Magnet Schools and Career Services. The fiscal team is committed to closing the year on a solid note, ensuring all financial processes are accurately completed. We remain vigilant in monitoring our cash flow, which is a testament to our commitment to effective financial management.

Mr. Thomas Van Stone motioned to accept the filing of the fiscal report.  
Mr. Martin Rudnick seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Ms. Cuevas presented the HR report and reported eleven new hires in various positions, eight resignations, ten transfer/position changes, seven leaves, one termination, and two retirements. ACES EDRA and Teacher of the Year event was held on May 15, 2024. HCD is updating the ACES 2024-2025 staff handbook.

Mr. Ray Ross motioned to accept the filing of the Human Capital Report.  
Ms. Laura Harris seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Mr. Rice provided updates on the ACES Construction Projects at CHASE, 670 Wintergreen, and 88 Bassett Road. An official confirmation has been received for HVAC IAQ for 670 Wintergreen. Mr. Rice also reported on ECA's planning and coordination upgrades, including a new roof, new HVAC systems, LED upgrades, FF&E, Technology, and structural work. Updates were given on Operations, Security, Transportation, Data Privacy, Schools, and Programs. Mr. Rice requests approval for the Early Head Start monthly reports and contract summaries.

Ms. Ethel Grant motioned to accept the Operations and Early Head Start monthly reports and summaries.

Mr. Ray Ross seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

**9. Core Knowledge Report** – Emily Freel

Ms. Freel presented the 2024 ACES Educator Evaluation and Support Plan. She provided reports on PDSI Projects, the ACES Summer Curriculum Institute, Data Support Specialist projects, Educational Technology, Talent Development, and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

**10. Old Business**

A. Action to appoint Board Officers from the Nominating Committee.

Mr. Mike Smith motioned to accept the possible action of appointing the following Board Officers for the term of June 2024 through June 2025. Susan Riccio, Chair; Ethel Grant, Vice Chair; Thomas Van Stone, Fiscal Officer; Mike Smith, Executive Board; Lindsay Dahlheimer, Executive Board; and Roberta Leonard, Executive Board.

Mr. Martin Rudnick seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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B. Action to approve the regular Board Meeting Calendar FY 2024-2025.

Mr. Martin Rudnick motioned to approve the regular Board Meeting Calendar FY 2024-2025  
Mr. Ray Ross seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

**11. New Business**

a. Action to approve local contribution to the Magnet School Tuition for Educational Center for the Arts, Wintergreen Interdistrict Magnet School, and ACES at CHASE.

Ms. Laura Harris motioned to approve local contributions to the Magnet School Tuition for Educational Center for the Arts, Wintergreen Interdistrict Magnet School, and ACES at CHASE.

Mr. Martin Rudnick seconded the motion.

All in favor: Motion passed unanimously and subject to CSDE regulation.  
Opposed: None  
Abstention: None

VOTE

b. Action to approve budgets for Educational Center for the Arts, Wintergreen Interdistrict Magnet School, and ACES at CHASE.

Ms. Ethel Grant motioned to approve the budgets for the Educational Center for the Arts, Wintergreen Interdistrict Magnet School, and ACES at CHASE.

Mr. Ray Ross seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

c. Action to approve the Construction contract between ACES and Downs Construction Management Company for project #244-0045MAG alterations for 670 Wintergreen Ave. and project code #244-0044MAG alterations for CHASE.

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Ms. Ethel Grant motioned to approve the Construction contract between ACES and Downs Construction Management Company for project #244-0045MAG alterations for 670 Wintergreen Ave. and project code #244-0044MAG alterations for CHASE. Subject to CSDE Regulation. Mr. Mike Smith seconded the motion.

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

d. Action to approve the ACES Leader and Educator Evaluation and Support Plan 2024. Mr. Martin Rudnick motioned to approve the ACES Leader and Educator Evaluation and Support Plan 2024. Mr. Mike Smith seconded the motion.

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

**12. Possible Executive Session**

a. For the purpose of executing a stipulated agreement.

Ms. Susan Riccio moved to enter into an Executive Session with Thomas Danehy and William Rice to execute a stipulated agreement.

Mr. Ray Rudnick motioned to approve the execution of a stipulated agreement. Mr. Ray Ross seconded the motion.

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

**13. Other**

- a. Finance Committee Meeting, September 12, 2024
- b. Regular Board Meeting, September 12, 2024

**14. Adjournment**

Ms. Susan Riccio moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:08 pm.

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