

CONNECTICUT TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL SYSTEM BOARD

Minutes of Meeting August 2, 2016

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of State, the Connecticut Technical High School System Board (hereafter "Board") met on August 2, 2016 at 25 Industrial Park Road, Middletown, CT.

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Trefry called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

Present: Mr. Robert Trefry, Chairperson
Mrs. Patricia Keavney-Maruca, Vice Chairperson
Mr. John Barrasso
Ms. Karen Eichstaedt
Mr. Peter Hoecklin
Dr. Daisy Cocco De Filippis
Commissioner Scott D. Jackson
Commissioner Catherine Smith
Mr. Fitz Walker

Absent: Mr. Chris DiPentima

II. Item for Action

A. School for Aviation Tuition Increase

At the July 8, 2016 CTHSS Board meeting, the Board members discussed a potential tuition increase for new students entering the Aviation program at both the CT Aero Tech and Stratford School for Aviation subject to final approval of the Board in order to create a more self-sufficient operation of these programs. There was overall consensus there should be a tuition increase.

Superintendent Torres introduced Mr. Chasse to the Board members who walked the Board members through each of the proposed tuition rate increase options included in the Board member's packets.

The current aviation program tuition rate is \$6,576 divided into three payments of \$2,192 each and paid at the start of each new cycle. The tuition is deposited into the Extension Fund and proceeds used to partially support the program's educational supply and equipment needs.

Option #1 – Operating Cost Financial Self-Sufficiency – Proposed Tuition Rate: \$26,520

Under this option, the annual per pupil operating costs – including instructional and building maintenance costs - would simply be doubled to \$26,520. The program would continue to be supported by capital funding for trade equipment and large scale building repairs but all other costs would be funded by the Extension Fund.

Option #2 – Partial Operating Cost Support – Proposed Tuition Rate: \$19,728

Under this option, the current tuition rate of \$6,576 would be tripled to \$19,728 and enable the district to reduce its dependency on state general operating funds by approximately \$329,000 per year beginning in fiscal year 2018. The program would continue to receive capital funding for trade equipment and large scale facility repairs.

Option #3 – Partial Operating Cost Support – Proposed Tuition Rate: \$13,152

Under this option, the current tuition rate of \$6,576 would be doubled to \$13,152 and enable the district to reduce its dependency on state general operating funds by approximately \$164,500 per year beginning in fiscal year 2018. The program would continue to receive operating funds for instructional supplies and capital funding for trade equipment and large scale facility repairs.

The CTHSS is working with the Connecticut Department of Labor who is in the midst of applying for a federal grant to provide resources to train apprentice aviation maintenance technicians.

The Board members engaged in a discussion on the tuition increase options and raised the following questions: will the CTHSS receive new enrollment for the fall, will folks be attracted to the program, and who will be impacted by the raise. Superintendent Torres appreciated all of the concerns brought by the Board members and clarified that after a decision is made, she will continue conversations with other agency colleagues before the proposal is finalized and circle back to the Board.

A motion was called at this time.

Mr. Barrasso moved, Ms. Keavney seconded, that the CTHSS Board approves Option 1 which increases the Aviation Maintenance Technician program’s operating tuition rate to \$26,520, effective for the new cohort scheduled to begin in March 2017.

Vote:	In Favor:	Barrasso, De Filippis, Eichstaedt, Hoecklin, Jackson, Keavney-Maruca, Smith, Trefry, Walker
	Opposed:	0
	Abstained:	0
	Absent:	DiPentima

and directs the Superintendent of Schools to take the necessary action.

Motion carried unanimously.

A copy of the Program Cost and Tuition Rate report dated August 2, 2016 is included in the official file of this meeting.

VIII. Adjourn

The CTHSS Board adjourned its meeting at 5:30 PM.

Prepared by:

Diane Curtis

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Connecticut Technical High School System