



ACES GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES
THURSDAY, November 18, 2021 Meeting at Noon
205 Skiff Street, Hamden, CT

- Governing Board:** Fran DiGiorgi, Ansonia; Anthony Perugini, Cheshire; Laura Harris, Derby; Ethel Grant, Naugatuck; Jana Balsamo North Branford; Susan Riccio, Orange; Norman Hicks, RSD #13; Beth Nesteriak, Seymour; Karen Hlavac, Wallingford; Elizabeth Brown, Waterbury;
- ACES:** Olga Simoes, Steven Cook, Timothy Howes, Thomas Danehy, Evelyn Rossetti-Ryan
- Not Present:** Bethany, Branford, East Haven, Meriden, Middletown, Milford, New Haven, North Haven, Oxford, RSD #5, West Haven, Wolcott, Woodbridge,
- Member of Audience:** William Jacobs from AEA, Jason Hiruo presented Helen Doron, Tom Ariola, Hamden
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1. Welcome/Call to Order

Mr. Norman Hicks called the ACES Governing Board meeting to order at 12:21 pm after determining a quorum was present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Norman Hicks

3. Public Participation/Communications

- a. Susan Riccio presented Norm Hicks with a watch gift for his service and dedication to the ACES Governing Board as a member and as Chair for the past seven years.
- b. Elizabeth Brown has been elected to a two-year term as President of CABA
- c. Ethel Grant has been elected to be the Chair of the Resolution Committee of CABA

4. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Karen Hlavac motioned to accept the ACES Governing Board Minutes of October 14, 2021.
Ms. Fran DiGiorgi seconded.

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

VOTE

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5. Executive Director’s Report - Dr. Danehy

- a. Board Leadership and Membership – Dr. Danehy welcomed new Board members and thanked Mr. Hicks for his dedication to the ACES Board for the past eleven years. A special presentation will be made to Mr. Hicks at the December Board meeting.
Norman Hicks is retiring after serving over seven years as ACES Board Chair. Susan Riccio will serve as Interim Board Chair until an election is held at the December Board meeting. Dr. Danehy welcomed new ACES Board Members Dr. Carol Oladele, of Amity Region #5; and Beth Nesteriak of Seymour
- b. Proposed Rates for Services and Tuitions 2022-2023 were presented by Tim Howes
- c. Dr. Danehy presented Non-bargaining Employees Salary and Benefits 2022-2023 proposals to the Board, which included a 2.75% general wage increase, consolidation of columns for the OT/PT scale, step freezes other than the OT/PT changes, frozen health, and dental insurance premiums, continuation of the migration to the nurses’ salary scale.
- d. Helen Doron Early Learning Center - Jason Hiruo presented information on the Helen Doron preschool programs, a full language immersion program that would be parent-paid at various sites throughout the region. He shared the desert child care map of Connecticut to share cities and towns that have a dearth of centers available to families.

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

November projections show a deficit in our budget’s bottom line. Magnet school's budgets are impacted due to a decrease in-state tuition and unanticipated costs associated with the ACES at Chase operational costs. Our special education schools are strong in their performance, and we expect that they will be able to remain in line with current projections. Demand for ACES Services remains steady, and by taking a conservative approach in our forecasts, we continue to monitor their performance to better estimate the bottom line. Our operations costs are trending in higher as we prepare for the heating season. Hence, we continue to monitor our cash flow closely, and we are prepared to adjust the spending to keep the agency in a favorable financial position for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year.

Ms. Susan Riccio motioned to accept the filing of the Fiscal Report.
Ms. Fran DiGiorgi 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 28 new hires, including 7 LEAP staff, 7 transfers, 23 resignations, 1 termination, 0 retirements, and 7 leaves. Regarding COVID and the Governor’s Executive Order 13G, we have collected vaccination cards, had staff sign off on attestations, created attestation documents for districts we support.

Ms. Karen Hlavac motioned to accept the filing of the Human Resources Report
Ms. Ethel Grant seconded.

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

VOTE

8. Curriculum & Instruction Report – Dr. Thomas Danehy

- a. Schools beginning the conversion of CHASE to grades 6-12.
- b. WIMS purchase is reimbursable.
- c. 88 Bassett Road working on Title change from last year's legislation, the building would be renovated for SPED purposes if the Wintergreen purchase deal moves forward.
- d. We are looking at various sites for the pre-school program.
- e. 261 Skiff is coming through awaiting zoning appraisal by the purchaser.

9. Early Head Start Update - Dr. Danehy

The Executive Director requests the approval of the Early Head Start monthly reports and contract summaries.

Ms. Susan Riccio motioned to accept the filing of the Early Head Start monthly reports and contract summaries.

Ms. Fran DiGiorgi seconded.

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

VOTE

10. Old business

N/A

11. New Business

- a. Possible Action to approve proposed 2022-2023 Tuition and Service Rates as presented.

Ms. Susan Riccio motioned to accept the proposed 2022-2023 Tuition Rates.

Ms. Ethel Grant seconded.

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

VOTE

- b. Possible Action to approve proposed Non-Bargaining Compensation package effective July 1, 2022.

Ms. Fran DiGiorgi motioned to accept the proposed Non-Bargaining Compensation package.

Ms. Karen Hlavac seconded.

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

VOTE

c. Creation of Nominee Committee
Ms. Elizabeth Brown committee of one will report back.

All in favor: Motion Passed Unanimously
Opposed: None

VOTE

12. Adjournment: 1:28 pm

13. Attachments

14. Next Meeting Date: December 9, 2021, noon, SDA on Skiff Street, rear building

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