

TO: CREC Council and Superintendents
FROM: Greg J. Florio, Ed.D.
DATE: June 11, 2021

CREC
Council Meeting Minutes
6/16/21
11:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
ZOOM Meeting

(Info to follow in the Appointment Invite)

COUNCIL MEMBERS	CREC ATTENDEES
Jackie Blea - Avon	Greg Florio - CREC
Christopher Wilson - Bristol	Sandy Cruz-Serrano -CREC
Tyron V. Harris – East Hartford	Tim Sullivan - CREC
Mark Fiorentino - Granby	Deborah Borrero - CREC
Kim Oliver - Hartford	Regina Terrell - CREC
Merrill Gay – New Britain	Heather Tartaglia - CREC
Meg Scata - Portland	Amy Karwan - CREC
John Vecchitto - Region #10	Jeff Ivory - CREC
Lydia Tedone - Simsbury	Tim Sullivan - CREC
Maureen Sattan - Suffield	Mason Thrall - CREC
Deborah Rodriguez - Vernon	Elsie Gonzalez - CREC
Mark Zydanowicz – West Hartford	Cara Hart - CREC
Bobbie Hughes-Granato - Wethersfield	Ruth Ennis - CREC
	Patrice McCarthy - CABA

I. CALL TO ORDER and APPROVAL of MINUTES

A. 5/19/21 Council Meeting

MOTION: Motion to approve the May 19, 2021 minutes made Lydia Tedone, seconded Jackie Blea, and passed unanimously.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**III. PRESENTATIONS to COUNCIL**

Cara Hart – CREC MarketPlace – Provided presentation on CREC MarketPlace. Explained how it works and informed the council members that there are about 70 vendors currently. Informed the council members that they will be receiving a packet in their mail as well as an email with the information of sales to date for their districts. (Handouts are being provided with minutes).

Dr. Florio talked about how the CREC budget works. He stated that for us to spend any money we have to receive. Budgeted expenditures cannot exceed budgeted revenues for Program Budgets. (Handouts are being provided with minutes).

Dr. Florio informed the council members that we are looking to get approval to submit a Form SCG-1049: School Construction Grant Applications to build a permanent facility for the Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts – which is currently in a leased location (Colt Complex). Having this facility leased is very expensive and the permanent space alleviates these expenses. This is the only Sheff Magnet school in a leased facility. Looking into expanding existing space at the Learning Corridor and the application is the first step in the process.

The plans as of now are only conceptual. There are specs but very basic at this time. The intended expansion will be at the back of the theater in the courtyard.

The Greater Hartford Academy of Arts High School will commence operation in its permanent location in September of 2025

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Tyron V. Harris reported that the Audit and Finance Committee met on 6/9 via zoom and discussed council exhibits that will be up for adaptation and approval later on in this meeting.

V. CONSENT AGENDA**General Item**

- 1) Authorization to Sign Checks (Attachment A)
- 2) Authorization to Sign Contracts (Attachment B)
- 2) Greater Hartford Academy of Arts High School (Attachment C)

A. **2020-2021 Revised Programs**

- 1) Transition to Employment Services (Attachment D)

B. **2021-2022 Continued Programs**

- 1) River Street School (RSS) (Attachment E)
- 3) Integrated Program Models (1 PM) (Attachment F)
- 4) CREC Montessori Magnet School (Attachment G)
- 5) Glastonbury – East Hartford Elementary Magnet School (Attachment H)
- 6) CREC Academy of Aerospace and Engineering (Attachment I)
- 7) CREC Museum Academy (Attachment J)
- 8) CREC Metropolitan Learning Center Magnet School (Attachment K)
- 9) CREC Greater Hartford Academy of Arts (GHAA) (Attachment L)
- 10) CREC University of Hartford Magnet School (UHMS) (Attachment M)
- 11) Civic Leadership High School (Attachment N)
- 12) CREC Two Rivers Magnet School (Attachment O)
- 13) CREC International Magnet School for Global Citizenship (Attachment P)
- 14) CREC Reggio Magnet School of the Arts (Attachment Q)
- 15) CREC Academy of Science and Innovation (Attachment R)
- 16) CREC Discovery (Attachment S)
- 17) CREC Ana Grace of the Arts Magnet School (Attachment T)
- 18) CREC Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts Magnet Middle (Attachment U)
- 19) CREC Academy of Aerospace and Engineering Elem. Magnet School (Attachment V)
- 20) CREC Magnet School Office (Attachment W)
- 21) Project Prevent (Attachment X)
- 22) Magnet School Assistance Program (Attachment Y)
- 23) Hartford Region Open Choice Program (Attachment Z)
- 24) Open Choice Early Beginnings Grant (Attachment AA)
- 25) Transition to Employment Services (Attachment BB)
- 26) RESC Alliance SDE IDEA (Attachment CC)
- 27) CT Teacher Residency Program (Attachment DD)
- 28) Learner Engagement and Attendance Program (LEAP) (Attachment EE)
- 29) Supplemental Services (Attachment FF)
- 30) Montessori Training Center Northeast (Attachment GG)

MOTION: A motion was made by John Vechitto seconded by Tyron V. Harris and passed unanimously to approve all items under Consent Agenda Section A, B, and C.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Florio reported that there have been several graduations that have taken place this week at Dunkin Donuts Park. The people at Dunkin Donuts park have done a phenomenal job and have been very accommodating. The weather has been great. The last 2 graduations are scheduled for this coming Friday. This has been as close to normal given the challenges.

Dr. Florio reported that CREC and the Town of Windsor had reached an agreement for the Roger Wolcott Early Childhood Center at 57 E. Wolcott Avenue, Windsor, to be sold to CREC for \$1.

CREC will use the facility for potential expansion of its early childhood programs as well as utilizing space to consolidate programs and offices that are currently in leased facilities.

Dr. Florio wanted to take the time to thank and offer his best wishes to Regina Terrell as she is retiring at the end of the month with 20 years of service to CREC. She was given a Retirement Apple as a special thank you.

VII. COUNCIL CHAIR'S REPORT

Chris Wilson reminded council members that there will be no meetings in the months of July and August resuming in September. The meetings will be zoom, in-person or hybrid. Will be left up to the council members. He will be asking the council members to talk about how they have used or will use their ESSER Funds.

Chris informed the council member that Dr. Florio has been extended for another 3 years and stated he was very happy about that. Also, informed council members that starting September Lydia Tedone will be the new Chair for CREC Council.

Chris gave Lydia Tedone the floor as the incoming Chair. Lydia gave accolades and kudos to Chris Wilson for his 2 years as Chair and all the years as a Bristol Board Member. She stated that we have been fortunate to have his commitment to the board and states that Chris will stay to represent the board in some form.

VIII. DELIBERATED ACTION

A. New Business

1) Proposed 2021-2022 Council meeting dates (Attachment HH)

MOTION: Motion to approve item 1 under Deliberated Actions was made by Meg Scata and seconded by Bobbie Hughes-Granato and passed unanimously

VII. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Patice McCarthy stated that the Legislative Session wrapped up but opened up due to some bills that were being revisited. She informed the council members that the Education Section has lots of sections still being worked on. She informed board members that CAFE will be hosting a webinar next Tuesday to go over the provisions and information will be posted as well. Some of the sections she touched on were: Virtual Meeting continuance, School Mascots – will lose casino funding if mascots, not change will have until 6/2023 with fines being imposed, Budget implementation ECS included, student involvement, Funding to Department to Model Curriculum on Literacy, Minority Teacher Recruitment, Recreational Marijuana, School Bonding, etc. Discussion on teaching Cultural race and Theory in school. More to follow on this topic.

Deb Borrero stated that a provision on getting payment for transportation sooner from State currently 10 million dollars are owed. MTR is getting funding stating 2023 for align districts to cover costs. SDE working and will continue to lobby for funds to get funding to cover this year's cost.

VIII. REPORTS

A. Financial Report (Attachment II)

Sandy Cruz-Serrano presented the Financial Report. She also informed board members that there will be a General Audit and will report in January 2022.

IX. COUNCIL COMMENTS

John Vecchitto – has a request to Lydia Tedone as the new Council Chair as of 9/2021 he would like to have Data on Students Literacy outcomes for districts. Dr. Florio provided council members with options of having this request done in separate meetings and requested council members to contact him as he had previously sent an email to all asking with date asking who would like to attend and had no responses. Bobbie Hughes Granato and Meg Scata both would like data.

A consensus was asked by Chris Wilson on how council members would like to have council meetings going forward. Dr. Florio reported Conference Room 101, 102 has been updated with cameras to accommodate the ZOOM meeting. Possible formate to include; In-Person, ZOOM or Hybrid

Jackie Blea – spoke about the training on Critical Race Theory in districts as she is very interested in understating the term and this term has been politiczed and use to scare and divide the community.

John Vecchitto – reported that Region 10 has worked with CREC on DEI of their curriculum and has found it very beneficial. They have taken the results of this and are working out next steps and working on ongoing training.

Meg Scata – DEI training is being offered in her district

Lydia Tedone - stated Simsbury had added a DEI position to their budget and was approved. They will offer their own DEI training. She stated that board members should use and can benefit from resources offered at CREC for DEI. Dr. Florio stated that he will meet with Lydia Tedone over the summer to see what resources can be provided to the districts.

X. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION: A Motion made by Lydia Tedone and seconded by Meg Scata and passed unanimously to adjourn the Council Meeting at 12:42 pm