

DRAFT**MINUTES – C.E.S. REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL MEETING**

October 4, 2018

PRESENT:

Sybil Allen	-	BRIDGEPORT
Chris Hocker	-	EASTON/REG. 9 (President)
Jennifer Dayton	-	GREENWICH
Maria Naughton	-	NEW CANAAN
Tom Minotti	-	SHELTON
Andy George	-	STAMFORD
Vinny Faggella	-	STRATFORD
Mike Ward	-	TRUMBULL (Secretary)
Karen Kleine	-	WESTPORT (Vice President)
Debbie Low	-	WILTON

ABSENT:

Christa McNamara	-	DARIEN
Jeff Parker	-	EASTON/REDDING/REG. 9 (Alt.)
Philip Dwyer	-	FAIRFIELD
Barbara Meyer-Mitchell	-	NORWALK

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

- I. CALL TO ORDER AND VERIFICATION OF QUORUM – President Chris Hocker called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm. Quorum was confirmed.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – On a motion by Tom Minotti and seconded by Sybil Allen, the minutes of the September 6, 2018 meeting were unanimously approved.
- III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT – C.E.S.E.A. president Stephanie Wanzer advised the Board that once again the Special Education Division will be heading up their “Pluck-A-Feather” campaign in which they collect food items for C.E.S. families in need for the Thanksgiving holiday. Cash donations are welcomed as well. Barb will send out a reminder in the November board packet. Food items and/or donations will be accepted at the November 1st meeting.
- IV. CONSENT AGENDA - On a motion by Vinny Faggella and seconded by Jennifer Dayton the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved as presented.

1 V. NEW BUSINESS:
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3 1. **Policy Updates: (First Read)** - Chris La Belle reviewed the policy changes
4 (all changes are notated by **bold** type or strike-thru type.) **Note:** Policy 5.018
5 Technology – is a new policy which replaces the current outdated policy. Most policy
6 changes were made to align with State or IRS rules and regulations. Chris advised
7 that he did look at CAFE and Shipman & Goodwin policy samples as well. Policies will
8 be on the November agenda for final approval.
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10 2. **2019-20 Calendars: (First Read)** – Calendars will be on the November
11 agenda for approval. There are no significant changes from last year’s calendars.
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13 3. **2017-18 Annual Report:** Chip mentioned that all superintendents, RESC
14 Directors and the CT State Board of Education board members received a copy of the
15 2017-18 Annual Report. Chip thanked the leadership team for their contributions to
16 this year’s report and to Barb Pace and Scott Griffin who coordinated the project.
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18 VI. REPORTS
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20 1. **Representative Council President** – No report.
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22 2. **Executive Director** – Chip again thanked everyone for attending today’s meeting.
23 Some highlights from Chip’s written report:

- 24 • Searches: Windsor Locks search interviews were held earlier today;
25 finalists will be notified of their next interview date; Ridgefield search
26 continues with applications due on October 29.
- 27 • Districts: Chip has met with almost all superintendents; a few more are
28 scheduled later this month. Chip met with the Monroe superintendent
29 and BOE chair about appointment of a Monroe board member to Rep
30 Council.
- 31 • Community: Chip reported that he is on the Trumbull Chamber of
32 Commerce Board of Directors. Developments in our surrounding
33 neighborhood include current construction of apartments on the corner
34 of Lindeman and Oakview; proposed daycare center on the corner of
35 Reservoir and Lindeman; senior housing on Oakview Drive (site of
36 property formerly owned by Sacred Heart University) and additional
37 housing located in the old lumberyard area on Reservoir. Chip will
38 continue to update the Council on these developments and the impact
39 that increased traffic will cause.
- 40 • Professional Development: The superintendents’ group will be attending
41 a professional day featuring Doug Eadie on October 26th. Chip
42 mentioned that he would welcome invitations to any learning events
43 being held in our districts and has advised all superintendents as well.
- 44 • Negotiations are slated to begin on November 3rd.
- 45 • CAPSS Technology committee is looking at alternative learning session
46 plans which could alleviate the problem surrounding extensive days off

- 1 during the winter season. The committee believes that learning can
2 happen anywhere and they are reviewing this very creative plan.
- 3 • Commission for Educational Technology & CSDE Digital Advisory Group
4 – happy to report that Kahn Academy is now in compliance in regard to
5 student privacy issues.
 - 6 • Chip mentioned that he met Evan for lunch last week. Evan is enjoying
7 retirement and continues to be very supportive to Chip.
 - 8 • David Title, former Fairfield superintendent, has started up a 093
9 program at Sacred Heart. This will be a great resource down the road
10 when we are looking for superintendent candidates.
 - 11 • Our work with lead universities will provide opportunities to offer training
12 and services that are no provided in teacher prep programs to pre-
13 service teachers.
 - 14 • Chip will be participating in a CoSN Webinar for School Change on 10/8.
 - 15 • Connecticut Center for School Change (CCSC) – superintendents’
16 network with some area superintendents participating (New Canaan,
17 Stamford, Wilton and Stratford.) Great resource opportunity.
 - 18 • Partnership for Early Education Research (PEER) with Yale – Chip
19 reported that he met with consultants from Yale and C.E.S. will be
20 working with them on this initiative.
 - 21 • Milone & MacBroom – any district looking to conduct a demographics
22 study for their board is welcome to broker with C.E.S. for a reduced rate
23 with Milone & MacBroom. This is a service Evan put in place several
24 years ago and many districts have already taken advantage of the cost
25 savings.
 - 26 • Communications Audit Proposal – Chip and Scott Griffin, Public
27 Relations and Marketing specialist, met with the Milford superintendent
28 regarding the development of an initial proposal on the best way Milford
29 can disseminate info within their community.

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31 **3. Associate Executive Director** – Chris LaBelle reported that in addition to working
32 on policy revisions, on September 14th, he attended an education legislation
33 update by Shipman & Goodwin. Chris highlighted points of interest in his written
34 report. Chris also mentioned that all 18 C.E.S. beginning teachers are off to a
35 great start; they are meeting with their mentors and developing their professional
36 growth plans. At the end of September, all beginning teachers participated in an
37 orientation on the TEAM program. Their first module completion deadline is
38 December 14th.

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40 **4. Director of Professional Development Services** – Esther Bobowick referred the
41 Board to her written report. Some highlights include the October 24th RESC
42 Alliance statewide conference entitled “Rethinking How We Measure Student
43 Growth”, a think shop about new ways to think about assessment and grading.
44 November 6th, PDS is co-sponsoring a free training for regional teachers on the
45 teaching of the Holocaust as required by State statute. Lastly on November 19th
46 PDS is launching a four session coaching series for PreK-12 instructional coaches

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1 and their building administrators with national presenter and author Diane
2 Sweeney.

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4 **5. Director, Regional Center for the Arts** – Mark Ribbens reported that students
5 from RCA will be working with students from the Mandala Theatre in Kathmandu,
6 Nepal, in conjunction with Creative Connections in a program entitled “Heritage
7 Preservation: A Creative Approach,” which utilizes the power of the arts to enable
8 participants to better understand their own and others’ cultures. Mark, along with
9 staff and students, will be meeting virtually and in-person to explore how inter-
10 generational and societal tensions can be addressed through a better
11 understanding and appreciation of cultural differences and of common values.
12 This program is funded by Communities Connecting Heritage program, sponsored
13 by the U.S. Department of State with funding provided by the U.S. government and
14 administered by World Learning. The Communities Connecting Heritage CCH
15 program empowers youth to protect the cultural heritage of underserved
16 communities around the world. Through virtual and in-person exchanges and
17 exhibitions, the program supports new partnerships between U.S. and international
18 cultural organizations and the communities. Students will be going to Nepal with a
19 staff member in February and the video that our students and the Nepalese
20 students produce will be shown at the International Theatre Festival in Nepal. In
21 April, Nepalese students will come here and a performance will be showcased on
22 the Friday before spring break. Staff and students alike are extremely excited
23 about this project.

24
25 **6. Director, Special Education** – Mike Regan reported that the Preschool-Primary
26 Learning Center recently hosted visitors from Australia. They spent the morning
27 observing classrooms and met with staff regarding the use of the SCERTS Model
28 (Social Communication, Emotional Regulation and Transactional Support) in PLC.
29 Mike also mentioned that a group of administrators from Japan who visited us in
30 the past will be coming back again as well. Mike reported that on November 8th,
31 we are hosting an Open Forum for Parents of Students with Disabilities. There will
32 be a day session as well as an evening session. All superintendents in the C.E.S.
33 catchment area have the information. Barb will send out the flyer to the Council.
34 The same session will be held on Election Day (11/6) at Six to Six in Spanish.

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36 **7. Director, Six to Six Magnet School** – Anna Nelmes-Stoughton – Anna reported
37 that the Maritime Aquarium classes have begun as well as ballroom dance classes
38 up and running. Anna reported that this year there are more than 100 students in
39 chorus, band and strings which is very exciting. Anna mentioned that Six to Six
40 held a very successful Back to School night on September 27th. Lastly, Anna
41 reported that Six to Six was awarded a C.E.S. Foundation Program grant in the
42 amount of \$4,828 to purchase document cameras for each classroom at the
43 school. The purchase will support the implementation of the Writing Workshop in
44 K-8. Teachers will also use the resource to share text samples during Reading
45 Workshop and use math manipulatives during the Math Workshop as well.

46 **8. Director of Finance & Operations** – Peggy Sullivan distributed a graph showing
47 the C.E.S. fund balance over the last five years. The fund balance has grown to

1 \$26,562,031 over last five years. Peggy reported that our interest income has
2 increased and we are now at a 2% interest rate. C.E.S. also received more
3 revenue generated by the summer school programs which helped in funding the
4 new TLC administrator position. Mike Ward asked that in November Peggy report
5 on the Building Committee meeting which was held earlier today.
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7 VII. MEMBER REPORTS

- 8 • Karen Kleine (Westport) thanked everyone who responded to her email
9 regarding superintendent evaluations.
- 10 • Vinny Faggella (Stratford) asked if anyone knew of any grants for school
11 districts to implement cyber security protocols. Vinny indicated that he
12 had had contacted his local legislators but hasn't heard back. Vinny also
13 asked if districts still provided gifted programs. Westport and
14 Greenwich indicated that gifted programs are running in their districts.
15 Esther Bobowick mentioned that C.E.S. will be holding a ½ day
16 workshop for teachers for students are "doubly exceptional" - gifted but
17 also on the spectrum.
- 18 • Chris Hocker (Easton/Reg. 9) Mentioned that at Joel Barlow High School
19 (regional high school in Redding) an anxiety pilot program is being
20 implemented which would allow more students who suffer from anxiety
21 issues to have more support while at school and in classes and give
22 them flexibility in their schedules. It is the hope that teachers and
23 administrators can identify the students with this issue early on with the
24 hopes that it will lead to less outplacement situations. Chris mentioned
25 that there is no real data at this time on the pilot program.
- 26 • Jennifer Dayton (Greenwich) mentioned that Greenwich has a 2nd SRO
27 at the high school after the events at Parkland. The Greenwich Police
28 Department is covering the expense under their budget. Chris Hocker
29 reported that the Redding Police Department will hire the SRO for Joel
30 Barlow High school. Karen Kleine reported that Westport's request for
31 an SRO was not approved. Karen mentioned that Westport has taken
32 their DARE officer and moved him to the high school. Some districts
33 use an SSO (school security officer) who has some training but is
34 unarmed. Costs for an SRO or SSO span a wide range. Mike Ward
35 (Trumbull) indicated that Trumbull has used a retired FBI agent and a
36 retired police officer and that training is mandatory State wide.
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38 VIII. ADJOURNMENT

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40 On a motion by Karen Kleine and seconded by Jennifer Dayton, the meeting was
41 adjourned at 4:26 p.m.
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43 Respectfully submitted,

44 *Barbara Pace*

45 Barbara Pace

46 Recording Secretary