

CONNECTICUT TECHNICAL EDUCATION & CAREER SYSTEM BOARD

MINUTES OF MEETING – January 15, 2019

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of State, the Connecticut Technical Education & Career System Board (hereafter “Board”) met January 15, 2019 at Eli Whitney, 100 Fairview Avenue, Hamden, CT 06514

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Trefry called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Present: Mr. Robert Trefry, Chairperson
Mrs. Patricia Keavney-Maruca, Vice Chairperson
Dr. Daisy Cocco De Filippis – on the phone
Ms. Karen Eichstaedt
Ms. Maura Dunn – on the phone
Commissioner Catherine Smith – on the phone
Commissioner Kurt Westby - on the phone

Absent: Mr. Peter Hoecklin
Mr. Fitz Walker
Andrea Comer

II. Public Participation

There was no public participation.

III. Welcome

Superintendent Wihbey welcomed Dr. Moran and Dr. Bazzano and opened the floor to them and their two senior class students. Dr. Moran deferred to Dr. Bazzano, who oversees 11th and 12th grade.

Dr. Bazzano introduced the senior students: Cassandra Falcon (Health Technology) and Daris Gaither (Culinary Arts) who conducted their individual presentations. Brief question and answer session occurred on why they chose Eli Whitney, what stood out to them about Eli Whitney. Board members commended their success.

IV. Consent Agenda

The Board did not have items to put on the consent agenda.

V. Executive Session

The Board did not go into executive session.

VI. Items Requiring Action

Revision of CTECS Proposed Operating & Capital Budget Request for FY 2020 and FY 2021

Due to not reaching quorum at the moment Chairman Trefry moved to Superintendent's Report. Chairman will return to items requiring action once quorum is met later.

CONNECTICUT TECHNICAL EDUCATION & CAREER SYSTEM BOARD

MINUTES OF MEETING – January 15, 2019

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of State, the Connecticut Technical Education & Career System Board (hereafter “Board”) met January 15, 2019 at Eli Whitney, 100 Fairview Avenue, Hamden, CT 06514

VII. Items for Discussion

Report of the Superintendent of Schools

A. Strategic Operating Plan Update

Superintendent Wihbey gave an updated on the Strategic Operating Plan (SOP). He stated that in December he met with steering committing which consists of Chairman Trefry, Chairwoman Keavney-Maruca, Mr. Cavallaro, Ed Leavy, Dr. Menounos, himself, Barbara St. Ogne. Pat Ciarleglio was added to represent central office.

He went on to say that steering committee were broken into subcommittees to finalize goals and talk about strategies for each goal, which would ranged from 5 to 7 strategic outlines, each with metrics attached to them. The SOP subcommittees are as follows:

- **Goal 1** (focuses on outreach to industry) Subcommittee Chair: Pat Ciarleglio
- **Goal 2** (focuses on partnership with k-12th grade districts and high education institution) Subcommittee Chair: Dr. Menounos, working in conjunction with Principals David Telesca and Laurie LeBouthillier.

This subcommittee will be reaching out to Present Dr. De Filippis for her guidance and constant.

- **Goal 3** Subcommittee Chairs: Mr. Cavallaro and James Mindek
- **Goal 4** (focuses on human capital) Subcommittee Chairs: Mr. Sartoris and Joe Uccello

In addition, he stated that the steering team also met on January 8th to sketch strategies and will continue to meet in various schools to continue the work. Superintendent Wihbey intents to do a full report to the board in February's meeting on the Strategic operating plan goals' strategies and timelines.

B. Introduction of Ms. Kristina Jordan, Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Personnel and Student Services, Attorney Susan Scott, Legal Director, and Leslie Navarrete, Executive Assistant

Superintendent Wihbey introduced Mrs. Kristina Jordan as Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Personnel and Student Services. He indicated that Ms. Jordan will be joining the SOP steering committee, that she is coming from New London Public Schools, and she is starting on Friday. He then introduced Attorney Susan Scott as the Director of Legal Affairs. He mentioned she served as a public defender at one point, attained her JD from Boston College, and she is starting on Friday. Lastly, he introduced Leslie Navarrete as the Executive Assistant for the Board of Education and for the Superintendent of Schools. Superintendent Wihbey went on to say that she is coming from the House of Democrats, has family members who graduated the technical education, and expertise in the CTECS separation as she helped with the passage of the bill. Board members welcomed the new personnel.

Superintendent Wihbey moved to item C "Service Delivery Model" on the Superintendent's Report.

CONNECTICUT TECHNICAL EDUCATION & CAREER SYSTEM BOARD

MINUTES OF MEETING – January 15, 2019

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of State, the Connecticut Technical Education & Career System Board (hereafter “Board”) met January 15, 2019 at Eli Whitney, 100 Fairview Avenue, Hamden, CT 06514

C. Potential Service Delivery Model Menu

Superintendent Wihbet described that the four tiers of the service delivery model were a working process. He added that the System has about 11, 000 students that need to be properly equipped so they can attain high paying jobs. The goal of the model is to increase the student population of the System to approximately 13,000, but not in the same ways. He explained the four tiers of the model and their origin as follows:

1 Tier: Traditional Model

The model will stay as is. This model is currently on a “9 on 9 off schedule”: 9 days of trade and 9 days of academics.

However, over the years it has become evident through different venues and also heard during his entry plan school visits that this model doesn’t work for all the students as some students need more assistance in their academic areas. In addition, many students last year were taken out of their trade time to strengthen their academic areas. However, this action caused concern because it hurts students' technical career education. He stated while the System is a technical career driven institution, the System still needs to meet state graduation requirements to give out a high school diploma with fidelity. Therefore, a possible 9th-12th grade supported plan can be created.

2 Tier: 9th-12th Grade Supported Plan

Superintendent Wihbey expressed that he envisions an inclusive supported plan model. He went on to say that looking back at the steering committee's discussion, not many students are being excluded. The system went from 400 to a little over 100 this year and the year before. However, he wants to make sure students are provided the best education possible. Therefore, This model could also look like mandatory remediation. For instance, a student comes in the whole month of August and takes mathematics or literacy. So after, the student is ready to go on a 9 by 9 schedule. Superintendent Wihbey stated that this program would not impact recently accepted students’ trade selection process, but would allow the System to reoffer to the student who did not make it in the first round an opportunity to received a solid technical education. In addition, he added the system can require 1/2 credit of math or literacy upon entering the 2nd semester of 9th grade in the system. This action would show the student that the CTECS is interested in having them as a student, but also marries technical education and academic education.

Moreover, Superintendent Wihbey felt this model should require some type of LEA partnership, similar to the magnet school model. He explained that special needs services are cost shared among magnet schools and LEAs, and would like to see the same shared cost partnership among LEAS and technical high schools. Additionally he suggested that such proposal can possibly be part of the system's legislative agenda the upcoming year to support a program such as this one.

3rd Tier: 11th-12h Grade Afternoon CTE Program

Superintendent Wihbey stated that this program would focus on providing trades that can regionally target career paths to support employability and economic development needs within a specific region. For example, he stated that without looking at the Labor Department's data, the system knows the New London area will need more welders and ship fitters than Grasso and other nearby technical high schools can produce in a given school year. In addition, he mentioned that while talking to a couple of superintendents in the Fairfield county, they have identified trade areas of interest that they would like the CTECS to offer to

CONNECTICUT TECHNICAL EDUCATION & CAREER SYSTEM BOARD

MINUTES OF MEETING – January 15, 2019

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of State, the Connecticut Technical Education & Career System Board (hereafter “Board”) met January 15, 2019 at Eli Whitney, 100 Fairview Avenue, Hamden, CT 06514

their upper classmen. He further stated that such program would be implemented based on regional needs and this is an opportunity for CTECS to partner with LEAs on credentialing more students. Superintendent Wihbey stressed that the CTECS has the experts in technical education with no comparison because of unique student opportunities and hands on experience with advance trade tools and equipment.

He went on to ask the board to possibly consider the opportunity in making use of an additional six million dollars of Perkins funding that was allocated to Connecticut to support in career and technical education. He mentioned Congressman Courtney is hoping to see the system get a large part of this funding. Superintendent Wihbey added that the 3rd tier would be the perfect program to help CTECS access such funds and the funds could help support the program in transportation, equipment, and staffing needs. He underlined that this program would not replace the 9th-12th program, but would be alongside it. Superintendent Wihbey noted that surrounding school district superintendents, like Norwalk, Greenwich, and Westport have expressed interest in partnering with CTECS for afternoon programs. In addition, this program will not be an over burden on current trade instructors as he is looking to hire additional trade instructors in a region's identified trade. Superintendent Wihbey further mentioned that the Perkins funding is looking for more opportunities to be created in the career and technical education.

4th Tier : Adult Program

Superintendent Wihbey stated the System will be working 2018-2019 winter to develop program's new nonces that will be in conjunction with the Strategic Operating Plan. He added that Pat Ciarleglio, John Murphy, Brent McCartney, and Dr. Phyllis Bartoli were asked to realize a operational group to examine possibilities of carrying out ideas for this tier. Possible ideas are intended to be piloted in 2019-2020 school year in schools like Vine and Wright Tech, where enrollment is low. Additionally, the trade program will be based on regional needs. He reiterated that this program as well as the others would not be replacing the traditional 9th-12th program, but would be carried out alongside of it.

He closed with stating that the Service Delivery Model group anticipates to present at the next board meeting for the board's input and consideration to move forward.

Chairman Trefry opened the floor for comments and questions from the board.

Commissioner Westby commended Superintendent Wihbey's efforts and extended his assistance. Dr. De Filippis stated that she liked how the service delivery model draft was going and applauded the Superintendent for his work. Ms. Dunn echoed her fellow board members' sentiments.

Superintendent Wihbey ensured members that he will continue to include SVAFT in the process.

VIII. Report of the Chair

Chairman Trefry moved to item IX “Committee Reports.

IX. Committee Reports

A. Quality and Policy

The Quality and Policy Subcommittee met on met January 15, 2019 just prior to today's CTECS Board meeting. The committee had a discussion on latest physical education data collection and pilot

CONNECTICUT TECHNICAL EDUCATION & CAREER SYSTEM BOARD

MINUTES OF MEETING – January 15, 2019

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of State, the Connecticut Technical Education & Career System Board (hereafter “Board”) met January 15, 2019 at Eli Whitney, 100 Fairview Avenue, Hamden, CT 06514

incentives and admissions update. The discussion on chronic absenteeism and SAT was tabled for latter subcommittee meeting.

B. Outreach and Finance

The Outreach and Finance Subcommittee met on met January 15, 2019 just prior to today’s CTECS Board meeting. The committee received an update on the Expenditures & Revenue Reports, on the revised FY 2020-2021 Operating & Capital Budget proposal, and on vacancy update.

The board reached quorum. Chairman Trefry asked for a motion to voice vote on the revised FY 2020-2021 Operating & Capital Budget proposal. Motion was made by Vice Chairwoman Keavney-Maruca and second Ms. Dunn. The revised FY 2020-2021 Operating & Capital Budget proposal passed. unianimously.

X. Public Participation

There was no public participation.

XI. Adjourn

The CTECS Board adjourned its meeting at 3:00 PM.

Prepared by: Leslie Navarrete
Executive Assistant, Connecticut Technical Education & Career System