

**MINUTES – C.E.S. REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 2, 2019**

PRESENT:

Chris Hocker - EASTON/REDDING/REG. 9 (**President**)
 Jennifer Dayton - GREENWICH (ARRIVED @ 3:22 PM)
 Maria Naughton - NEW CANAAN
 Margaret Stamatis - RIDGEFIELD
 Andy George - STAMFORD
 Jackie Pioli - STAMFORD
 Vincent Faggella - STRATFORD
 Mike Ward - TRUMBULL (**Secretary**)
 Karen Kleine - WESTPORT (**Vice President**)

ABSENT:

Sybil Allen - BRIDGEPORT
 Christa McNamara - DARIEN
 Jeff Parker - EASTON/Reg. 9 (Alt.)
 Christine Vitale - FAIRFIELD
 Nick Aysseh - FAIRFIELD
 Vacant - MONROE
 Barbara Meyer-
 Mitchell - NORWALK
 VACANT - RIDGEFIELD
 Dan McNeill - WESTON
 Debbie Low - WILTON

C.E.S.: **Present:** Charles Dumais, Chris LaBelle, Esther Bobowick, Mark Ribbens, Anna Nelmes-Stoughton, Peggy Sullivan, Stephanie Wanzer

ABSENT: Mike Regan

GUEST: Charles Rothenberger (Rome Smith Lutz)

REGULAR MEETING

- I. CALL TO ORDER AND VERIFICATION OF QUORUM – President Chris Hocker called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. Quorum was confirmed.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – On a motion by Mike Ward and seconded by Vinny Faggella, the minutes of April 4, 2019 were unanimously approved.
- III. CONSENT AGENDA - On a motion by Andy George and seconded by Margaret Stamatis, the consent agenda was unanimously approved.
- IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: Chip introduced Charles Rothenberger, lobbyist from Rome Smith Lutz, who gave an overview of the closing session of the legislature and fielded questions from the Board members. Long session will end on June 5th. Charles encouraged all Board members to contact their legislators with any concerns or questions via email or

1 a handwritten note, which Mike Ward reported on after attending a meeting this
2 past week in Hartford for retired teachers. Both Chip and Chris Hocker thanked
3 Charles for meeting with us this year.
4

5 V. NEW BUSINESS:
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- 7 1. On a motion by Karen Kleine and seconded by Jennifer Dayton, the 2019-20
8 Operating Budget in the amount of \$50,645,560, including tuition rates and other
9 service rates, was unanimously approved as submitted.
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11 2. On a motion by Mike Ward and seconded by Jennifer Dayton, the Annual Budget
12 Operation Resolution which states: being resolved that the 2019-120 approved
13 budget is designated as a spending plan to be executed by C.E.S. In the event of
14 increased or decreased revenues from either state grants or service fees/tuitions,
15 the Executive Director is authorized to increase or decrease programming,
16 including staff, commensurate with revenue and service needs. Such actions shall
17 be reported to the Council at the next regular meeting and shall be ratified for
18 record through inclusion on the Consent Agenda. This budget resolution shall
19 cover the period of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.
20

21 Chip offered his thanks to the Finance Committee members: Chris Hocker, Tom
22 Minotti and Andy George for their input and support during the budget process.
23

24 VI. REPORTS
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- 26 1. **Representative Council President** – Chris Hocker had no additional report but
27 did canvas the members present to find out who is up for re-election, not returning,
28 etc. Chris advised that he will be up for his fourth, four-year term in his district.
29
30 2. **Executive Director** – Chip reported that he is still very active with the universities
31 speaking on both social media and school leadership topics. Chip reported that
32 yesterday he facilitated part 2 of a leadership development seminar for the C.E.S.
33 Leadership Team with yesterday's session including about 8 superintendents as
34 participants. The results from the seminar showed us where we can expand in
35 various areas. C.E.S. will identify specific needs and follow up with local districts
36 and staff. One recurring theme was the lack of professional development offered
37 for administrators. Chip will be presenting at the CEN conference in Hartford on
38 May 10th along with former district technology colleagues on leadership with district
39 technology staff.
40
41 3. **Associate Executive Director**– Chris La Belle reported that the Fairfield County
42 Recruitment Fair was held on Saturday, April 27th at Fairfield Warde High School.
43 Chris advised that we had 16 school district and approximately 250 candidates for
44 special education, secondary and specialist teaching positions. Reports from
45 districts were that they identified many high-quality teaching candidates for 2019-
46 20. Chris also reported that C.E.S. teacher and administrators are completing their

1 final assessments and determining if they met their SLOs. Administrators will meet
2 with all teachers for their end-of-year evaluations. C.E.S. programs are currently
3 administering the School Climate and Teacher Evaluation Surveys. Lastly, Chris
4 stated that the State has officially approved the development of the Eastern
5 Fairfield County Diagnostic Center. We are in the process of reviewing and
6 interviewing applicants for the program.
7

8 **4. Director of Professional Development Services** –Esther Bobowick reported that
9 for the first time, C.E.S. had a tutoring service in attendance at the Recruitment
10 Fair which was very successful. Esther also distributed the Administrator Aspirant
11 brochure, which was conducted this year by Linda Hartzler and Gary Kass through
12 the Leadership Institute at C.E.S. This year 11 districts participated. Esther
13 advised that PDS is gearing up for summer and fall sessions which will include a
14 series for school leaders, a repeat of the student centered coaching series, the
15 NGSX Science training, mindfulness strategies for the classroom and more. For
16 further updates, please see written report.
17

18 **5. Principal, Regional Center for the Arts** – Mark Ribbens reported that the year
19 long collaboration with the Mandala Theater of Kathmandu concluded this month.
20 Students gave a presentation and workshop at local area schools to approximately
21 500 students. Participants has the opportunity to share a cultural tradition or story.
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23 **6. Director, Special Education** – Mike Regan is at Fairfield University receiving the
24 2019 Excellence in Teaching Award for Adjunct Faculty. Please see Mike’s written
25 report for highlights.
26

27 **7. Director, Six to Six Magnet School** – Anna Nelmes-Stoughton reported that all
28 teachers are finalizing their professional growth summaries and self-reflections in
29 preparation for end-of-year evaluation conference. SBAC testing is also
30 underway. Later this month Beardsley Zoo will coming to Six to Six with some of
31 their animals to receive a check for \$2500 for their tiger habitat. The funds were
32 raised through various fundraising events put on by Six to Six. Lastly, Anna
33 mentioned that staff from the Magnet of America are coming to Six to Six for a tour
34 on May 31st.
35

36 **8. Director of Finance and Operations** – Peggy Sullivan reviewed the budget
37 summary through April 17th. This summary does reflect the final adjustments for
38 magnet school grants from the State of Connecticut. On the revenue summary
39 side, Peggy indicated that interest income, contributions from workshops and the
40 C.E.S. Foundation continue to trend ahead of budget for the year. Regarding
41 insurance rates for 2019-20, health, life and long term disability renewal premiums
42 are coming in lower. We will be going out to bid since Anthem Blue Cross (dental)
43 came in with a percentage increase.
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- VII. ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION: On a motion by Jennifer Dayton and seconded by Vincent Faggella, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn to executive session for the purpose of discussing the performance of the executive director inviting Dr. Dumais back in after their discussion. The time was 4:02 p.m. The Board ended executive session at 4:37 p.m.
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT: On a motion by Andy George and seconded by Jennifer Dayton the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Pace
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Recording Secretary