

Special Meeting

Tuesday, April 3, 2018 6:30 PM

LP Wilson Community Center, Board Room, 601 Matianuck Avenue, Windsor, CT
06095

1. **Call to Order, Pledge to the Flag and Moment of Silence**
2. **Audience to Visitors**
3. **Set Graduation Date for Class of 2018 and Last Day of School for 2017-2018 (Action Anticipated)**
4. **Next Generation School and District Accountability Reports for 2016-2017**
5. **Announcements**
6. **Adjournment**

WINDSOR BOARD OF EDUCATION

AGENDA ITEM

For Consideration by the Board of Education at the Meeting of: April 3, 2018

PREPARED BY: Craig A. Cooke, Ph.D.

PRESENTED BY: Craig A. Cooke, Ph.D.

ATTACHMENTS:

SUBJECT: Set Graduation Date for Class of 2018 and Last Day of School for 2017-2018

BACKGROUND:

Each year the Board of Education must vote on the date for graduation. We are requesting the Board approve Wednesday, June 13th as the date for graduation. Graduation will be held at The Bushnell in Hartford. Connecticut State law allows the graduation date be set on or after April 1st.

Per the Board approved calendar, June 20th would be 182nd student day and 187th teacher day of Windsor's school year. The State of Connecticut requires each district to hold 180 student days.

It is proposed that the last day of school for kindergarten through grade 11 be scheduled for Tuesday, June 19, 2018 (181st student day) with an early release for students. On the afternoon of June 19th, teachers would have a staff meeting with their principal to conclude the year (on the normal last day of the year, teachers would be released after checking out their classroom).

Wednesday, June 20, 2018 would be a professional development day for staff, which would include three hours of professional learning. After the professional learning activity, teachers would be given 1.5 hours to work in their classroom, followed by early release after checking out their classrooms with the principal.

Basically the proposed schedule above eliminates 1 student day and converts it to PD/staff meeting/teacher work time. Both the administrators and teachers' union are in agreement with the proposal.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Board shares the above information with the public.

Move the Board of Education approve Wednesday, June 13, 2018 as the graduation date for the Class of 2018.

Move the Board of Education approve a change to their approved 2017-2018 calendar setting Tuesday, June 19, 2018 as the last day of school for students in grades kindergarten to grade 11 and the last day for teachers would be Wednesday, June 20, 2018.

Recommended by the Superintendent: 

Agenda Item # 3.

The Connecticut Next Generation ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM



CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

In Connecticut, we believe all students have the ability to learn, grow and rise to the challenge of high expectations. The Connecticut Next Generation Accountability System helps us deliver on our promise of a high quality education for all by creating a more comprehensive, holistic picture of how our students and schools are performing.

Q: What is the Connecticut Next Generation Accountability System?

A: Connecticut's Next Generation Accountability System is a broad set of 12 indicators that help tell the story of how well a school is preparing its students for success in college, careers and life. The system moves beyond test scores and graduation rates and instead provides a more holistic, multifactor perspective of district and school performance and incorporates student growth over time.

Q: What has changed since the previous accountability system?

A: There are two main differences with this accountability system, initially implemented in March 2016. First, in addition to measuring academic achievement, this system also focuses on student growth over time. Measuring growth provides a more accurate picture than just looking at a snapshot in time of student performance. The second big change is that this accountability system includes additional key indicators, such as chronic absenteeism, physical fitness and arts access. Research tells us that students who attend school on a daily basis and maintain a healthy lifestyle are more likely to graduate and succeed in college. Access to an engaging arts curriculum creates a more well-rounded educational experience.

Q: What are the 12 indicators?

- A:**
1. Academic achievement status measured by state assessments
 2. Academic growth
 3. Assessment participation rate
 4. Chronic absenteeism
 5. Preparation for postsecondary and career readiness – coursework
 6. Preparation for postsecondary and career readiness – exams
 7. Graduation – on track in ninth grade
 8. Graduation – four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate – all students
 9. Graduation – six-year adjusted cohort graduation rate – high needs
 10. Postsecondary entrance rate – all students (college enrollment)
 11. Physical fitness
 12. Arts access

Q: How do we use the accountability system?

A: The Next Generation Accountability System helps us measure school and district success toward the goal of providing every student a quality education that prepares him or her for success down the road. Each school receives a score calculated using a formula that incorporates the accountability system indicators. There is a tiered system of resources and supports for schools based on their

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The Connecticut Next Generation Accountability System



score. Schools with low student performance and a low accountability score could be designated turnaround schools, meaning they would have to create and implement a plan for accelerating school improvement.

Q: Will the accountability system help Connecticut close its achievement gap?

A: Yes. A key feature of the system is that it separates data for high-needs subgroups of students. That gives us a better idea of how students living in poverty, students who have disabilities and students learning English are performing in school and how we can better support them on the path to success.

Q: How does the accountability system strengthen transparency in school performance?

A: As part of the Next Generation Accountability System, schools receive a report that provides a picture of how the school measures up on all 12 of the indicators. The data are easily searchable and provide a more comprehensive, holistic picture of student and school performance.

Q: Who created the accountability system? Was it a collaborative process?

A: For two years, the Connecticut State Department of Education actively sought feedback regarding the accountability system from district and school leaders, Connecticut educators, state and national experts, CSDE staff, and many others. The “next generation” system is a direct result of this extensive consultation process.

Q: Where can I get more information?

A: To learn more about the Connecticut Next Generation Accountability System, visit the [Performance and Accountability](#) section of the State Department of Education’s website.