

TO: CREC Council and Superintendents  
FROM: Greg J. Florio, Ed.D.  
DATE: October 19, 2022

**CREC**

Council Meeting Minutes 10/19/22  
11:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**IN-PERSON & ZOOM Meeting****COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Chris Wilson  
Chris Thiesing  
Jarina Mojica  
Dilip Desai  
Becky Tyrrell  
John Vecchitto  
Lydia Tedone  
Maureen Sattan  
Bobbie Hughes-Granato  
Leonard Lockhart  
Meg Scatta  
Donald Harris

**CREC ATTENDEES**

Greg Florio  
Sandy Cruz-Serrano  
Tim Sullivan  
Carlos Figueroa  
Heather Tartaglia  
Aura Alvarado  
Cara Hart  
Kristin Jordan

**INVITED GUEST**

Robin Cecere, CT SDE

**CALL TO ORDER and APPROVAL of MINUTES**

10/19/22 Council Meeting @ 11:37 am

**MOTION:** A Motion to approve the September 21, 2022 minutes was made by Meg Scatta and seconded by Bobbie Hughes-Granato and passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None.

**PRESENTATIONS to COUNCIL**

Dr. Florio introduced Robin Cecere, CT SDE Education Director for Strategic Planning, who shared a PowerPoint presentation regarding the latest Sheff agreement, its impacts on CREC and the region at large. A few key components of the agreement are:

- An agreed measurable goal of placing 95% of Hartford resident minority students who want to reduce isolation setting in such a setting.
- The Comprehensive School Choice Plan (CCP) that is a roadmap to meeting demand and creating a sustainable system of integrated education.
- The AG's office created a ten-year permanent injunction that can be activated if the State does not meet some of the terms of the CCP.
- The Court approved the Agreement as an Order of the Court on March 21, 2022.

The Council members will receive a copy of Robin's presentation.

A discussion of concerns regarding school buses/transportation, affordable housing, funding of extracurricular activities after two years, and training new teachers took place.

Lydia Tedone introduced and welcomed Chris Thiesing from Sommers to the CREC Council.

Tim Sullivan welcomed Jariana Mojica, CREC Student Senate Representative who attended the meeting. Jariana lives in New Britain, CT and attends the Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

None.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Dr. Florio mentioned the RESC Alliance meeting titled igniting change and focused on equity and education. He encouraged everyone to work with his or her RESC's.

He then introduced Cara Hart to discuss the Cooperative Purchasing Program. Cara said that individual reports were mailed to Council members, superintendents and business managers for their towns. There are approximately 65 vendor partners that have been awarded through our competitive bidding process, where we go out to bid on behalf of the schools in Connecticut to alleviate some of that workload. This helps consolidate spending, and deep discounts are passed along to the schools. A Cooperative Purchasing Review report that has been compiled for each town was presented. Cara distributed a one-pager of all our vendors, and reviewed the MarketPlace page on CORI. Cara is available to provide demos of MarketPlace to schools in each Council member district.

### **COUNCIL CHAIR REPORT**

Lydia Tedone recognized the CREC Foundation for a very successful eighth Annual Golf Tournament. She encouraged Council members to attend next year.

### **DELIBERATED ACTION**

#### **New Business - Policy (Attachment A)**

- The following **policies**/regulations were approved by the Policy Committee on 9/21/2022 as a first reading and are now being presented to the CREC Council for a second reading and approval:
  1. Proposed Revised **Regulation 3516R** – Health and Safety Protocols
  2. Proposed Revised **Policy/Regulation 5141PR** – Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect
  3. Proposed Revised **Policy/Regulation 5144PR** – Student Discipline
  4. Proposed Revised **Policy 5145.14P** – On Campus Recruitment
  5. Proposed Revised **Policy 6141.5P** – Advanced College Placement
  6. Proposed New **Policy 6148P** – FAFSA

7. Proposed Revised **Policy/Regulations 6159PR** – Planning and Placement TeamRECOMMENDED ACTION: **Approval by CREC Council**

Lydia Tedone and Jackie Blea attended the Policy Committee meeting at which the policies were approved. These policies are all revised and members should contact Heather Tartaglia if they have any questions.

**MOTION - A motion was made by Donald Harris seconded by John Vecchitto and passed unanimously to approve Attachment A.**

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

None.

**REPORTS****Financial Report (Attachment B)**

Sandy Cruz-Serrano presented and discussed the financial report, which remains the same. The continued total is \$381.8 million of which \$378.9 is for CREC programs and services, not including school construction. She also reported that the auditors have concluded their work, and a management letter will be included with the annual comprehensive financial report that the Council will receive in January.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Lydia Tedone began by reporting that her district is in teacher negotiations they will go to arbitration next Monday.

Donald Harris shared information about the CAFE Caps Convention. The Delegate Assembly is on November 17 and the Convention is on November 18. He encouraged registration.

Donald Harris also extended sympathy to Chris Wilson, the Bristol board, and their families for the tragedy and loss of the Bristol Police Officers one of who was an SRO.

Larry Lockhart discussed a subcommittee that his district is putting together to evaluate other energy options such as geothermal, hydrogen fuel cells, solar. He inquired if anyone had any good leads to share information.

Bobbie Hughes-Granato said her town has a referendum on Election Day to vote for elementary schools in town to include the installation of geothermal on the new schools.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion: Motion made by Meg Scatta and seconded by John Vecchitto and passed unanimously to adjourn the council meeting at 1:12 pm.**