

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
February 4, 2016**

MINUTES

On February 4, 2016, EDUCATION CONNECTION's Board of Directors held a meeting during which a quorum was present. President Chris Sanders called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM and recorded the following members in attendance:

1. Roll Call:

Name (District):	Deb Bell, Region 7	Joanne Brogis, Torrington
	Robert Coppola, New Milford	Michelle Gorra, Region 12
	Michelle Lucian, Plymouth	Melissa Miller, Colebrook
	Sarah Nanni, Barkhamsted	Chris Sanders, Region 6
	Gary Waugh, Litchfield	

EDUCATION CONNECTION

Personnel: Danuta Thibodeau, Executive Director
Jonathan P. Costa Sr., Director of School/Program Services
Rob Parenti, Director of Business Operations and Special Services
Carol Montory, Board Clerk

Guests: Tom Jokubaitis, Cooperative Educational Services (CES)
Salvatore Corda, Cooperative Educational Services (CES)
John Kissko, Executive Director Search Committee Member
Jeffrey Kitching, Executive Director Candidate

President Chris Sanders welcomed new board members, Joanne Brogis - Torrington, Michelle Lucian - Plymouth, and Sarah Nanni - Barkhamsted to the Board.

Upon motion by Melissa Miller, duly seconded by Gary Waugh, the Board unanimously approved to amend the agenda to add item 4.1 to elect a vice president and a member-at-large.

2. Executive Session: Personnel Matter – New Executive Director

Upon motion by Robert Coppola, duly seconded by Sarah Nanni, the meeting was adjourned to executive session at 7:05 PM to discuss a personnel matter.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:30 PM.

3. Possible Vote on Election of New Executive Director

Upon motion by Melissa Miller, duly seconded by Robert Coppola, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agreement dated February 3, 2016 entered into with Dr. Danuta Thibodeau by its

President under which she will assume the position of Special Advisor to the Board effective with the first day of employment of her successor through her retirement on June 30th, 2016, and it further elects Dr. Jeffrey Kitching to the position of Executive Director for a three-year term commencing April 16, 2016, and it further authorizes the President of the Board of Directors to enter into an agreement with Dr. Kitching consistent with the terms of employment agreed upon by the Board of Directors.

4. Approval of November 5, 2015 Minutes

Upon motion by Melissa Miller, duly seconded by Robert Coppola, the Board approved the minutes for the November 5, 2015 meeting with 5 in favor and 4 abstentions.

4.1 Election of Vice President and Member-at-Large

Upon motion by Gary Waugh, duly seconded by Michelle Gorra, the Board approved the election of Robert Coppola as Vice President and upon motion by Robert Coppola and duly seconded by Melissa Miller, the Board approved the election of Gary Waugh as a Member-at-Large.

5. Questions and Comments from the Public: None

6. Communications:

a) Written:

Due to the lateness of the hour, it was decided to table the written communications until the March 3rd board meeting.

b) Grant Awards Report:

Due to the lateness of the hour, it was decided to table the grant awards report until the March 3rd board meeting.

7. Old Business: None

8. New Business:

a) Projected 2016 Year-End Budget

Rob shared the updated end-of-year budget projection.

b) Presentation: Audit Report

Due to the lateness of the hour, it was decided that Dani would email the results of the audit report to board members.

c) Presentation/Approval: 2017-2018 Uniform Regional School Calendar

Upon motion by Robert Coppola, duly seconded by Michelle Gorra, the Board of Directors approved the 2017-2018 Regional School Calendar as submitted.

- d) Approval: Personnel Reports for 10/17/15 to 11/13/15 and 11/14/15 to 1/22/16

Upon motion by Melissa Miller, duly seconded by Michelle Gorra, the Board unanimously approved the Personnel Reports as submitted.

9. Reports/Updates

- i. Executive Director's Report – *Danuta Thibodeau*

Dani announced that our lobbyist, Peter Smith, will be on the agenda for the March meeting.

Dani also reported that our agency is holding an Open House on April 5 to celebrate our 50th Anniversary.

- ii. School/Program Services – *Jonathan P. Costa, Sr.*

Jonathan announced that EDUCATION CONNECTION will again be offering (2) - \$1,000 scholarships: 1 for our northern tier schools and 1 for our southern tier schools. Scholarship application information was sent to our area superintendents and high school guidance departments. Essays will be scored in April and winners will be announced in May.

- iii. Business and Operations – *Rob Parenti*

Due to the lateness of the hour, it was decided to table the business and operations report until the March 3rd board meeting.

10. Adjournment

Upon motion by Melissa Miller, duly seconded by Deb Bell, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Minutes recorded by:
Carol Montory, Board Clerk

Deb Bell, Secretary