

CONNECTICUT TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL SYSTEM BOARD

Minutes of Meeting October 18, 2016

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of State, the Connecticut Technical High School System Board (hereafter "Board") met on October 18, 2016 at A.I. Prince Technical High School, Hartford, CT.

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Trefry called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

Present: Mr. Robert Trefry, Chairperson
Mrs. Patricia Keavney-Maruca, Vice Chairperson
Mr. John Barrasso
Dr. Daisy Cocco De Filippis
Mr. Peter Hoecklin
Commissioner Scott D. Jackson
Ms. Gina Chiarella Schum

Absent: Mr. Chris DiPentima
Ms. Karen Eichstaedt
Commissioner Catherine Smith
Mr. Fitz Walker

II. Public Participation

There was no Public Participation.

III. Items for Discussion

A. CT Association of Boards of Education (CABE) Orientation

Mr. Trefry introduced Mr. Nick Caruso, Senior Staff Associate for Field Services, Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) to the Board Members. Mr. Caruso represents all of the Boards of Education throughout the State.

Superintendent Torres introduced new Board member, Ms. Gina Chiarella, to the Board members. Mr. Caruso asked each Board member to introduce themselves and share what they feel they bring to the CTHSS Board and what they hope to acquire out of today's session. After the introductions, Mr. Caruso presented an orientation refresher session focusing on the roles and responsibilities of board membership. Mr. Caruso's presentation included five questions every board needs to ask: 1. Set Clear Expectations; 2. Create Conditions for Success; 3. Hold the System Accountable; 4. Build Public Will and 5. Learn together as a Board Team.

Each Board member was provided a copy of CABE's 2015 New Orientation Guide. A copy of the orientation materials are included in the official file of this meeting.

Questions and discussion included: What is the difference between the operational needs versus a strategic plan--the district's perspective and principal's role i.e. the school's improvement plan (operational) that also support the strategic plan and foundational imperatives. Discussion also included how can the Board create conditions for success, funding and how it impacts the conditions for success, economic output, and value added proposition.

The Board members engaged in a conversation on how the board can be advocates for the system and impact public will. It was agreed moving forward that the Outreach and Finance Subcommittee will explore ways to explore a value added report for the CTHSS. Superintendent Torres will reach out to CBIA for their expertise and insight in creating a value added presentation for the district that highlights their contributions to the state's workforce/economy.

The Board members also engaged in a discussion about the proposed SDE operating budget request for 2017-18 and 2018-19. Mr. Trefry clarified CTHSS Board's role in this joint request and how only items of policy nature come to the board for discussion. Superintendent Torres discussed budget reductions currently underway.

Lastly, a suggestion was made and Board members agreed that as a benefit to new Board members, moving forward more background context information be provided to any future item presented to the board.

Mr. Trefry thanked Mr. Caruso for taking the time to speak to the Board.

IV. Adjourn

The CTHSS Board adjourned its meeting at 1:20.

Prepared by:

Diane Curtis

Diane M. Curtis, Administrative Assistant
Connecticut Technical High School System