

**CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION FOR READING RESEARCH**  
**Summary of the Connecticut State Board of Education (CSBE) Meeting**  
**August 11, 2020**

Attending: Bonnie Bauer, Erin Benham, Miguel Cardona (Commissioner), Karen Dubois-Walton, Elwood Exley, Janet Gates (for Marc Ojakian, Ex-Officio), Estela Lopez (Vice-Chair), Donald Harris, Martha Prou, Awilda Reasco, Malia Sieve, Robert Trefry (Ex-Officio).

Absent: Eric Clemons

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Gwen Samuels, president of the CT Parents Union and participating by phone, opposed the 180-day waiver for school districts, citing the needs of children of color and those with special education needs to be present in school.

Michele Ridolfo O'Neil, Educational Issues Specialist for CEA and participating by phone, addressed the Board regarding the Emergency Certification proposal. The CEA's position is to allow the Certification waivers for one year with the following parameters,

- Authorization is for the current year only
- Teachers with child care or health risks will be allowed remote teaching options
- Emergency certified personnel will not supplant teachers available for remote teaching
- Emergency authorizations will be offered first to teachers within the district
- Limits will be placed on how far beyond the actual certificate level a teacher should be able to teach
- The CSBE shall consider placing a limit on the percentage of Full Time Equivalent Emergency Certifications that can be granted by a district.

**ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION**

A. Material Change to Stamford Charter School for Excellence (SCSE)TP

Due to the public health emergency, the requirement for districts to provide 180 days/ 900 hours of instructional time is waived for one year. All remote, hybrid, and in class instructional models are deemed acceptable for attendance and accountability purposes.

The motion passed unanimously.

B. Approval of Limited Waiver of School Sessions for COVID-19 Re-entry Planning and Training

The SDE requested implementing emergency certification for the following teaching endorsements.

- Emergency Generalist            PK-8 (201)
- Emergency Generalist            7-12 (202)
- Emergency Teacher ELL        PK-12 (204)

The emergency endorsement will allow educators currently holding an initial, provisional, or professional teaching certificate to be eligible for Emergency Authorization for 2020-2021, at the request of a district based on district needs.

The motion passed unanimously

C. edTPA Cut Score Waiver

The SDE requested allowing Educator Preparation providers to waive cut scores from for program candidates from September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2021.

The motion passed unanimously

**REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER**

(See Items for Discussion)

**REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

No Report

**CONSENT AGENDA**

No items

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

The Commissioner reported on the CSDE webinar, ADAPT, ADVANCE, ACHIEVE (available [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u42l8\\_856-8&feature=emb\\_rel](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u42l8_856-8&feature=emb_rel) ). The webinar was open to the public and addressed the three acceptable models of instruction for districts for the 2020-2021 school year. Each district must submit a plan for in person, hybrid, and full distance learning. The Commissioner also reported on the Learning Hub for students and teachers, available on the CSDE website with curated materials across grade levels and learning domains.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marie Mulready