

**CONNECTICUT TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND CAREER SYSTEM BOARD**  
**Full Board Minutes of Meeting – June 18, 2019**

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of State, the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System Board (hereafter “Board”) met on June 18, 2019 at Naugatuck Valley Community College 750 Chase Parkway, Waterbury, CT (Founders Hall, Room F101).

**I. Call to Order**

Mr. Trefry called the meeting to order at 1:30pm and thanked President De Filippis for hosting today’s meeting at NVCC.

Present: Robert Trefry, Board Member  
Patricia Keavney-Maruca, Board Member  
Daisy Cocco De Filippis, Board Member  
Karen Eichstaedt, Board Member  
Lindy Lee Gold, Board Member  
Commissioner Westby, Board Member  
Fitz Walker, Board Member  
Jeffrey Wihbey, Superintendent of Schools

Absent: Commissioner Westby, Board Member  
Peter Hoecklin, Board Member  
Fitz Walker, Board Member

**II. Public Participation**

There was no public participation.

**III. Welcome**

**IV. Consent Agenda**

**A. Consideration of Minutes of the May 15, 2019 CTECS Board Meeting**

**RESOLVED**, That the CTECS Board approve the minutes of the May 15, 2019 CTECS Board meeting.

Vote:	In Favor:	Keavney, De Filippis, Eichstaedt, Trefry, Gold, Walker, Westby
	Opposed:	0
	Abstained:	0
	Absent:	Hoecklin

Motion carried unanimously.

**V. Items Requiring Action**

## **A. CTECS Board Meeting Schedule**

### **- July 16 and August 20 Meeting**

Discussion/Questions: Board Member, Robert Trefry, lead the discussion on whether the Board will need to convene for the scheduled July 16th and August 20th meeting dates. Board members, along with Superintendent Jeffrey Wihbey agreed not to convene; however, members would still receive an informational packet and expenditure report for review via email.

Board Member, Robert Trefry asked members to share their thoughts on the idea of not having a CTECS Board retreat this year. Members agreed to hold a CTECS Board retreat in August of 2020 to evaluate the first year of the CTECS SOP. The Board and Superintendent Wihbey agreed to revisit discussions at a future meeting closer to the date.

### **- Next Year's Schedule**

Board member, Robert Trefry asked Board Members to review and approve the Board schedule for 2019-2020.

The Committee voted unanimously to approve the 2019-2020 CTECS Board Schedule for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the Month.

Vote:	In Favor:	Keavney, De Filippis, Eichstaedt, Trefry, Gold, Walker, Westby
	Opposed:	0
	Abstained:	0
	Absent:	Hoecklin,

Motion carried unanimously.

## **VI. Report of the Chair**

### **A. Recommendations to condense BOE meetings**

Discussion/Questions: Board member, Robert Trefry asked members to consider different timeframes for next year's meetings. The current Board meeting timeframes take up a good portion of the middle of the day making it difficult for members to participate. Mr. Trefry requests members to consider convening earlier in the morning so meetings can adjourn in the early afternoon. Board members agreed to continue the discussion and come up with the best schedule to accommodate professional needs of all participants.

Mr. Trefry also shared his optimism on being able to host meeting via video chat to get more members involved in the meetings

Board Member, Coco De Filippis shared her thoughts on the importance of interacting with students and teachers during the Board meetings. Although, her schedule keeps her limited at times, she looks forward to the opportunity to be apart CTECS happenings, even graduation ceremonies.

## **B. Nominations and Vacancies on the Board**

Board member, Robert Trefry is working to recruit great candidates to join the CTECS Board. Talks with Mr. Paul Mounds, COO of Govern Lamont's office seem to be leading to a potential recruitment. More details will follow regarding additional potential members.

Discussion/ Questions: Mr. Trefry suggested the Board acknowledge Maura Dunn for her service on the CTECS Board.

## **VII. Report of the Superintendent**

### **A. Chronic Absenteeism**

Superintendent, Jeffrey Wihbey reviewed the chronic absenteeism data. He explained when a district is at 12% or above it is required to develop a district remediation plan. If a school is above 10%, you are required to develop a school remediation plan. The state of CT monitors, and as this data is one of 15 measures in the school accountability metrics. As of June, CTECS is 3% lower than the years before, and below the state average. Teachers, counselors, principals went beyond to accomplish these great goals. Schools to highlight: Bullard-Havens THS, Cheney THS, Emmett O'Brien THS, Eli Whitney THS, and Oliver Wolcott. Mr. Wihbey is excited to continue to use the pyramids of intervention to continue to see great results.

### **B. Admin and Enrollment**

Superintendent, Jeffrey Wihbey presented the Admin and Enrollment data to the Board and guest. Approximately, 6200 individuals applied to one or more CTECS schools based on PowerSchool data.

As of October 1, 2018 CTECS 9<sup>th</sup> grade enrolment for CTECS THS's was 2981.

Total Enrollment by school grade on Oct. 1, 2018 for CTECS THS was as followed:

- 2981 – 9<sup>th</sup> grade, 2839 – 10<sup>th</sup> grade, 2488 – 11<sup>th</sup> grade, and 2339 – 12<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Giving CTECS an overall enrollment total for all grades and schools 10647.

### **C. CTECS Works video series launch**

Communications Director, Kerry Markey, presented the very first episode of the CTECS Works video series. The series will highlight the CTECS Student Workforce and their tangible

work performed throughout the State of Connecticut. In the episode presented to the Board and guest, CTECS featured Platt Technical High School HVAC students working on a residential home. Video production credit went to J.M. Wright Technical High School's digital media shop.

## **VIII. Committee Reports**

### **A. Quality and Policy**

The Committee met on June 19, 2018, just prior to today's meeting and received an update from Mr. Richard Cavallaro, Mr. Brent McCartney, and Pat Ciarleglio on the Student Delivery Model- Career Academy program at J.M. Wright THS. They also received a vacancy update from Mr. Joseph Uccello, and a Final Work Based Learning Update from Mr. Wihbey.

Board member, Commissioner Westby shared his enthusiasm with the WBL numbers and encouraged staff at CTECS to continue the important, outstanding work.

### **B. Outreach and Finance**

The Committee met on June 19, 2018 just prior to today's meeting and had a deep and astonishing discussion on the CTECS organizational chart, Fiscal reorganization, and CTECS vacancy needs.

Board Members shared concerns with the serious implications of the massive gap in Fiscal staffing for CTECS and other Central office positions. Suggestions for an internal auditor for CTECS's anticipated separation from CSDE, as well as a formal letter from the Board addressing the CSDE Chief Officer to address as possible remedies.

Board Members feel limited in their efforts to support the district with no staff to provide accurate reports.

President De Filippis thanked Board members for coming today and invited them to take a tour of their facility.

## **IX. Adjourn**

The Committee voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

### Vote:

In Favor:	Keavney, De Filippis, Eichstaedt, Trefry, Gold, Walker, Westby
Opposed:	0
Abstained:	0
Absent:	Hoecklin

Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15pm.

Prepared by: Ronke Stallings, CTECS