

**WALLINGFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
INSTRUCTIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING  
Tuesday – September 4, 2012  
Board of Education Conference Room  
Mark T. Sheehan High School**

**MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Cei called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

M. Brooder, J. Cei, C. Mansfield, J. Marrone, R. McKay, C. Miller, M. Votto

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT**

E. Cohn, B. McCully, S. Menzo

**II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the June 11, 2012 Instructional Committee meeting were accepted as presented.

**III. PRESENTATION**

**A. Connecticut's New Accountability System: Metrics and School Classification**

Dr. Menzo stated the State of Connecticut applied for the NCLB waiver (which was approved by the United States Department of Education on May 29, 2012) which relinquishes our responsibility to some of the sanctions. The waiver enables the Connecticut State Department of Education and districts to use Title 1 funding more flexibly (can be used for all schools), it replaces annual yearly progress (AYP) under NCLB with CT-designed annual performance targets and replaces NCLB sanctions for schools and districts with more effective interventions. NCLB sanctions are no longer in effect – schools will not be identified as “in need of improvement” based on this year’s data and schools that have been “in need of improvement” will not be required to implement certain NCLB sanctions such as providing supplemental education services, public school choices, and providing corrective action measures along with restructuring measures.

NCLB requirements waived include no longer requiring offering SES/NCLB public school choice (eliminated 20% reservation) and district and school improvement (10% reservations) for professional development is no longer required. However, our district still reserves 10% for professional development. Dr. Menzo noted key elements of school performance to capture in future years include cohort growth, college and career readiness, Civics, Arts, fitness/wellness and school climate. The district is looking for growth from this model. The key elements of accountability the Commissioner of Education is looking at are measurement, classification, intervention and recognition. Measurement is measuring where students are, classification is figuring out where districts stand in terms of their success rate, intervention is necessary as part of the state involvement and recognition needs to happen for districts’ accomplishments. Connecticut needs a new system of accountability to value improvement at all levels. We need to use metrics that give us a fuller picture of performance as well as set meaningful goals for schools. The state is requiring every school have Smart Goals and the bar should be set higher: the goal is “Goal”.

Major shifts from NCLB and Connecticut's new indicators include the following. Under NCLB the target is Proficient, districts need to get to 100% by 2014, only captures progress from Basic to Proficient, school progress is only measured by standardized test scores and accountability is only for subgroups of students, "n" size = 40. Under the new Connecticut indicators target is on average at Goal, districts must be halfway to target by 2018, math, reading, writing and science count, progress between all levels counts, school progress will be measured by high school graduation rates (4-year and extended) and districts will still be accountable for subgroups of students, "n" size = 20; majority of subgroups approach.

Performance Index will be between 0 and 100, the index counts performance in all tested grade levels, it captures performance across performance bands, it includes all tested subjects: reading, writing, math and science, it incorporates all tested students (including students who take the MAS and the Skills Checklist), it provides subject-specific indices and overall index and it calculates for "all students" group and subgroups: ELL, SWD, Black, Hispanic and Free/Reduced Lunch students. The Performance Index for students who take CMT/CAPT will be: Goal, Advanced the credit is 1.0, Proficient, the credit is 0.67, Basic the credit is 0.33 and Below Basic the credit is 0.0. Districts will now calculate an Individual Performance Index score (IPI) for each student tested; there will be a School Performance Index score (SPI) and a District Performance Index score (DPI). Every subgroup will be tested; however subgroups are disaggregated. Indicators a district is required to have to ensure they are making progress include the following – the State Target is 88 out of 100 index points, there must be less than a ten index point gap between any subgroup and the general population and the four year graduation rate must be at 94% and the extended graduation rate must be at 96%.

Dr. Menzo stated at the end of this school year (2012-2013) all of our individual schools will be labeled under the new school classification as excelling, progressing or in our case transitioning. These labels are based on a school achieving their assigned target. Our staff (teachers and administrators) will need to be educated in what this new accountability system means since it will be tied to each teacher's evaluation. Each teacher must have student learning objectives and 45% of a teacher's evaluation will be based on student outcome and 22.5% of the 45% will be based on standardized test scores (state assessments). Dr. Menzo noted there will be future revisions to Connecticut's new Accountability System. Principals and teachers need to "wrap their minds" around this new plan and then create appropriate school improvement plans. Also, parents need to be educated and will become part of future PTAC and PTO meetings.

There being no further business, Chairperson Cei adjourned the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Betsy McCully  
Assistant Superintendent's Secretary