

CONNECTICUT TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL SYSTEM BOARD

Draft Minutes of Meeting November 2, 2012

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of State, the Connecticut Technical High School System Board met on November 2, 2012, in Room 307 of the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

I. Welcome

Commissioner of Education Stefan Pryor welcomed the members of the Connecticut Technical High School System Board (hereafter "Board") and thanked them for their willingness to serve. He noted the importance of the Technical High School System (THSS) with respect to supporting the labor market in Connecticut, the United States and internationally.

II. Oath of Office

Attorney Karen Flanagan administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Trefry, Mr. Barrasso, Mr. Bundschu, Mrs. Keavney-Maruca, Mr. Nemerson, Dr. Ortiz, Commissioner Palmer, Commissioner Smith, Mr. Vrabely and Mr. Walker.

III. Call to Order

Chairperson Trefry called the meeting to order at 1:13 p.m.

Present: Mr. Robert Trefry, Chairperson
Mr. John Barrasso
Mr. Stephan Bundschu
Dr. Susan Davis (via telephone)*
Mrs. Patricia Keavney-Maruca
Mr. Matthew Nemerson
Dr. Lillian Ortiz
Commissioner Sharon Palmer
Commissioner Catherine Smith
Mr. Joseph J. Vrabely, Jr.
Mr. Fitz G. Walker, Jr.

*Dr. Davis will be administered the Oath of Office at the next meeting and will be eligible to vote thereafter.

IV. Adoption of Bylaws

Mr. Walker moved, Commissioner Smith seconded, that the Board approve the “Proposed Bylaws of the Connecticut Technical High School System Board.”

Dr. Ortiz moved, Mr. Barrasso seconded, to amend the Bylaws by adding to Article II, Section 8, thereby authorizing the Chairperson to form ad hoc committees at his discretion and appoint members thereto.

Vote to
amend:

In favor:	Barrasso, Bundschu, Keavney-Maruca, Nemerson, Ortiz, Palmer, Smith, Vrabely, Walker, Trefry
Opposed:	None
Abstained:	None
Absent:	None

Motion to amend carried unanimously.

Vote on
motion as
amended:

In favor:	Barrasso, Bundschu, Keavney-Maruca, Nemerson, Ortiz, Palmer, Smith, Vrabely, Walker, Trefry
Opposed:	None
Abstained:	None
Absent:	None

Motion as amended carried unanimously.

V. Introduction of Board Members

Chairperson Trefry asked the Board members to introduce themselves. Each member provided background information and spoke about why he or she is committed to serving on the Board.

[Following the introductions, Dr. Davis concluded her phone call participation at 2:10 p.m.]

VI. Overview of Policies, Procedures and Practices

Commissioner Pryor and Superintendent Ciccone discussed procedures and practices regarding the work of the Board and communications between the school system and the Board.

On a motion by Commissioner Palmer, seconded by Mr. Vrabely, the Board voted unanimously to convene two-hour meetings each month, scheduled through December 2013, to be held at the technical high schools on a rotating basis, allowing for two students from each school to address the Board and for Board members to tour the school buildings.

Commissioner Pryor agreed to send potential meeting dates to the Board for review.

VII. Overview of the Connecticut Technical High School System

Superintendent Ciccone gave a PowerPoint presentation to the Board. A copy of the presentation is included in the official file of this meeting. Due to time constraints, Mr. Trefry asked if the Board could return to this item at a later time, and consider agenda item IX., Board Orientation, at this time.

IX. Board Orientation

Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) staff members Lisa Steimer, Senior Staff Associate for Professional Development, and Nicholas Caruso, Senior Staff Associate for Field Services, explained the services provided by CABE, and offered their assistance at the Board's upcoming retreat.

VIII. Vision for the Connecticut Technical High School System

Commissioner Pryor spoke about the diverse population being served by the THSS, and how best to ensure that the THSS students are college and career-ready. He noted that the Board will need to determine which trade technologies should be offered to support our state's current and emerging needs.

Mr. Trefry asked Board members to review the Bylaws and to share with him any proposed edits to the Bylaws or any other issues they would like to discuss at the retreat.

On a motion by Mrs. Keavney-Maruca, seconded by Commissioner Smith, the Board adjourned its meeting at 2:35 p.m.

Prepared by: _____
Pamela V. Charland
Assistant to the Commissioner