



**DRAFT**  
**ACES GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES**  
**THURSDAY, October 10, 2024**  
**SDA Building, 205 Skiff Street, Hamden, CT**

- Governing Board:** Ann Marie Cullinan, Cheshire; Mike Smith, Milford; Ethel Grant, Naugatuck; Martin Rudnick, North Haven; Susan Riccio, Orange; Carol Oladele, RSD #5 Amity; Lindsay Dahlheimer, RSD #13; Ray Ross, Wallingford.
- ACES:** Thomas Danehy, Timothy Howes, William Rice, Rebecca Cuevas, Dee Colson.
- Not Present:** Ansonia, Bethany, Branford, Derby, East Haven, Hamden Meriden, Middletown, New Haven, North Branford Oxford, RSD #16, Seymour, Waterbury, West Haven, Wolcott, Woodbridge.
- Guests:** Virginia Tagliatela, Village School, William Jacobs, AEA, Grace and Kim, Interns from South Korea.

**I. 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.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Ms. Susan Riccio

**III. Public Participation/Communications**

Naugatuck Schools have started using phone pouches for the students, which are working well so far.

Milford is hosting a Thanksgiving Turkey Trott Charity Event on November 28, 2024.

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

- a. Mr. Martin Rudnick motioned to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes held on September 12, 2024.  
Ms. Ethel Grant seconded.

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

VOTE

- b. Ms. Ethel Grant motioned to approve the ACES Board Policy Committee Meeting held on October 8, 2024.  
Mr. Mike Smith seconded.

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

VOTE

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

- a. Annual Report 2023-2024
- b. Overview of Special Education Schools for Students with Autism Spectrum or those with Intellectual Disabilities. – Virginia Tagliatela
- c. Executive Director Goals 2024-2025
- d. Facilities Overview – Mr. William Rice

**VI. Filing of the Fiscal Report (subject to audit)** – Ms. Susan Riccio

The September 2024 financial report demonstrates strong fiscal management, with year-to-date expenditures aligning closely with projections across key programs. Special education services have maintained a healthy surplus, and the overall budget continues to support our operational needs. The Board is encouraged to approve the financial report, affirming that ACES remains on track for the fiscal year.

Ms. Susan Riccio motioned to accept the filing of the fiscal report.  
Mr. Mike Smith seconded.

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

VOTE

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

Ms. Cuevas presented the HR report and reported 25 new hires in various positions, eight transfer/position changes, ten resignations, eight leaves, one termination, and one retirement. Fifty Eight new hires attended September's orientation. HCD, in collaboration with Operations and Ed Tech, finalized the progressive discipline policy regarding security and data privacy. Negotiation with the Administrators Union has started and will continue through October 2024.

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Mr. Ray Ross motioned to accept the Human Capital Report.  
Ms. Ethel Grant seconded.

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

VOTE

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

Mr. William Rice provided updates on the ACES Construction Projects at CHASE, 670 Wintergreen, HVAC, and ECA upgrades. Operations Leadership is ongoing for Psychological Safety Reviewed internal customer feedback data. ACES Security & Emergency Preparedness Begins the yearly review of emergency plans at each site. Monitoring activity in the area around the school threats issue in the state. ACES Magnet School Lottery & Open Choice As of October 1, 2024, Chase has 560 students - 48% Waterbury, WIMS has 509 students - 38% Hamden, ECA has 286 students.

Mr. William Rice requests approval for the Early Head Start monthly reports and contract summaries.

Mr. Ray Ross motioned to accept the Early Head Start monthly reports and contract summaries.  
Ms. Ethel Grant seconded.

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

VOTE

**IX. Core Knowledge Report**

Core Knowledge Report included in Board Packet.

**X. Old Business**

a. Possible action to approve Solar Resolution Financing, Solar Photovoltaic System Engineering, Procurement and Construction Services Agreement, and Incumbency and Authorization Certificate. - Mr. Timothy Howes

Ms. Carol Oladele motioned to accept to approve the Solar Resolution Financing, Solar Photovoltaic System Engineering, Procurement and Construction Services Agreement, and Incumbency and Authorization Certificate.

Mr. Mike Smith seconded.

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously

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Opposed: None  
Abstention: None

VOTE

**XI. New Business**

- a. Possible action to approve policy regarding Progressive Discipline of Employees.

Ms. Ethel Grant motioned to approve the Progressive Discipline of Employees policy.  
Mr. Martin Rudnick seconded.

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

VOTE

**XII. Possible Executive Session**

- a. For the purposes of negotiations on real estate matters,

Ms. Susan Riccio moved to enter into an Executive Session with Dr. Thomas Danehy, Timothy Howes, William Rice, Rebecca Cuevas, and the Board at 1:35 p.m. to negotiate real Estate Matters.

Ms. Susan Riccio motioned to reopen the regular session at 2:01 pm.

- a. Ms. Susan Riccio moved to discuss a purchase and sales agreement further.

Ms. Carol Oladele motioned to further discuss a purchase and sales agreement.  
Martin Rudnick seconded.

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

VOTE

- b. Ms. Susan Riccio moved to continue negotiating the properties.

Mr. Ray Ross motioned to continue negotiating the properties.  
Mr. Martin Rudnick seconded.

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

VOTE

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### **XIII. Other**

- a. Finance Committee Meeting – November 14, 2024
- b. Regular Board Meeting – November 14, 2024

### **XIV. Adjournment**

Mr. Martin Rudnick moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:05 pm.

Ms. Carol Oladele seconded.

### **XV. Attachments**

- a. 244-0045 MAG Phase one of two Plan Review Letter for Wintergreen Interdistrict Magnet School.
- b. Facilities Assessment Report and Deferred Maintenance Capital Improvement Plan
- c. Community Family Engagement - Together Building Relationships One Family at a Time.
- d. Leeder Hill Solar Project Financing
- e. Executive Summary for Solar Canopy Project at 130 Leeder Hill Road Equipment
- f. Purchase Resolution
- g. Incumbency and Authorization Certificate
- h. Policy 4119.1 Employee Progressive Discipline of Employees
- i. ACES 2024 Annual Report

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