

DRAFT**MINUTES – C.E.S. REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL MEETING
October 3, 2019****PRESENT:**

Jennifer Dayton	-	GREENWICH
Chris Hocker	-	EASTON/REG. 9 (President)
Melissa Walker	-	MONROE
Barbara Mitchell- Meyer	-	NORWALK (Arrived at 3:30 pm)
Tom Minotti	-	SHELTON (Arrived at 3:25 pm)
Andy George	-	STAMFORD
Mike Ward	-	TRUMBULL (Secretary)
Karen Kleine	-	WESTPORT (Vice President)

ABSENT:

Sybil Allen	-	BRIDGEPORT
Christa McNamara	-	DARIEN
VACANT	-	FAIRFIELD
Jeff Parker	-	EASTON/REG.9 (Alt.)
VACANT	-	MONROE
Maria Naughton	-	NEW CANAAN
Jackie Pioli	-	STAMFORD
Vincent Faggella	-	STRATFORD
Debbie Low	-	WILTON

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

- I. CALL TO ORDER AND VERIFICATION OF QUORUM: President Chris Hocker called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. Quorum was verified.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: On a motion by Mike Ward and seconded by Jennifer Dayton the minutes of the meeting were unanimously approved.
- III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: None. (Note: Cindy Gallo sat in for CESEA President Stephanie Wanzer.)
- IV. CONSENT AGENDA: On a motion by Jennifer Dayton and seconded by Mike Ward, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved by the Council.
- V. NEW BUSINESS:
 1. Policy Updates: Chris LaBelle reviewed the policies as presented (Tuition Reimbursement Plan Non-Certified Personnel Policy #4.008) and Service Animals Policy #6.163.32) which will be on the November agenda for final approval.

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2 2. 2020-21 Calendars: On a motion by Mike Ward and seconded by Jennifer
3 Dayton, the 2020-21 calendars were unanimously approved.

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5 3. 2018-19 Annual Report: Chip offered his thanks to Scott Griffin and Barb
6 Pace for their work on the report. Copies were given to all superintendents
7 as well as to the Commissioner and the State Board of Education members.
8

9 VI. REPORTS

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11 1. **Representative Council President:** Chris Hocker offered his thanks to Tom
12 Minotti for his years of services on the C.E.S. Rep Council. Tom in turn
13 mentioned that he will miss the comradery of the Board and offered his
14 appreciation to his fellow Rep Council members for sharing their ideas and
15 suggestions. Tom has served on the Rep Council since 2006, first as an
16 alternate rep with Arlene Liscinsky and then as the representative from Shelton.
17

18 2. **Executive Director:** Chip Dumais welcomed new Board member from Weston,
19 Melissa Walker, and offered his thanks to departing board member, Tom Minotti.
20 Chip reported that he has met individually with about six superintendents so far
21 and will finish up his meetings by mid-November. Chip also mentioned that he is
22 planning on attending at least one BOE meeting in each district this year – either
23 as a spectator or to speak if the BOE would like him to address any issues. He
24 will let each member know when he will be going to their district's meeting.
25

26 Chip recently spent two days at a superintendents' retreat with national speaker
27 Doug Eadie who spoke to the group on Governance. Chip worked with Bob
28 Rader and Patrice McCarthy on the 2nd day of the retreat. Chip announced that
29 River Valley Retirement Community will be opening up on Oakview Drive in 2
30 years – 55+ all-inclusive community. Chip attended the groundbreaking. The
31 community will have an auditorium which we are hoping to use for various
32 functions and introduce ourselves to the residents and staff. Chip has been
33 named the NEASC Assistant Chairman and will be participating in a three day
34 site visit next week in Bolton. Chip mentioned that C.E.S. is actively looking for
35 space in lower Fairfield County in order to bring programs and services closer to
36 those town we serve. Chip has offered professional development free of charge
37 to SFCSA district superintendents which would include professional development
38 for executive assistants and support staff. Chip will be scheduling both Wilton
39 secretaries and Trumbull facilities staff for a professional development session.
40 The C.E.S. 5K will be held on October 19th at 9:30 a.m., Seaside Park,
41 Bridgeport. All are welcomed to participate.
42

43 3. **Associate Executive Director:** Chris LaBelle reported that all C.E.S. Beginning
44 Teachers are off to a great start; meeting with their mentors and developing their
45 Professional Growth Plans. All beginning teachers participated in an orientation
46 session on the TEAM program. Their first module completion deadline is

1 December 13th. C.E.S. held our New Administrator Induction Program on
2 September 20th. Four administrators participated in the program which was
3 kicked off with a panel of superintendents from our region. C.E.S. has started
4 the implementation plan for Frontline Time & Attendance. The new system will
5 improve timesheet management for all hourly employees by making the process
6 electronic. We expect to be prepared to launch the new system in January 2020.
7 Lastly, Chris reported that on Shipman & Goodman recently held an Education
8 Legislation update. One highlight was Public Act 19-49 – Transition Services for
9 Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). This Act establishes new
10 requirements for the annual statement of transition service needs as it pertains to
11 children who have been “diagnosed” with ASD.
12

13 4. **Director of Professional Development Services:** Esther Bobowick reported
14 that PDS is offering two sessions for administrators this fall – one on
15 understanding the 504 regulations and one on policies related to service animals
16 in schools. Atty. Peter Maher will be the presenter. Esther mentioned that PDS
17 hosted a highly successful middle school Illustrative Math series as well as a high
18 school series. Consultant Erin Barlow has reached out to offer coaching support
19 for teachers who attended, back at their own schools. PDS will host a Praxis II
20 Prep series for teachers interested in the CTE cross endorsement – in support of
21 increasing the number of certified teachers in our region to teach these classes.
22

23
24 5. **Director, Regional Center for the Arts:** Mark Ribbens reported that Parent
25 Back to School night was held on September 5th; parents had the chance to meet
26 instructors and learn more about RCA. Mark included a performance schedule
27 and invited all Board members to attend. If anyone would like a tour of the
28 facilities, please feel free to call the school to set up a convenient time. First
29 production of “Holiday Inn” is in production. Two new classes are being offered
30 this year: Sight Reading for musicians and “Hip-Hop Ensemble” open for
31 experienced dancers. Lastly, Mark reported that former Musical Theater student
32 Mariah Little, will be in the touring company of The Color Purple. Mark offered
33 his congratulations on this achievement.
34

35 6. **Director, Six to Six Magnet School:** Anna Nelmes-Stoughton reported that
36 Back to School Night was held on September 26th and was very successful. Six
37 to Six is fully enrollment as well. Details about this year’s Nature’s Classroom
38 and Washington DC trips were shared that evening. Anna mentioned that staff
39 members are engaged in writing their professional goals aligned with the School
40 Goals and Teacher Evaluation Plans. Six to Six to planning for the first
41 administration of the NWEA assessment for all students in grades 3 through 8.
42 Six to Six is working to increase parent and family involvement this year with the
43 “Student Success Passports” program. Each family will receive a “passport”
44 which is tamped at each classroom and whole school event. Completed
45 passport holders receive raffle tickets to win prizes such as membership to the
46 Maritime Aquarium and a week of summer camp at the Eli Whitney Museum. Six

1 to Six recently underwent a Care for Kids OEC inspection and Anna advised that
2 no infractions were noted. Anna and staff are working on collaboration with New
3 Canaan and Stamford nature facilities for the students.
4

5 7. **Director of Finance & Operations:** Peggy Sullivan reported that the 2019-20
6 Magnet School tuition has not yet been billed to the districts; the billing will be
7 done after October 1st. Payroll encumbrances for the 2019-20 year have not yet
8 been recorded. Peggy reported that the renovation work at 7 Cambridge Drive is
9 complete (Eastern Fairfield County Diagnostic Center). The field work for the
10 annual audit has been completed and a draft audit report is expected to be
11 received shortly. The Trumbull and Bridgeport Fire Marshals have completed
12 the annual inspections of all C.E.S. buildings. School security meetings have
13 been scheduled and are taking place in all C.E.S. school buildings. Peggy
14 reported that snow removal bid responses have been received. We will be using
15 the same contractor as last year, at the same price. Lastly, Peggy mentioned
16 that we have received \$625,000 reimbursement from a school security grant
17 C.E.S. applied for last year. We are applying for an additional \$40,000. Peggy
18 will advise the Board when that is received.
19

20 8. **Director of Special Education:** Mike McGrath reported that Dr. Christine Peck
21 conducted an ADOS-2 Refresher for Modules 2&3 for approximately 15 district
22 participants. RISE students enjoyed beach yoga in September. The Preschool-
23 Primary Learning Center had a welcome breakfast for about 17 of their parents.
24 The Eastern Fairfield County Diagnostic Center enrolled its first students.
25 Currently three students are enrolled with more expected in the coming days.
26 The center is half-staffed at this time. Fees will be prorated for sending districts.
27 Parent Night was held on September 25th for all C.E.S. Special Education
28 programs.
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30 VII. MEMBER REPORTS: Roundtable discussion included school start times;
31 teacher negotiations; gun safety curriculum and state insurance costs.
32

33 IX. ADJOURNMENT

34 On a motion by Tom Minotti and seconded by Mike Ward, the meeting was
35 adjourned at 4:39 p.m.
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37

38 Respectfully submitted,

39 *Barbara Pace*

40 Barbara Pace

41 Recording Secretary