

**MINUTES – C.E.S. REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 10, 2019**

PRESENT:

Sybil Allen - BRIDGEPORT
 Christa McNamara - DARIEN
 Chris Hocker - EASTON/REDDING/REG.9 (**President**)
 Christine Vitale - FAIRFIELD (arrived at 3:18 p.m.)
 Margaret Stamatis - RIDGEFIELD
 Tom Minotti - SHELTON
 Andy George - STAMFORD
 Jackie Pioli - STAMFORD (arrived at 3:15 p.m.)
 Vinny Faggella - STRATFORD
 Mike Ward - TRUMBULL (**Secretary**)
 Karen Kleine - WESTPORT (**Vice President**)
 Debbie Low - WILTON

ABSENT:

Jeff Parker - EASTON/Reg. 9 (Alt.)
 Nick Aysseh - FAIRFIELD
 Jennifer Dayton - GREENWICH
 VACANT - MONROE
 Dan McNeill - WESTON

C.E.S.:

PRESENT: Charles Dumais, Esther Bobowick, Anna Nelmes-Stoughton, Mike Regan, Mark Ribbens, Peggy Sullivan; Stephanie Wanzer **ABSENT:** Chris LaBelle **GUEST:** Patrice McCarthy, CABA

ANNUAL MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER AND VERIFICATION OF QUORUM – Executive Director Dr. Charles Dumais called the Annual Meeting to order at 3:03 p.m. Quorum was confirmed. Board members introduced themselves and Chip welcomed new Board members to the Council.

II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2019

Based on the recommendation of the Nominating Committee (Andy George and Jennifer Dayton), the following Slate of Officers for 2019 was presented: Chris Hocker (President); Karen Kleine (Vice President) and Mike Ward (Secretary). There were no nominations from the floor. On a motion by Andy George and seconded by Vinny Faggella, the Council unanimously approved the slate of officers for 2019 as presented. Chip offered his congratulations and thanks to Chris, Karen and Mike and to Jennifer and Andy for coordinating this task.

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2 **III. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

3 Chip advised that there are two standing committees: Finance and Building.
4 Finance Committee members are Chris Hocker, Andy George and Tom Minotti.
5 The Committee meets about twice a year with the Executive Director regarding
6 budget and salary issues and would meet if financial issues should arise which
7 need to be brought before the Board. The Building Committee, of which Mike
8 Ward is the chair along with Karen Kleine, meets on an as-needed basis with
9 the Executive Director and the Director of Finance and Operations. Please let
10 Barb know if you have any interest in joining these subcommittees.

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12 **IV. ADJOURNMENT**

13 On a motion by Tom Minotti and seconded by Andy George the Board
14 unanimously moved to adjourn the 2019 Annual Meeting at 3:06 p.m.

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16 **REGULAR MEETING**

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18 **I. CALL TO ORDER AND VERIFICATION OF QUORUM**

19 President Chris Hocker called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m. Quorum was
20 confirmed. Chris reminded the Board that there will be a brief Executive
21 Session at the end of the meeting.

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23 **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

24 On a motion by Mike Ward and seconded by Karen Kleine the minutes of the
25 November 1, 2018 meeting were approved with one abstention (C.
26 McNamara).

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28 **III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

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- 30 • Stephanie Wanzer introduced herself to new Council members and
31 thanked everyone for their continued support.
 - 32 • Introduction of Patrice McCarthy – Chip introduced Patrice McCarthy,
33 Associate Executive Director and General Counsel for CAFE. Patrice
34 reviewed legislative updates, distributed the 2019 Legislative Priorities
35 brochure and fielded questions from Board members. Patrice
36 encouraged all board members to contact their legislators via email with
37 any concerns. CAFE's Day on the Hill will be held on March 20, 2019.
38 Advocacy Highlights are mailed about once a week from Patrice's
39 assistant – be on the lookout for that informational email. Chip thanked
40 Patrice for once again taking the time to visit with us.

41 **IV. CONSENT AGENDA**

42 On a motion by Tom Minotti and seconded by Mike Ward the consent agenda
43 was unanimously approved.
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2 **V. REPORTS**
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- 4 **1. Representative Council President** – Chris Hocker mentioned that the
5 Southern Fairfield County Superintendents’ Association legislative breakfast
6 was held in December here at C.E.S., and attendance was very good.
7 Superintendents and local boards of education chairs attended along with
8 approximately 10 state legislators.
9
- 10 **2. Executive Director** – Chip Dumais reported that he attended the
11 CABE/CAPSS conference back in November and it was nice to connect with so
12 many colleagues in attendance. Chip mentioned that he is on the CoSN
13 Superintendent Advisory Panel which provides tech support across the U.S.
14 Chip thanked the C.E.S. staff for their work to provide holiday celebrations for
15 all of our special needs students. Families were in attendance as well to watch
16 their children perform and participate. Chip reported that he continues to
17 network with local universities including NEAG, Central and Sacred Heart
18 where he will be the guest lecturer in the new 093 program this weekend.
19 UCONN is currently revising their 092 program and Chip will be involved in this
20 process. Chip also reported that we are in the final stages of preparing the
21 communications audit for Milford Public Schools. Lastly, Chip advised that
22 C.E.S. and the C.E.S.E.A. reached a tentative agreement through mediation
23 this past week. He will review that proposal in Executive Session.
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- 25 **3. Associate Executive Director** – Please see Chris LaBelle’s written. If you
26 have any questions, please contact Chip or Chris directly.
27
- 28 **4. Director, Professional Development Services** – Esther Bobowick welcomed
29 everyone back after the holidays. Esther highlighted a few items from her
30 written report: on March 29th, Suzie Boss, author of the ASCD book Project
31 Based Teaching, will conduct one advanced full day session with a one hour
32 video based on high leverage projects that have high intellectual challenges
33 and real world connections. In May, C.E.S. will offer new ISTE Teacher
34 Certification. ISTE certification is national, competency-based, vendor-neutral
35 teacher certification based on ISTE standards for educators. It recognizes
36 educators who use edtech for learning in meaningful and transformative ways.
37 Esther mentioned that the ISTE student and teacher standards have been
38 adopted by the Connecticut State Board of Education. Lastly, Esther referred
39 the Board to the RESC Alliance handout in their packets: Pathways to Success
40 for English Learners: A Professional Learning Series which will be held at
41 several of our RESCs through May.
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- 43 **5. Principal, Regional Center for the Arts** – Mark Ribbens reported that on
44 November 17th and December 8th, the students in our interdisciplinary
45 performance class had their first two virtual exchanges with the students at the
46 Mandala Theater in Kathmandu. The first exchange was focused on students

1 getting to know each other. Students shared stories about artifacts that they
2 collected and displayed that connected with their culture. In the second
3 exchange, student shared artwork with each other that few out of the oral
4 histories they had collected. They also began to discuss themes that they will
5 use as they plan the theatrical work they will be creating together. Mark
6 referred the Board to his written report for other updates and highlights.

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8 **6. Director, Special Education** – Mike Regan highlighted a few items from his
9 written report: On November 19th, PLC welcomed visitors from the New York
10 City public schools to see the SCERTS model in practice. On November 29th,
11 PLC welcomed back Mr. Yuki Fukazawa and Ms. Hamako King from Japan to
12 see the SCERTS model as well as it is applied in all of the PLC classrooms.
13 He also observed the TLC classrooms as their mirror the special education
14 classes he teaches in his local high school in Japan. A PMT Refresher
15 Training session was held in November for approximately 51 previously trained
16 district staff. Lastly, Mike reported that we are in the final stages of completing
17 a program review in special education for Stratford public schools

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19 **7. Principal, Six to Six** – Anna Nelmes-Stoughton welcomed everyone back for
20 the New Year. Anna reported that in December, Six to Six celebrated STEM
21 events for the entire school including a STEM Night in collaboration with the CT
22 STEM Academy, Writing Celebrations with both fiction and nonfiction writing
23 and many other classroom events to showcase student's high quality work.
24 Enrollment projections for the 2019-20 school year became available on
25 January 2, 2019.

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27 **8. Director of Finance & Operations** – Peggy Sullivan distributed the final
28 auditor's report for June 30, 2018. Budget summary for the period ending
29 12/31/18 was distributed and Peggy reported that we are trending at or better
30 than budget. CIRMA Risk Management performed an assessment of the
31 C.E.S. Transportation Garage and one of our science classrooms. The
32 assessment went very well with recommendations for some minor
33 improvements and modifications which have been completed.

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35 **VI. ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:** On a motion by Karen Kleine
36 and seconded by Sybil Allen, the Council unanimously voted to adjourn to Executive
37 Session for the purpose of discussing the performance of the Executive Director and
38 to review the contract negotiations and tentative agreement inviting Dr. Dumais to
39 remain for the discussion. The time was 4:24 p.m.
40 The Council returned to regular session 4:48 p.m.

41 **VIII. ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION:** The board discussed various topics including
42 where each town stood in their budget developments for 2019-20, high school start
43 times, mold issues in various town schools.

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IX. ADJOURNMENT: On a motion by Mike Ward and seconded by Andy George, the Council unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 4:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Pace
Barbara Pace
Recording Secretary