



CONNECTICUT FEDERATION OF
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS
AFSA - AFL-CIO



Roch J. Girard
President

Paul J. Rebot
Vice-President

Patricia K. Moore
Secretary

Elaine Papas
Treasurer

March 13, 2012

To: Senator FonFara, and Representative Rowe

And

Members of the Program Review and Investigations Committee

From: Roch J. Girard

President

RE: CFSA Support for Raised Bill No. 108: AAC The Creation Of An Educator Professional Standards Board Task Force:

Please be advised that CFSA is in full support of having Ct. establishing a task force to design a Professional Standards Board for Educators.

Ct. currently has two Professional Standards Board, one for teachers and one for administrators. Current statute requires that these two boards are only advisory by design.

I had the privilege of serving 11 years as the Chairman of the Administrative Advisory Board. We created the first Code of Conduct for Administrators which was revised nine years later. Two years ago, the current Administrative Advisory Board recently update the new "Professional Code of Ethic for Educators" something we were very proud to act on. Over the years we have worked on certification issues, looked at leadership standards, were involved in creating the Cat Test for administrators, etc. These were and are all important issues but the

problem was that our recommendations were advisory only. The state could take it or leave it, something we found frustrating to deal with.

The profession as a whole would be better served if Ct. had a real Standards Board.

Every major profession has Standards Boards, and we as educators in Ct. should have one as well.

Standards Boards would create a permanent structure through educator quality and standards would be continuously monitored and/or changed as needed. We would urge that the Board's composition continue to include active practicing educators which would reflect the real needs of the profession.

Recent polls show that the public in general support teachers and administrators in the work they do. As more and more parents become more involved in their child's education, they see the difficult task that educators in general have in getting the best education for their children. A professional Standards Board would insure the very best professional is working with their children on a daily basis.

Standard Boards has the potential to strengthen collaborative relationships among teachers, administrators and other stakeholders.

Your staff report dated December 20, 2011 was a very positive step towards understanding the complexities in establishing an Educator Standards Board, and it is doable.

The composition and make up of this task force is an excellent one. The appointing authorities are well represented, and would insure the broadest representation possible.

We strongly support this bill and ask that the Professional Standards Task Force be adopted.

Thank you.