

TO: CREC Council and Superintendents  
FROM: Greg J. Florio, Ed.D.  
DATE: October 16, 2020

**CREC**  
Council Meeting Minutes  
10/21/20  
11:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
**ZOOM Meeting**

**(Info to follow in the Appointment Invite)**

<b>COUNCIL MEMBERS</b>	<b>CREC ATTENDEES</b>
Traci Sisti - Berlin	Greg Florio - CREC
Donald Harris -Bloomfield	Sandy Cruz-Serrano -CREC
Chris Davey- Bolton	Mason Thrall - CREC
Christopher Wilson - Bristol	Tim Sullivan -CREC
John Scheideler - Canton	Amy Karwan - CREC
Tyron V. Harris –East Hartford	Aura Alvarado - CREC
Joyce Hall - Enfield	Regina Terrell - CREC
Mark Fiorentino - Granby	Jeff Ivory - CREC
Merrill Gay – New Britain	Heather Tartaglia- CREC
Becky Tyrrell - Plainville	
John Vecchitto – Region #10	Patricia McCarthy – CABB
Laurie Boske – Rocky Hill	Namakula Edwards – Parent Senate Representative
Meg Scata - Portland	Senae Graham – Student Representative
Lydia Tedone - Simsbury	
Krista Cherry - Somers	
Anitha Elango – South Windsor	

Maureen Sattan - Suffield	
Bobbie Hughes-Granato - Wethersfield	
Patricia King – Windsor Locks	

**I. CALL TO ORDER and APPROVAL of MINUTES**

A. 9/16/20 Council Meeting

**MOTION: Motion to approve the September 16, 2020 minutes made Tyron Harris seconded Joyce Hall, and passed unanimously.**

**II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**III. PRESENTATIONS to COUNCIL**

**IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Tyron Harris reported that the Finance Committee met via ZOOM on 10/14 and reviewed the exhibits to be discussed, and motion for approval later in this meeting. the Policy Committee also met on 9/16 and will bring a motion for approval later in this meeting.

**V. CONSENT AGENDA**

A. **General Item**

1) Ana Grace Arts Academy (Attachment A)

B. **2019-2020 New Program**

1) Elementary and Secondary School Relief (ESSER) (Attachment B)

**MOTION: A motion was made by Laurie Boske seconded by Don Harris and passed unanimously to approve items under Consent Agenda Section A and B.**

**VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Dr. Florio thanked Board Members for attending today meeting. He had Tim Sullivan give an update on day to day issues due to COVID 19. States feeling good at where we are at. Total of 16 schools with 8,500 students, 1500 employees and about 4000 students currently at home with distance learning with dedicated teachers. Tim shared some data (will be provided in the minutes as an attachment) of several cases of + COVID19. These numbers are being carefully monitored with tracking 7 days and 14 days cases and averages. Should there be any decisions on closures those will be made by superintendents in districts. Trying to stay transparent by keeping this data available weekly. No community spread in our buildings. Most cases have been by family members. Teachers being very cooperative and very helpful during these tryings time.

Dr. Florio talked about the HeadStart program currently up and running. Currently in three sites Locust St. Enfield St and Bloomfield, Sandy stated all programs are operational. Increased enrollment about 3/4 full at this point. Catholic Family Charities has 7 classroom total in 2 different site 1 site up and running second site having Fire Marshall issues will update once up and running.

Dr. Florio talked about the status on Title 9 Transgender Students and Participation in Sports grant happy to report holding firm and holding our ground finally paid off. Received approval for this year received a sign off that we must abide by to prevent lawsuit. Very proud of our staff and other regions as we all stood together to get the outcome we all were hoping for. Due to much uncertainty right now we here at CREC we're having these conversations, monitoring the environment and there might be short term impacts and also uncertainty that we might be facing later this year and next year by not what the state budgets will look like knowing we might have to make very tough decisions in the future.

The Teacher Residency Program (TRP) has currently 11 teachers who are graduates who are working in classroom. New Cohort starting just not CREC teachers there will also be other regions and also making TRP available in other districts.

We are working very hard on trying to keep students learning from home are struggling with supplies and other needed items so CREC provided about 800 backpacks by providing a drive-by to have these students pick up.

## **VII. COUNCIL CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chris Wilson updated council members on the departure of Anne Kirkpatrick as she has taken on a new role in her district. Krista Cherry will now be representing Somers has a wide range of experience having worked at other districts.

Chris also wanted to congratulate the town of Windsor School District this year they were the recipient of both the Teacher of the Year and Para of the Year. Bylaws Committee meeting will be announced shortly. If anyone would like to provide feedback or be part of the conversation please advise.

Chris asked members to provide a little update on what good thing happened in their district in the past week and we will be going around later in this meeting to get some of the council members' responses.

## **VIII. DELIBERATED ACTION**

- A. New Business
  - 1) Policies (Attachment C)

**The following policies were approved by the Policy Committee on 9/16/2020, as a first reading:**

**Revised Policy: 5145.12P** – Student Search and Seizure

**New Policy and Regulation: 3516P/R** – Health and Safety Protocols Related to the COVID-19 Pandemic

**Revised Policy: 5145.5P** - Sexual Harassment

- - - - -

**The following policies are presented by the Policy Committee for a second reading:**

**Revised Policy: 5145.12P** – Student Search and Seizure

**New Policy and Regulation: 3516P/R** – Health and Safety Protocols Related to the COVID-19 Pandemic

**Revised Policy: 5145.5P** - Sexual Harassment

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

*Approval by CREC Council*

The Policy Committee has met, reviewed, and developed/revised policies as needed with Heather Tartaglia, Director of Student Services, Sasha Douglas, Assistant Superintendent, Elsie Gonzalez, Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Members of the Policy Committee include Jackie Blea, Anne Kirkpatrick, Meg Scata, Joseph Scheideler, Lydia Tedone, Christopher Wilson; and Helen Apostolides, CREC's Policy Consultant.

Note: To ease the reading of proposed changes in policy, all old language to be deleted is printed in red/strikethrough. All new language is printed in blue and underscored.

**MOTION: Motion to approve Revised Policy 5145.12P – Student Search and Seizure was made by John Vecchitto, seconded by Bobbie Hughes-Granto, and passed unanimously.**

**MOTION: Motion to approve New Policy 3516P/R – Health and Safety Protocols Related to the COVID-19 Pandemic was made by Merrill Gay, seconded by John Vecchitto, and passed unanimously.**

**MOTION: Motion to approve Revised Policy 5145.5P – Sexual Harassment was made by John Scheideler, seconded by Don Harris, and passed unanimously.**

B. Old Business

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Patrice McCarthy reported that it is very quiet at the Capital would usually be quiet anyway due to elections agenda will not be developed during this time. In preparation, there will be a CABA Virtual Delegate Assembly on November 19 that would have been the date for the in-person. Encouraging all member boards to send a delegate. This year will focus on less is more already so much on plates time for the state to be in supporting roles not coming up with a new request. Latest news another executive order by Governor Lamont. Requires if using the hybrid model for meetings that there be an opportunity for other members including the public and press to attend the in-person with guidelines following the state's recommendation to ensure public safety is not compromised.

**IX. REPORTS**

A. Financial Report (Attachment D) - Sandra Cruz-Serrano presented the financial report. Sandy informed the council members CREC currently in the thick of an Audit Visit and there will be 2 more upcoming and will report in January.

**X. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Chris Wilson- reported that this is Bristol 1<sup>st</sup> year participating in the Teacher of the Year and Para of the Year. This was done by way of a virtual celebration last week.

Bobbie Hughes-Granato – spoke about a Birth to 4 Program that they participate in Regarding students that speak different languages who would not be ready for school without this program currently there are about 44 different languages. With this program, these kids do not fall through the cracks

Laurie Boske – spoke about their Transitional Program for the 18-21-year-old program. Currently renting space. This program helps out with job opportunities.

Don Harris – CABA CAPSS Convention has been postpone will follow up with a new date. Don wants the council to send a delegate to participate in the Delegate Assembly on November 19<sup>th</sup>. Don encourage council members to get out and VOTE. Don also reported the news that the Windsor Superintendent has accepted a new job in the Madison area and that the interim superintendent is Terrell Hill, Ph.D.

Meg Scata – reported they had their board meeting last night a new Superintendent as of July 1<sup>st</sup> and stated he is doing a great job. Also Don Davis Special Education Director currently putting together about 8 programs for Special Education Students. Great things happening in the district.

Anitha Elango – new hire for Equity and Inclusion Director which is a great addition to the district. Also, K-5 moved to a full in-person from a hybrid model

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

**A MOTION: A Motion made by Laurie Boske and seconded by Don Harris and passed unanimously to adjourn the Council Meeting at 12:23 pm**