RESOLUTION
concerning

DISPOSITION OF THE FREDERICK R. NOBLE SCHOOL

September 26, 1975

WHEREAS, Fiscal imperatives and programmatic changes require the Board of Trustees to cease operation of the Frederick R. Noble School; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees for State Colleges will discontinue operation of the Frederick R. Noble School in Windham not later than September 1, 1976, and that the President of Eastern Connecticut State College shall carry out this action in accordance with the Board's Personnel Policies; and be it

RESOLVED, That the President of Eastern Connecticut State College and the Executive Secretary of the Board are authorized to consult with the State Commissioner of Public Works concerning the disposition of the building housing the Noble School; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That, if the Windham Board of Education desires to continue the operation of a public school in the building now housing the Noble School, the Board of Trustees will approve and support action by the Commissioner of Public Works to sell, give, or lease the building to the Town of Windham subject to terms acceptable to the Commissioner; however, if the building is not turned over to the town for the purpose previously mentioned, the Board of Trustees for the State Colleges will retain possession of it for use by Eastern Connecticut State College.

A Certified True Copy:

James A. Frost
Executive Secretary
Louis Rabineau, Chancellor
Commission for Higher Education
340 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut 06115

Dear Lou:

This note is to inform you that the Trustees have decided to discontinue operating the Frederick R. Noble School in the Town of Windham. We are in conversation with Commissioner Weinerman concerning the disposition of the building. If the Windham Board of Education desires to continue the operation of a public school in the building, the Trustees are willing to see the building pass to the control of the Windham Board of Education. If the Windham Board of Education decides not to operate school in the building, the Trustees desire to retain control over it for use by Eastern Connecticut State College.

Cordially,

James A. Frost
Executive Secretary

JAF:iv

cc Mrs. Niejadlik
Mr. McGraven
Commissioner Weinerman
President Webb
I will let you know as soon as the Board has taken action. Meanwhile if there should be further developments within the Town of Windham relative to this matter I would appreciate hearing from you.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Charles R. Webb
President

CRW/jrs

cc: James A. Frost, Executive Secretary, Board of Trustees for State Colleges
Dean Meyer
Dean Heide
Dean Billingham
June 6, 1975

Dr. Charles Webb, President
Eastern Connecticut State College
Willimantic, Connecticut

Dear Dr. Webb:

Our Board of Education recently held a combined meeting with the First Selectman and the Board of Finance of the Town of Windham to make them aware of our recent talks concerning the transfer of the F.R. Noble School from Eastern Connecticut State College to the Town of Windham.

Two major areas of concern emerged from this meeting—

1. The actual cost of the land and building to the Town of Windham. (In some of our discussions a figure of one dollar ($1.) was mentioned.) Would it be possible to have a firm commitment as to the actual cost to the Town of Windham purchasing this property?

2. Do you know if it is possible for the State Department of Public Works to study the physical needs of the F.R. Noble School to ascertain what improvements would be required prior to occupancy by the Town of Windham?

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

RECEIVED
TJP:SR
JUN 13 1975

Thomas J. Pepe
Superintendent of Schools

Office of the President
May 23, 1973

Alta Cantor, Chairman
Windham Board of Education
Kramer Middle School
Prospect Street
Willimantic, CT 06226

Dear Mrs. Cantor:

Along the lines of Wednesday's conversation among you, Dr. Pepe, Dean Meyer, and me, this letter is to confirm our mutual interest in phasing out Eastern Connecticut State College's operation and control of the Campus Laboratory School (Noble School) and the Town of Windham's assuming that operation and control effective September 1, 1976.

If transfer of operation, property, and control is to be affected by September 1, 1976, it will be necessary to set up committees or task forces to work out details such as transfer of personnel, provisions for heating the building, cooperative arrangements for Eastern's teacher training activities, and other requirements of an orderly transition.

To help you in this process, I am enclosing a list of teaching personnel at the School. As I indicated to you on Wednesday, we have a very large number of teachers on one-year appointment whom I would be willing to continue for another year on the same basis in order to provide you flexibility in staffing. Excepting these one-year appointments I would expect, as I also mentioned, that as a condition of transfer the Town would provide job security for the Noble School teaching staff. I would not expect, however, that the Board would necessarily be able to absorb certain specialists presently attached to the Noble School staff. As we agreed, if the Town is unable to make use of the skills of these individuals, who possess the doctorate and are professionally qualified for our program, the College will undertake to assimilate them.
If such an arrangement meets with the approval of the Board of Education, please let me know as soon as possible so that I can present the matter to the State College Board of Trustees for disposition of the program and to the Department of Public Works for disposition of the building, lot, and playgrounds. Public Works will suggest terms for transfer of real property, either by purchase or lease for a nominal sum.

With best wishes.

Sincerely,

Charles R. Webb
President

cc: Dr. Thomas Pepe, Superintendent of Schools
    Delbert E. Meyer, Dean of Academic Affairs
    William E. Billingham, Dean of Professional Studies
    Brenda Maters, Principal, Noble School
    Eugene E. Heide, Dean of Administrative Affairs
    Dr. James A. Frost, Executive Secretary, Board of Trustees
    for State Colleges
TEACHING STAFF AT F. R. NOBLE SCHOOL

Academic Year 1974-75

Maria Anne Ceprano, Instructor
Ann Hayner, Instructor
Paulann Lescoe, Assistant Instructor
Ellen Marshall, Instructor
Lidia Ortiz, Instructor
Jolena Paluska, Instructor
Margaret Pennypacker, Instructor
Jacqueline Roe, Assistant Instructor
Susan Webb, Assistant Instructor
Sandra Wojick, Instructor
June 16, 1975

Dr. R. Buckminster Fuller
3508 Market Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104

Dear Dr. Fuller:

You may have wondered what has happened to the dreams and aspirations of a number of people at Eastern Connecticut State College to create that trestled amphitheatre which would grace the 17-acre arboretum we still hope to see here one day.

Through the generosity of Mr. Gene De Matteo, Shoji Sado prepared a series of preliminary drawings last fall. These renditions, superbly conceived and effectively presented, elicited a flurry of enthusiastic speculation which launched a fund-raising campaign. Inauguration of this campaign coincided, with uncanny precision, with the onset of the worst phase of the national recession. Not only did the fund-raising effort fall short of even our most modest expectations, the austere state budgetary situation which ensued soon made it clear that the College was involved in a struggle for its academic integrity and, ultimately, its very survival.

Necessarily, arboretum and amphitheatre, trestle and dome, have been relegated temporarily to the well-known backburner. The day will come, however, when this great concept will emerge again; perhaps in a somewhat altered form such as a living-learning center, a botanical laboratory, or a cultural park. Meanwhile, we will all have to work to meet other demands.
Dr. Fuller
Page Two
June 16, 1975

I am sorry to be sending such dolorous tidings, especially in view of your strong interest and Mr. Sadao's excellent work; but I know you'd prefer this to any ambiguity.

With very best wishes.

Sincerely,

Charles R. Webb
President

CRW/jrs

cc: Shoji Sadao
    Gene DeMatteo
    Dan Luskin
    Kathryn Nolan
    Thomas Salter

bcc: James A. Frost