



Area Cooperative Educational Services

**ACES GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES
THURSDAY, November 14, 2024
SDA Building, 205 Skiff Street, Hamden, CT**

Governing Board: Ellen Michaels, Branford; Ann Marie Cullinan, Cheshire; Laura Harris, Derby; Nickimmy Hayes, Meriden; Mike Smith, Milford; Kim Dawson, and Marjorie Bonadies, alternate, North Branford; Martin Rudnick, North Haven; Susan Riccio, Orange; Vinny Cataudella, Oxford; Carol Oladele, RSD #5 Amity; Roberta Leonard, Wolcott

ACES: Thomas Danehy, Timothy Howes, William Rice, Emily Freel, Rebecca Cuevas, Dee Colson

Not Present: Ansonia, Bethany, East Haven, Hamden, Middletown, Milford, Naugatuck, New Haven, RSD #13, RSD #16, Seymour, Wallingford; Waterbury, West Haven, Woodbridge

Guests: William Jacobs, AEA; Kevin Keating, ACES Pupil Services; South Korea Interns Grace, Kim, and Eunju.

I. Welcome/Call to Order

Ms. Susan Riccio called the ACES Governing Board meeting to order at 12:05 pm after determining a quorum was present.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Public Participation/Communications

N/A

IV. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Martin Rudnick motioned to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes held on October 10, 2024.

Ms. Roberta Leonard seconded.

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously

Opposed: None

Abstention: Laura Harris and Ellen Michaels

VOTE

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- V. **Executive Director’s Report** - Dr. Thomas M. Danehy
 - a. Services Overview – Kevin Keating
 - b. Service Rates and School/Program Tuitions for 2025-2026 – Tim Howes
 - c. Non-bargaining salary and benefits package for 2025-2026 – Rebecca Cuevas
 - d. FY 2025-2026 ACES School Calendars- Dr. Thomas Danehy

VI. **Filing of the Fiscal Report (subject to audit)** – Mr. Mike Smith

I am pleased to report that ACES is in a favorable fiscal position, with a notable surplus for the year. This positive financial outcome is supported by robust enrollments across our programs and solid contracts within our services group, which continue to drive our revenue stability.

Mr. Mike Smith motioned to accept the filing of the fiscal report.
Ms. Laura Harris 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 26 new hires in various positions, three transfer/position changes, nine resignations, and 11 leaves. HCD, along with the Executive Director, continues to engage in negotiations with the Administrator’s bargaining unit. ACES has participated in the Black and Hispanic Caucus event, celebrated the Education Center for the Arts (ECA) 50th-anniversary, and participated in the RESC Alliance Igniting Change Conference in October.

Ms. Roberta Leonard motioned to accept the Human Capital Report.
Mr. Martin Rudnick 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 presented updates on the ACES construction projects at CHASE, 670 Wintergreen Avenue, and 88 Bassett Road and progress on the ECA facility upgrades. He

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also provided comprehensive updates on Facilities, Maintenance, Internal Transportation, Security, Data Privacy, ACCESS, Magnet School Lottery, Open Choice Program, Community Engagement initiatives, Nutrition Services, Network Services, and the Early Head Start Program.

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

Ms. Roberta Leonard motioned to accept the Early Head Start monthly reports and contract summaries.

Ms. Laura Harris seconded.

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously

Opposed: None

Abstention: None

VOTE

IX. Core Knowledge

Ms. Emily Freel provided updated reports on Curriculum, Evaluation, Professional Development, Data, Educational Technology, and Talent Development.

X. Possible Executive Session

Possible Executive Session regarding Real Estate Transactions.

Ms. Susan Riccio moved to enter into an Executive Session with Dr. Thomas Danehy, Timothy Howes, William Rice, and Rebecca Cuevas and the Board at 1:26 p.m.

Ms. Susan Ricco motioned to reopen the regular session at 1:35 pm.

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously

Opposed: None

Abstention: None

VOTE

XI. New Business

a. Possible action to approve ACES Tuition and Service Rates for 2025-2026.

Ms. Roberta Leonard motioned to approve the ACES Tuition and Services Rates for 2025-2026.

Ms. Laura Harris seconded.

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

VOTE

b. Possible action to approve salary and benefits of non-bargaining employees.

Mr. Mike Smith motioned to approve salary and benefits of non-bargaining employees.
Mr. Martin Rudnick seconded.

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

VOTE

c. Possible action to approve Real Estate Transactions.

Mr. Mike Smith motioned to approve Real Estate Transactions.
Mr. Martin Rudnick seconded.

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

VOTE

d. Possible action to approve FY 2025-2026 ACES School Calendars.

Mr. Martin Rudnick motioned to approve FY 2025-2026 ACES School Calendars.
Ms. Laura Harris seconded.

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

VOTE

XII. Other

- a. Finance Committee Meeting, January 9, 2025
- b. Regular Board Meeting, January 9, 2025

XIII. Adjournment

Ms. Roberta Leonard moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:40 pm
Mr. Martin Rudnick seconded.

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