



Enclosure 2b
October 20, 2015

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
September 21, 2015

COUNCIL ON ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

The Council on Elementary and Secondary Education met on Monday, September 21, 2015, at the R.I. Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 255 Westminster Street, Providence, Rhode Island.

Chair McConaghy welcomed everyone, declared a quorum present, and called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

Present: Daniel McConaghy, *Colby Anderson, Amy Beretta, Barbara Cottam, Colleen Callahan, Karin Forbes, Jo Eva Gaines, **Marta Martinez, ***Lawrence Purtill, and Joyce Stevos

[*Ex-officio, non-voting member]

[** Arrived at 5:36 p.m.]

[*** Arrived at 5:39 p.m.]

1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

On a motion duly made by Colleen Callahan and seconded by Jo Eva Gaines it was

VOTED: That the Rhode Island Council on Elementary and Secondary Education accepts the agenda for the meeting of September 21, 2015

Vote: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Daniel McConaghy, Amy Beretta, Colleen Callahan, Barbara Cottam, Karin Forbes, Jo Eva Gaines, and Joyce Stevos

NAYS: 0

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

2a. Minutes of the August 11, 2015, Council Work Session

On a motion duly made by Colleen Callahan and seconded by Jo Eva Gaines, it was

VOTED: That the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education approves the minutes of the August 11, 2015 Council Work Session

Vote: 6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Daniel McConaghy, Colleen Callahan, Barbara Cottam, Karin Forbes, Jo Eva Gaines, and Joyce Stevos

NAYS: 0

[Member Beretta recused herself from this vote, as she did not attend the August 11, 2015, Work Session]

[Member Martinez arrived at 5:36 p.m.]

[Member Purtill arrived at 5:39 p.m.]

2b. Minutes of the August 24, 2015, Meeting

On a motion duly made by Colleen Callahan and seconded by Karin Forbes, it was

VOTED: That the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education approves the minutes of the August 11, 2015, Council Work Session

Vote: 6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Daniel McConaghy, Amy Beretta, Colleen Callahan, Karin Forbes, Jo Eva Gaines, and Joyce Stevos

NAYS: 0

[Board Chair Cottam recused herself from this vote, as she did not attend the June 22, 2015, Work Session]

[Member Martinez arrived at 5:36 p.m.]

[Member Purtill arrived at 5:39 p.m.]

2c. Minutes of the August 24, 2015, Executive Session of the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education

On a motion duly made by Joyce Stevos and seconded by Colleen Callahan, it was

VOTED: That the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education approves the minutes of the July 13, 2015, Council Meeting

Vote: 6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Daniel McConaghy, Amy Beretta, Colleen Callahan, Karin Forbes, Jo Eva Gaines, and Joyce Stevos

NAYS: 0

[Chair Cottam recused herself from this vote, as she did not attend the August 24, 2015, Executive Session of the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education]

[Member Martinez arrived at 5:36 p.m.]

[Member Purtill arrived at 5:39 p.m.]

3. OPEN FORUM

Sheila Reseger, Retired Educator, spoke in opposition to the Common Core Curriculum, the PARCC aligned testing and the massive data collection that goes with it.

4. REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Chair Cottam encouraged all Council members to join her at the Saturday, September 26th WaterFire event where educators will be honored for their outstanding service and dedication to the education profession and to R.I. students.

5. REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL

Chair McConaghy deferred his comments.

6. REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER

Commissioner Wagner began his report by pointing to the visuals posted on the walls, which is the reflection of the activity of the RIDE staff who have taken the strategic plan that the full Board of Education will be asked to approve in October, and really started to break it out into what is required to move the work forward over the next few years.

Next, Commissioner Wagner reported that on October 8th RIDE will be hosting a screening of the *Most Likely to Succeed Film*, a documentary produced by Ted Dintersmith, a R.I. resident, which focuses on entrepreneurship, innovation, and public schools.

Commissioner Wagner went on to report on a contest that was kicked-off this past week, called the XQ Super School Project. The project comes with a sizable amount of money and it seeks to fund up to five high schools around the country. The project will also support any high school that is willing to bring forth a team to go through the visioning and reimagining process to design the next American high school; one that is innovative, engaging, and prepares students for the future.

Commissioner Wagner ended his report by congratulating Emma Hoag, a student at the Claiborne Pell Elementary School in Newport, the winner of the R.I. State Insect Drawing Competition.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. PK-12 FY 2016 Revised, FY 2017 Current Service Level and FY 2017 Constrained Budget Request

In order to get Council Members who were not in attendance at the September 10th Work Session fully informed prior to the evening's vote on the budget requests, Commissioner Wagner went over some of the scenarios shared at that work session on the process that all state agencies have been asked to go through to identify ways to help close the sizable structure deficit that the state is facing.

Andrea Castaneda, RIDE's Chief of Fiscal Integrity and Efficiencies, joined the table and went over a budget presentation on the FY 2016 Revised, FY 2017 Constrained Budget, and a FY 2017 Current Service Level, which requests the funding that RIDE needs to continue the current work through 2016 and a \$2.1M request for implementation of some new initiatives.

8. ACTION ITEMS

Chair McConaghy reminded Council members that all of the items up for approval this evening were introduced and discussed in detail at the last Work Session.

Encl 8a - Approval of the Proposed Revisions to the Regulations Governing the School Calendar and Length of the School Day, for the purpose of public review and comment.

On a motion duly made by Amy Beretta and seconded by Karin Forbes, it was

VOTED: That the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education approves the proposed revisions to the Regulations Governing the School Calendar and Length of the School Day, for the purpose of public review and comment, as presented.

Vote: 9 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Daniel McConaghy, Amy Beretta, Colleen Callahan, Barbara Cottam, Karin Forbes, Jo Eva Gaines, Marta Martinez, Lawrence Purtill, and Joyce Stevos

NAYS: 0

8b. Approval of the PK-12 FY 2016 Revised, FY 2017 Current Service Level and FY 2017 Constrained Budget Request

On a motion duly made by Jo Eva Gaines and seconded by Amy Beretta, it was

VOTED: That the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education approves and transmits the FY 2016 Revised, FY 2017 Current Service Level, and FY 2017 Constrained Budget Request proposals to the R.I. State Budget Office. We further approve its transmission to the R.I. Board of Education for final approval.

Vote: 9 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Daniel McConaghy, Amy Beretta, Colleen Callahan, Barbara Cottam, Karin Forbes, Jo Eva Gaines, Marta Martinez, Lawrence Purtill, and Joyce Stevos

NAYS: 0

9. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly made by Jo Eva Gaines and seconded by Amy Beretta, it was

VOTED: That the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education adjourns.

Vote: 9 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Daniel McConaghy, Amy Beretta, Colleen Callahan, Barbara Cottam, Karin Forbes, Jo Eva Gaines, Marta Martinez, Lawrence Purtill, and Joyce Stevos

NAYS: 0

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.