

TO: CREC Council and Superintendents
FROM: Greg J. Florio, Ed.D.
DATE: November 12, 2021

CREC
Council Meeting Minutes
11/17/21
11:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Room 101,102 & ZOOM Meeting
(Info to follow in the Appointment Invite)
111 Charter Oak Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

COUNCIL MEMBERS	CREC ATTENDEES
Don Harris –Bloomfield (IP)	Greg Florio – CREC
Joseph Wilkerson – Bloomfield Alt. (IP)	Sandy Cruz-Serrano – CREC
Chris Wilson – Bristol (IP)	Tim Sullivan – CREC
Tyron V. Harris – East Hartford (Z)	Carlos Figueroa – CREC
Gary Blanchette – Ellington (Z)	Heather Tartaglia – CREC
Kate Carey-Trull – East Windsor (Z)	Jeff Ivory- CREC
Julie Thompson – Glastonbury (Z)	Amy Karwan- CREC
Kim Oliver –Hartford (Z)	Mason Thrall - CREC
Merrill Gay – New Britain (Z)	Deb Borrero – CREC
Becky Tyrrell – Plainville (Z)	
Meg Scata- Portland (IP)	Zuleydy Torres- Student Liaison(Z)
John Vecchitto – Region #10 (Z)	Patrice McCarthy – CABE (IP)
Lydia Tedone – Simsbury (IP)	
Maureen Sattan- Suffield (Z)	
Bobbie Granato-Hughes - Wethersfield (Z)	

Leonard Lockhart – Windsor (Z)	
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I. CALL TO ORDER and APPROVAL of MINUTES

A. 10/20/21 Council Meeting

MOTION: Motion to approve the October 20, 2021 minutes was made by Don Harris, seconded Tyron V. Harris, and passed unanimously.**II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Tim Sullivan introduced Zuleydy Torres as the new Student Liaison to the CREC Council Board Members she will be attending the meetings.

III. PRESENTATIONS to COUNCIL

Mason Thrall provided a presentation on Operations Division. (see attached)

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Kim Oliver reported that the Finance & Audit Committee met on 11/10/21 to discuss the exhibits that will be later presented during this meeting for approval.

Becky Tyrrell reported that she is trying to get more CREC Council Members involved in the CREC Foundation and what it does and serve. She is encouraging other members to get involved as they are hoping to get new council members. The foundation provides grants, scholarships and does great work across the organization. If anyone is interested, please reach out.

Merrill Gay reported that the Early Childhood Committee met on 11/10/21. Jennie Shea provided information about the program. Stated they have been successful in addressing challenges they've had at the start of the year. CREC HS will be asking the H.S. Federal program to have some slots added to the Early Head Start as that is where the needs are. Will be looking into expanding services to the program. More to Follow.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

A. 2021-2022 Continuing Programs

1) Entitlement Grants (Attachment A)

MOTION - A motion was made by Don Harris seconded by Meg Scata and passed unanimously to approve Entitlement Grants under the Consent Agenda.**VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Dr. Florio informed the Council Members that the governor had visited the NorthEnd School in New Britain to see some of the Teachers that are currently in the TRP program which now is through the RESC Alliance. Johanna Hayes also was at the visit and she gave a very powerful speech. The next day the governor also visited CLHS to launch the Voice4Change program. There are currently 77 schools involved with the Voice4Change program.

Dr. Florio has spoken on the challenges with magnet tuition going forward and the possibility of a 12% increase.

He also stated there have been some changes to the council members due to the elections and will be scheduling an orientation to be offered to those new members to discuss their role in the council as members. Information to follow.

Dr. Florio informed the council that our CREC Job Fair took place last week on Tuesday and we had a total of 150 folks registered and more than half attended with also walk-ins welcomed.

Dr. Florio thanked Don Harris for completing his 2-year term as president of CABA/CAPSS and also reported that Tom Moore of West Hartford was elected as Superintendent of the Year.

VII. COUNCIL CHAIR'S REPORT

She welcomed back those that were elected to their board and she will be reaching out to those members that are currently on the board and have not attended council meetings. She informed the council that the CABA/CAPSS conference was very successful and as there were about 240 attendees, 77 resolutions passed for the upcoming session. She stated that they are looking to return to the two-day session next year. She gave kudos to Amy Karwan as two of her employees did an exceptional job with their presentation.

VIII. DELIBERATED ACTION

A. New Business

1. 2021-2024 Hartford Drivers Contract -Tentative

MOTION - A motion was made by Don Harris seconded by Chris Wilson and passed unanimously to approve the 2021-2024 Hartford Drivers Contract.

VII. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Patrice reported that Meg Scata, Resolutions chairman, presented the 77 resolutions to guide the Association for the upcoming year at the CABA Delegate Assembly, and the State Relations Committee, chaired by Chris Wilson, will meet on November 30 to establish legislative priorities. Since it is a short legislative session it will be important to be strategic and focused in our advocacy. She encouraged boards of education to arrange meetings with their legislators prior to the beginning of the session on February 9

Deb Borrero reported that the legislative committee met last week to prepare for the upcoming session. Although it is a short session, the major issue of increasing magnet school tuition or potential tuition increase for our districts is the focus for next year. CT-TRP is now part of the RESC Alliance and not CREC. We had a press conference last week with the Governor to promote the program. Capital Improvements will still be part of the agenda this year. We need to increase support with local legislators and superintendents for magnet tuition issues since it impacts all districts. Deb & Greg offered to attend BOE meetings, if requested.

VIII. REPORTS

A. 2021 – 2022 Financial Report (Attachment B)

Sandy Cruz-Serrano presented the financial report

IX. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Don Harris congratulated the CREC Council members that are also involved in some way with CAFE/CAPSS referred to this as CREC and CAFE being connected at the hip. He stated he was also reelected as board chair in Bloomfield and will continue for the next couple of years but also introduced this alternate Joseph Wilkerson as he will be more involved in the council and will eventually take over the role as CREC Council representative for Bloomfield.

Leonard Lockhart new CREC Council representative for Windsor reported that he was very happy to be the CREC Council representative as he has 4 children who have been/are part of the CREC student body. Mr. Leoard also reported that 5th grader Makhi Ettienne-Modeste was elected by his peers to serve as the 2022 Kid Governor. The announcement was made Wednesday. The 10-year-old attends JFK Elementary School in Windsor. He ran on a platform of preventing animal cruelty.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Motion made by Don Harris and seconded by Meg Scat and passed unanimously to adjourn the council meeting at 12:45 pm