

New Hampshire  
State Board of Education  
Minutes of the May 12, 2022, Meeting

**AGENDA ITEM I. CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the State Board of Education convened at 9:18 a.m. at the Oyster River Middle School in Durham, NH with Drew Cline presiding as Chair.

Members present: Kate Cassady, Ryan Terrell, Ann Lane, Phil Nazzaro, Drew Cline, Sally Griffin, and Richard Sala. Also in attendance were Commissioner of Education Frank Edelblut and Deputy Commissioner Christine Brennan.

**AGENDA ITEM II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Oyster River Middle School students led the pledge of allegiance.

**AGENDA ITEM III. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**AGENDA ITEM IV. HEARINGS**

A. Executive Summary of Withdrawn Cases

Drew Cline stated the executive summary of withdrawn cases was informational only.

**AGENDA ITEM V. COUNCIL FOR TEACHER EDUCATION (CTE)**

A. Antioch University New England (AUNE) - 2022 Revised Progress Report Analysis and Substantive Change Report

Laura Stoneking introduced Susan Dreyer Leon, Chair of the Education Department at Antioch University New England (AUNE), and Tom Julius, Director of Integrated Learning. Antioch had a full review for 8 of their licensure programs. The committee made recommendations for conditional approval. They submitted their 6-month progress report. The council has reviewed the progress report and is making the recommendation to accept the progress report for 5 of the programs. The expectation is the institution will meet the conditional approval. There are 3 programs that have requested elimination.

Ann Lane asked about the elimination of the licensure for principals program. Susan Dreyer Leon stated the program has always had low enrollment.

Motion: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Phil Nazzaro, that the State Board of Education accepts the AUNE progress report and recommends prior to AUNE's current conditional approval expiration (2/27/23), a full re-review (approximately October 2022) of all requirements with evidence verifying full implementation and compliance of all Ed 600 PEPP rules for the following five (5) PEPPS: Early Childhood Education Teacher, Elementary Education Teacher, Special Education Teacher 9age 5-21), Science Teacher for Grades 508, and Life Science Teacher for Grades 7-12. Additionally, AUNE shall develop a secondary progress report. In preparation of and prior to the recommended re-review, a "Secondary Progress Report" shall be submitted to the Division no later than August 31, 2022 and is expected to include measures indicating all unmet standards are effectively implemented and fully met.

Vote: The motion was approved by unanimous vote by the State Board of Education.

## **AGENDA ITEM VI. BUREAU OF EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

### **A. Office of Charter Schools**

#### **1. CSI Charter School (CSI)– Renewal**

Tal Bayer introduced James Gorman, co-director of CSI, Tom Foulkes, board chair, and Chis Barry, co-director of CSI. Last year there were revisions to the charter school enrollment process. NHED worked with board members on the changes to be more efficient.

James Gorman reported CSI is an alternative school where students have flexibility of scheduling. They have rolling admissions. They offer second and third chances to students for support. The graduation rate is very low. Students must be 17-21 years old to enroll. CSI students want a diploma, they are independent, and they need to work, they have fallen behind, they have personal issues making traditional schools a poor fit. CSI meets a need for students who have not been successful in the traditional school environment.

Ann Lane asked if there are any other charter schools that resemble CSI. Commissioner Frank Edelblut responded there are other alternative schools around the state. Ann Lane asked how students who are over 21 are funded. James Gorman responded those students are charged \$150 for the program.

Ann Lane asked about West Ed. Chris Barry responded it is an organization that helps educational schools. They help the school set goals, measure goals, and help with improving programs. Ann Lane asked if attendance and graduation rates have improved. Chris Barry responded the attendance rate improved this year. The program is now tighter, more goal-oriented, and more focused because of the work with West Ed.

Richard Sala asked about enrollment decline and revenue. James Gorman responded approximately 30% of students are 17. This year 54% of students were 17. CSI initiated a campaign to improve student enrollment. They have contacted professionals to keep an eye for students who have not finished high school and are under 21 who would benefit from the program. Students are not accepted over 21 unless they are previous students of CSI. They are working to improve communication with schools in the area.

Kate Cassady asked why students are not accepted under the age of 17. Chris Barry responded students under the age of 17 do not typically have the maturity for the individual program provided at CSI. James Gorman added working with younger students, it would make them more competitive with local schools, which is not the goal of the school.

Kate Cassady asked what size the area is the school covers. Chris Barry responded it changes each year, but students come from about half an hour away. Students currently come from 16 different towns. Kate Cassady suggested meeting with all the superintendents to increase the school's head count. Kate Cassady asked who pays for student transportation. Chris Barry responded the parent of the student pays for transportation. Most students drive themselves.

Kate Cassady asked if CSI offers a summer program. Chris Barry responded students have the option of continuing their program over the summer. Kate Cassady asked why they are located within a public school. James Gorman responded they are not in the Merrimack High School; they are at the Merrimack Valley Learning Center.

Kate Cassady asked if students are brought to career fairs at other schools. Chris Barry responded they bring students who are interested. Kate Cassady asked about the school's grant writer. Chris Barry stated they receive federal funds. Kate Cassady suggested looking at corporations who support charter schools.

Motion: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Richard Sala, that the State Board of Education approves the 5-year renewal for CSI Charter School through 2027.

Vote: The motion was passed by unanimous vote by the State Board of Education.

## 2. River View Public Charter School - Updated Application

Drew Cline reported due to building issues, River View Public Charter School will not be able to open in the fall. They may come back later.

### B. Office of Nonpublic Schools

#### 1. Commissioner's Nonpublic School Approval Designation: Renewal Report

Tim Carney, NHED, stated the report was prepared by his colleague, Shireen Meskoob, and he is new to the position. They are requesting approval of the recommended designations for 37 New Hampshire nonpublic schools, 28 schools seek to renew their attendance approval status, 9 schools seek to renew their program approval status.

**Motion:** Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Ryan Terrell, that the State Board of Education accept and approve the following schools for continued attendance approval status for the period July 1, 2022-June 30, 2025, as a slate. Ann lane also motioned to approve the following schools for continued program approval status for the period July 1, 2022-June 30, 2027, as a slate.

**Vote:** The motion was passed without dissent by unanimous vote by the State Board of Education.

## **AGENDA ITEM VII. LEGISLATIVE UPDATES**

### A. Initial Proposal - Innovation Schools (Ed 1500)

Nate Greene reported on a proposed new rule Ed 1500.

Drew Cline suggested changes to language.

Ryan Terrell asked about the definition of innovation. Drew Cline responded they must do something different requiring certain rules to be waived. The current rules are very prescriptive in what a classroom must look like. This would allow schools to set up in ways that fit different needs. He gave the example of using bean bag chairs instead of chairs and desks.

Ryan Terrell asked if there is a minimum number of schools that qualify as a collection. Nate Greene responded any more than 1 qualifies.

Motion: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Phil Nazzaro, that the State Board of Education approve the initial proposal of Ed 1500 Innovation Schools and hold a public hearing on these rules on July 14, 2022.

Vote: The motion was passed by unanimous vote by the State Board of Education.

### **AGENDA ITEM VIII. COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE**

Frank Edelblut, Commissioner of Education, reported he visited schools during teacher appreciation week. Three students were awarded the 2022 U.S. Presidential Scholars Award.

New Hampshire Career Academy had their inaugural graduation. This program allows students to leave high school one year early and go to the community college. It is operated through a charter school. There were 5 students in the initial class. The extended senior year allows students to graduate with their high school diploma, an associate degree or industry certificate or both from a community college, a guaranteed job interview in a New Hampshire company if they so desire, and no debt in the process.

The Yes, Every Student Program, which is a tutoring program, is awarding \$1,000 to New Hampshire students to receive tutoring by New Hampshire certified educators or special education services, as appropriate.

The Rekindling Curiosity program allows students to go to camp in the summer. Training is being provided to all camp counselors to be able to identify and work with students who may have mental health issues.

The Waterford Program is a pre-K program for students who will be entering kindergarten in the fall. It is a home-based family-based program that allows caregivers to work with children over the summer and get them ready for school. A year long program will be run during 2022-2023 for students entering kindergarten next year.

The Work is Learning program matches wages for students to get learning opportunities in companies in New Hampshire up to \$15 an hour. There are 150 companies who are either set up or in the process of setting up. Students will be able to work as interns in various companies. Another tutoring program is beginning providing 24/7 one-on-one tutoring closely coordinated with teachers.

The Leaning into Literacy program includes professional development around how to instruct students in reading available to all educators. It also includes working with post-secondary institutions with teacher prep programs to ensure teachers entering the field are equipped to teach children to read. The last

part of the program is a campaign about the importance and urgency of making sure students have high levels of literacy.

Frank Edelblut will be presenting to the fiscal committee an overview of CARES Act funds. All the programs presented today are funded by CARES Act federal funds.

#### **AGENDA ITEM IX. OPEN BOARD DISCUSSION**

There was no open board discussion.

#### **AGENDA ITEM X. TABLE ITEMS**

A. Initial Proposal - Administrator Endorsements (Ed 506)

There should be an update at the June meeting.

B. River View Public Charter School - Application

There were no updates.

C. Town of Carroll's Appeal of the White Mountain Regional School District's Vote to Reject the Proposed Withdrawal Plan

Phil Nazzaro suggested getting a formal opinion from the AG's office about what the State Board's role is in the statute. Chair Cline agreed.

#### **AGENDA ITEM XI. CONSENT AGENDA**

A. Meeting Minutes of April 14, 2022

Board members noted suggested changes.

Motion: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Richard Sala to accept the meeting minutes of April 14, 2022, with amendments.

Vote: The motion was approved by unanimous vote by the State Board of Education.

#### **AGENDA ITEM XII. NONPUBLIC SESSION**

There was no nonpublic session.

#### **AGENDA ITEM XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: Phil Nazzaro made the motion, seconded by Ryan Terrell to adjourn the meeting at 11:26 a.m.

Vote: The motion was approved by unanimous vote by State Board of Education.



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Secretary