



Area Cooperative Educational Services

ACES GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES
THURSDAY, May 9, 2024
SDA Building, 205 Skiff Street, Hamden, CT

Governing Board: Ellen Michaels, Branford; Anne Marie Cullinan, Cheshire; Laura Harris, Derby; Greta Johnson, Hamden; Mike Smith, Milford; Kim Dawson, North Branford; Martin Rudnick, North Haven; Susan Riccio, Orange; Carol Oladele, RSD #5 Amity; Lindsay Dahlheimer, RSD #13; Thomas Van Stone, Waterbury

ACES: Olga Simoes, Timothy Howes, Thomas Danehy, William Rice, Rebecca Cuevas, Dee Colson

Not Present: Ansonia, Bethany, East Haven, Meriden, Middletown, Naugatuck, New Haven, Oxford, RSD #16, Seymour, Wallingford, West Haven, Wolcott, Woodbridge

Guests: Kim Delinski, David Stein, Silver Petrucelli & Associates, Tim Gunn, Consultant, William Jacobs, AEA

1. Welcome/Call to Order

Ms. Susan Riccio called the ACES Governing Board meeting to order at 12:06 pm after determining a quorum was present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Susan Riccio

3. Public Participation/Communications

- a. Thomas Van Stone of Waterbury shared that they have an Early College HS program. The students graduate High School and will walk the Post University stage with an associate's degree. This is the first year of many.
- b. Lindsay Dahlheimer, RSD#13, shared that their budget passed on the first round. She also wanted to give Early Head Start a shout-out, stating how excellent the program is.

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- c. Carol Oladele of RSD #5 Amity shared that their budget has also passed.

4. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Ellen Michaels motioned to approve the minutes of the regular Board meeting held on May 9, 2024.

Mr. Mike Smith seconded.

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously

Opposed: None

Abstention: Carol Oladele, RSD#5 Amity, Kim Dawson, North Branford, Ann Marie Cullinan, Cheshire.

VOTE

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

- a. Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment for 670 Wintergreen Ave. Hamden - Kim Delinski, Silver Petrucelli & Associates and David Stein presented the FFE package for the Wintergreen renovation project.
- b. Budget Proposals were presented by Olga Simoes for the following departments:
 - 1. Human Capital Development
 - 2. Marketing
 - 3. Core Knowledge
- c. The 2024-2025 Board Members Leadership Nomination Process was announced by Susan Riccio.
- d. Dr. Danehy announced that Negotiations with CSEA & Administrators union will be starting this summer and that we are looking for a substitute Building Committee Member for Ray Ross on the 88 Bassett Road project.
- e. Dr. Danehy also shared information for the Design Plan update and provided the Board with notice that Wintergreen Interdistrict Magnet School was undergoing an audit as required by the State Department of Education.

Ms. Susan Riccio moved to amend the May 9, 2024, agenda to add additional items for possible action:

- 1. To move Investments from Operations for \$3,000,000 and \$2,000,000 from the STIF account to Raymond James for bond investments.

Ms. Laura Harris seconded. Motion to amend agenda passed unanimously.



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- 2. To add Possible action to approve proposed budgets for Human Capital Development, Marketing, and Core Knowledge to the agenda in New Business.

Mr. Mike Smith motioned to approve the amendment of Possible action to approve the proposed Human Capital Development, Marketing, and Core Knowledge budgets under new business.
Mr. Martin Rudnick seconded.

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

As of May 2024, ACES maintains a positive financial outlook, with steady progress toward achieving a surplus. All schools and programs have completed their encumbrance processes in preparation for the year-end closing. We remain vigilant in monitoring our cash flow to manage financial commitments effectively, despite possible fluctuations in the budget. Through the use of innovative strategies and enhanced collaboration, we are committed to maintaining sustainable financial health across the organization. Central to our mission is our dedication to ensuring all students have equitable access to education. We continue to concentrate on resource optimization and the promotion of innovation.

Ms. Susan Riccio motioned to accept the filing of the fiscal report.
Ms. Ellen Michaels seconded.

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 26 new hires in various positions, 15 transfer/positions, 20 resignations, 12 leaves, two terminations, and one retirement. The EDRA and Teacher of the Year (TOY) awards reception will be held on May 15th. In Collaboration with CSEA members, we revised the ABAT and TA/D job descriptions.

Mr. Martin Rudnick motioned to accept the filing of the Human Capital Report.
Mr. Mike Smith seconded.



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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 ACES Construction projects (CHASE, 670 Wintergreen, and 88 Bassett). Capital Improvement Projects: Verbal confirmation of HVAC IAQ for 670 Wintergreen; Approval for full funding of the RESC Grant for ECA upgrades: new roof, New HVAC systems, LED Upgrades, FF&E and Technology, and Structural Work. Mr. Rice Requests approval for the Early Head Start monthly reports and contract summaries.

Mr. Martin Rudnick motioned to accept the Operations and Early Head Start monthly reports and summaries.

Ms. Laura Harris seconded.

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously

Opposed: None

Abstention: None

VOTE

9. Core Knowledge Report – Mr. Timothy Howes

- a. Mr. Howes reported that the draft of the ACES Program Review Process (Bold Step 3) is finished and moving into the piloting phase.
- b. The Data Support Specialist is working on data snapshots for the school year 2023-2024 the current focus is iReady data visuals.
- c. PDSI held a play-based learning forum for regional districts and Part II of their Understanding the Impact of Legislative Changes.
- d. Ed Tech resolved 489 service tickets for April. They are also continuing to work with a consultant on governance documents for Office 365 applications.
- e. The Office of Talent Development is in the final stage of preparing to launch the year-end Performance Review process for staff in noncertified positions.
- f. Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion is working with Marketing to coordinate the ASRC Walk for Autism scheduled on May 19, 2024, at Quinnipiac University. They launched an agency-wide effort to participate in the Middletown Pride Parade on June 1, 2024, in Middletown.

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10. New Business

- a. Possible action to approve 2024-2025 Healthy Food Certificate

Mr. Martin motioned to accept the filling of the Healthy Food Certificate
Ms. Carol Oladele seconded.

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

VOTE

- b. Possible action to establish a nominating committee for Board Officers from July 1, 2024, through June 2025, and to appoint a Board Chair, Vice-Chair, Fiscal Chair, and two Executive Committee Members.

Mr. Mike Smith volunteered to be the point for the Nomination Committee for Board Officers.
Ms. Lindsey Dahlheimer volunteered to assist as part of the Nomination Committee for the Board Officers.

Ms. Laura Harris motioned to accept Mr. Smith and Ms. Dahlheimer to lead the Nomination Committee for Board Officers.
Mr. Martin Rudnick seconded.

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

VOTE

- c. Possible action to approve FF&E for 670 Wintergreen.

Ms. Laura Harris motioned to approve the FF&E for 670 Wintergreen.
Mr. Mike Smith seconded.

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

VOTE

- d. Possible action to approve Applied Behavior Analysis Trainer (ABAT) and Teacher Assistant Driver revised job descriptions.



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Mr. Martin Rudnick motioned to approve the revised job descriptions for the Applied Behavior Analysis Trainer (ABAT) and Teacher Assistant Driver positions.

Ms. Carol Oladele seconded.

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously

Opposed: None

Abstention: None

VOTE

- e. Possible action to move Investments from Operations for \$3,000,000 and \$2,000,000 from the STIF account to Raymond James for bond investments.

Ms. Laura Harris moved to move funds as recommended from the STIF account to Raymond James. Mike Smith seconded the motion.

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously

Opposed: None

Abstention: None

VOTE

- f. Possible action to approve budgets for Human Capital Development, Marketing, and Core Knowledge

Ms. Carol Oladele motioned to approve the Human Capital Development, Marketing, and Core Knowledge budgets.

Ms. Laura Harris seconded.

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously

Opposed: None

Abstention: None

VOTE

11 Other

- a. Finance Committee Meeting, June 6, 2024

- b. Regular Board Meeting, June 6, 2024



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12. Adjournment:

Ms. Riccio moved to adjourn at 1:24 pm.

Mr. Rudnick motioned to adjourn at 1:24 pm.

Mr. Smith seconded.

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