

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford**

Minutes of State Board of Education Retreat

August 5, 2009

(approved September 2, 2009)

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the State Board of Education (hereinafter "Board") met on August 5, 2009, at the Race Brook Country Club, 246 Derby Avenue, Orange, Connecticut. The following board members were present: Chairperson Allan B. Taylor, Vice Chairperson Janet M. Finneran, Beverly R. Bobroske, Lynne S. Farrell, Theresa Hopkins-Staten, Hannah Klein, Hunter Kodama, Patricia B. Luke, Linda E. McMahon, Michael P. Meotti, Ex Officio; Kathleen P. O'Connor and John Voss.

Call to Order

Chairperson Taylor called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

Reflections on 2008-09; and State Board of Education Priorities and Challenges in 2009-10

Commissioner of Education Mark K. McQuillan invited Board members to comment on past year accomplishments and areas to focus on in 2009-10. Discussion ensued regarding school improvement efforts, secondary school redesign, status of J.M. Wright Technical High School, certification regulations, the budget; AARA; consensus around developing and promoting a legislative package; communications with our constituents; and the need to focus on teacher/leader quality. Deputy Commissioner Coleman initiated a discussion of *Sheff*.

By unanimous consent, the Board recessed its meeting at 12.00 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 1:02 p.m. Present: Mrs. Bobroske, Ms. Finneran, Mrs. Hopkins-Staten, Ms. Klein, Mr. Kodama, Mrs. Luke, Dr. Farrell, Mrs. McMahon, Commissioner Meotti, Mrs. O'Connor, Mr. Taylor and Dr. Voss.

Leadership Practices

Dr. Mariana Haynes, National Association of State Boards of Education, described the sequence of policy development, the importance of defining what you want to occur at the classroom (student) level, using data to drive strategic planning, building upon current successes, the need to develop teachers and educational leaders, and the value of developing a "through line chart" to chart a plan and progress toward your goals. Dr. Haynes referred members to the NASBE website (www.nasbe.org/leadership) for additional information.

Adjourn

By unanimous consent, the Board adjourned its meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Mark K. McQuillan, Secretary