

TO: CREC Council and Superintendents
FROM: Greg J. Florio, Ed.D.
DATE: April 15, 2022

Agenda

CREC Council Meeting Minutes
4/20/22
11:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
CREC Central
111 Charter Oak Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106
ZOOM Meeting

(Info to follow in the Appointment Invite)

COUNCIL MEMBERS	CREC ATTENDEES
Jackie Blea	Greg Florio – CREC
Don Harris	Deb Borrero - CREC
Christopher Wilson	Tim Sullivan - CREC
Lou Daniels	Aura Alvarado – CREC
Tyron V. Harris	Heather Tartaglia - CREC
Julie Thompson	Mason Thrall - CREC
Becky Tyrrell	Jeff Ivory -CREC
Dilip Desai	Amy Karwan - CREC
Lydia Tedone	
Maureen Sattan	Patrice McCarthy - CABA
Deborah Rodriguez	
Bobbie Hughes-Granato	
Leonard Lockhart	

I. CALL TO ORDER and APPROVAL of MINUTES

A. 3/16/22 Council Meeting

MOTION: A Motion to approve the March 16, 2022 minutes was made by Bobbie Granato seconded Dilip Desai and passed unanimously.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**III. PRESENTATIONS to COUNCIL****IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Chris Wilson reported that the Finance and Audit Committee met on 4/13 via Zoom to discuss the Agenda Exhibits that will go for vote and approval.

The Legislative Committee met today and will be discussing items later on in this meeting.

V. CONSENT AGENDA**A. General Item**

1) School and Libraries Universal Service Program (Attachment A)

B. 2021-2022 Revision

1) Transportation Services (Attachment B)

C. 2022-2023 Continuing Programs

- 1) Central Offices Facility (Attachment C)
- 2) Learning Corridor (Attachment D)
- 3) Student Services (Attachment E)
- 4) Farmington Valley Diagnostic (Attachment F)
- 5) Early Intervention Birth to Three (Attachment G)
- 6) Transportation Services (Attachment H)
- 7) Hartford Transportation (Attachment I)
- 8) Sheff Technical Services (Attachment J)
- 9) Construction Services (Attachment K)

MOTION - A motion was made by Leonard Lockhart seconded by Jackie Blea and passed unanimously to approve all items (A – K) under the Consent Agenda.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Florio reported that staff has suggested an Open Choice Working Group. Kristina Jordan will head and will be asking for members to participate. If anyone is interested please feel free to contact her. The meeting will take place via zoom and once every quarter.

He reminded members of the upcoming Annual Meeting scheduled for 5/18 at 11:30 am at CREC Central. They will be discussing Board Committee members as well as upcoming CREC Council meeting dates for 2022-2023. This meeting will be in-

person and hope to see all members but there will be an option for ZOOM if not able to attend in person.

Dr. Florio talked about the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Ana Grace Academy which took place on March 30th and thank all who attended. He also gave a special thanks to Aura and her team for a job well done.

Dr. Florio also spoke about the current challenges with funding for magnet schools as the state did not allocate for increases in tuition for the upcoming school year. Dr. Florio and Deb Borrero have been reaching out to legislators and the governor for support. Dr. Florio will share the letter that has been sent so that council members can send it out to their legislators to ask for their support as well.

VII. COUNCIL CHAIR'S REPORT

Lydia Tedone participated in the NSBA Conference which she stated was well attended. It was in person this year and very successful. She states that this conference is open to all educators, not just board members, and encourages all who have the opportunity to participate. Informed everyone that next year's conference will take place in Orlando Florida on 4/2023 more to follow.

Lydia encourages all council members to attend the upcoming May Annual Meeting and to extend the invite to their superintendents.

VIII. DELIBERATED ACTION

A. New Business

1. Policies (Attachment L)

The following policies were approved by the Policy Committee on 3/16/2022, as a **first** reading:

1. Proposed Revised Policy/Regulation 6145.8P/R –Activity and Escrow Funds
2. Proposed Revised Policy 6146P – Graduation
3. Proposed Revised Policy 6160P – Instructional Resources
Retire: 6161P – Equipment, Books and Materials
4. 3000 Series:
 - Proposed Revised Policy/Regulation 3200P/R – Revenue-Contracts and Invoices
 - Proposed Revised Policy 3313P – Access to Vendors
 - Proposed Revised Policy/Regulation 3320P/R – Purchasing
 - Proposed Revised Regulation 3541.6R – CREC Vehicle Safety
 - Proposed Revised Policy/Regulation 3100P/R – Budget Planning and Development
 - Proposed Revised Policy/Regulation 3326.1P/R – Payroll
 - Proposed Revised Policy 3516.3P – Accident Prevention
 - Proposed Revised Policy/Regulation 3518P/R – Cell Phones
 - Proposed Revised Policy 3541.4P – Transportation Equipment
 - Proposed Revised Policy/Regulation 3541.22P/R – Transportation of Students
 - Proposed Revised Policy 3541.44P – Use of Privately Owned Vehicles

Proposed Revised Policy 3541.313P – Use of Video Cameras on School
Transportation

Proposed Revised Policy 3172P – Fiscal Responsibilities

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

1. Proposed Revised Policy/Regulation 6145.8P/R – Activity and Escrow Funds
2. Proposed Revised Policy 6146P – Graduation
3. Proposed Revised Policy 6160P – Instructional Resources
Retire: 6161P – Equipment, Books, and Materials
4. 3000 Series:
 - Proposed Revised Policy/Regulation 3200P/R – Revenue-Contracts and Invoices
 - Proposed Revised Policy 3313P – Access to Vendors
 - Proposed Revised Policy/Regulation 3320P/R – Purchasing
 - Proposed Revised Policy/Regulation 3100P/R – Budget Planning and
Development
 - Proposed Revised Policy/Regulation 3326.1P/R – Payroll
 - Proposed Revised Policy 3516.3P – Accident Prevention
 - Proposed Revised Policy/Regulation 3518P/R – Cell Phones
 - Proposed Revised Policy 3541.4P – Transportation Equipment
 - Proposed Revised Policy/Regulation 3541.22P/R – Transportation of Students
 - Proposed Revised Policy 3541.44P – Use of Privately Owned Vehicles
 - Proposed Revised Policy 3541.313P – Use of Video Cameras on School
Transportation
 - Proposed Revised Policy 3172P – Fiscal Responsibilities

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, Meg Scata, Joseph Scheideler, Lydia Tedone, and Helen Apostolides, CREC's Policy Consultant.

MOTION: Motion to approve all policies under New Business Attachment L was made by Bobbie Granato, seconded by Lou Daniels, and passed unanimously

2. Executive Directors Evaluation

The Executive Committee has asked for Council input and feedback to provide the Executive Director as part of his annual evaluation. The Executive Committee met with the Executive Director, reviewed the Council feedback, and discussed his performance. The Executive Committee is recommending the following motion:

Move that the CREC Council approve a contract with the Executive Director for

His continued employment for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025. Further, it authorized the Chair of the Council to negotiate and sign said agreement.

MOTION - A motion was made by Julie Thompson seconded by Don Harris and Passed unanimously to approve the contract for Executive Director for the period of July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2025.

IX. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Deb Borrero provided the following legislative update:

- The Legislative Session ends in two weeks on Wednesday, May 4.
- Legislative leaders are hoping to have the final bi-partisan budget finalized by the end of the week.
- The RESC Alliance distributed a letter supporting CREC's capital improvements bill and we are hopeful that the \$20 million needed for magnet schools' capital improvements will be included in the bonding bill.
- SB 227, which included the 8% tuition increase in the magnet grant, was not included in the Appropriations budget. CREC & RESC Alliance have continued to advocate with specific legislators and superintendents along with the Governor's office and legislative leaders to request an increase in the magnet grant.

Patrice McCarthy added that in addition to the NSBA presentations Lydia mentioned, Don Harris, Bob Rader and Patrice presented a workshop attended by 150 on Maintaining Civility in Public Meetings

- As the legislature moves to the mandatory May 4 adjournment, discussions continue around 2 major education funding bills, HB 5038 the Governor's Budget Adjustments and HB 5283 ECS Modifications.
- HB 5269 allowing for the continuation of remote and hybrid public meetings passed the House and awaits action in the Senate.
- Serval other bills of interest to boards of education include:
HB 5287 providing for remote learning k-12 beginning July 1, 2023
HB 5323 creating a task force to address professional development mandates.

Becky Tyrrell provided information on School Lunch Deficits (information will be sent via email to all board members after this meeting).

X. REPORTS

- A. Financial Report (Attachment M)- Jeff Ivory presented and discussed the financial report

XII. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Bobbie Hughes-Granato spoke about the Dollars for Scholars and how its mission has been change to only allow funds to be given to students from the district only and not to students from out of districts who attend the school. She states lots of board members were not aware and only became aware after students provided them with this information.

Jacke Blea was not happy with this information and stated she would be following up in her district and will report back. This change is not fair to all the students who have attended the schools for 4 years.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion: Motion made by Dilip Desai and seconded by Bobbie Hughes-Granato
And passed unanimously to adjourn the council meeting at 12:25 pm**