

CONNECTICUT TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND CAREER SYSTEM BOARD

Minutes of the March 20, 2018 Meeting of the of the Sub Committee on Outreach and Finance

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of State, the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System Board Committee on Outreach and Finance met on March 20, 2018 at CT Aero Tech, Brainard Airport, 500 Lindbergh Dr., Hartford, CT

I. Call to Order

Commissioner Jackson called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM.

Present: Commissioner Scott Jackson, Chairperson of the Outreach and Finance Committee
Robert Trefry, Chairperson of the CTECS Board
Patricia Keavney, Vice-Chairperson of the CTECS Board
James Chasse, CTECS Education Consultant
Jeffrey Wihbey, Superintendent of the CTECS
Commissioner Catherine Smith, Committee Member
Jackie Schipke, Acting Director of Food Service
Commissioner Catherine Smith, Committee Member
Fitz Walker, Committee Member

Absent: Andrea Comer, Committee Member
Gina Chiarella, Committee Member

II. Public Participation

There was no public participation.

III. Consideration of Minutes of the February 27, 2018 Meeting

Commissioner Jackson moved, Ms. Keavney seconded that the minutes of the February 27, 2018 meeting be approved.

Vote: In Favor:	Keavney-Maruca, Trefry, Jackson, Smith Walker
Opposed:	0
Abstained:	0
Absent:	Chiarella, Comer

Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Strategic Planning for the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System

A. Apprenticeship Program Narrative

Superintendent Wihbey introduced Mr. Pasquale Ciarleglio to the Committee members. Mr. Ciarleglio provided information regarding the Apprenticeship Program in the State of CT. The presentation included: The history of the apprentice program, an overview of the CT apprentice management system and the role the CTECS plays in regards to it., goals—alignment to the CTECS Strategic Plan, instruction programs, Statistics/Trends, Strengths, Weaknesses--(funding, facilities needing upgrading), Opportunities, Threats, Five Forces Analysis, and Vision.

Questions/Discussion Included:

CTECS will look into the ability to accept credit card payments;

Transportation to worksites via title 1 grants;

Does CTECS have Information Technology apprentices? Response: yes.

Why are there only six schools that provide part-time evening programs--why not more? Mr. Chasse responded that for years the tuition was restricted by legislation to only charge--\$100. It took CTECS 15 years to remove obstacles in order to raise tuition to \$325. The program is breaking even and could look to expand programs in other schools;

Currently, CTECS has an open door policy and there are no waiting lists in the apprentice program. It was noted that CT has more apprentices per capita than any other state.

Can apprentices be tracked? Yes, licensed trades can be tracked through the data unit.

Commissioner Jackson's wrap up thoughts:

There are currently three things required for an apprenticeship: An employer, an employee and an industry recognized credential at the end of the academic process.

There is a perception that apprenticeship programs apply only to union jobs and the Department of Labor (DOL) makes it very clear, they are agnostic about this perception. There are opportunities for expanded apprenticeship in new areas (i.e. manufacturing and information technology).

The Committee members thanked Mr. Ciarleglio for his presentation.

A copy of the Apprentice Program Narrative is included in the official file of this meeting.

B. Expenditure & Revenue Report

Mr. Chasse reported the CTECS could end the year with a surplus of \$1.1M and is currently projecting a deficit in the district's operating budget for fiscal years 2018-19 ranging from \$3.2M to \$10M (depending of the staffing refill levels and employee turnover).

However, the district is considering submitting a request to the Finance Advisory Committee (FAC) requesting the transfer of approximately \$950,000 from the payroll account to the services and supplies account in order to procure Chromebooks for the incoming freshman class for 2018-19 schoolyear due to reduced bonding by the State of CT.

Questions/Discussion included: what are the drivers of the \$5.2 in new costs:

- \$3.2M for lump sum and/or top step bonuses to qualified employees;
- \$1.0M from the elimination of the three furlough days;
- \$0.7M for advanced degree stipends to qualified teachers/department heads;
- \$0.3M for the July 2018 longevity payments (delayed from April 2018)

They are driven by financial impact of the 2017 State Employee Bargaining Agent Coalition (SEBAC) agreement.

Note: the potential exists for the SVFT to take their third furlough day at the end of the 2017-18 school year. If approved, this would result in a reduction to the FY 2018 projected surplus and a reduction in the projected deficit 2019. Mr. Wihbey will follow-up with Ms. Karen Zuboff, HR Administrator regarding the appropriate dates for taking two furlough days.

Mr. Wihbey spoke about the misalignment between the hiring season, employee retirement notification and even the budget timelines.

A copy of the Expenditure and Revenue Report included in the official file of this meeting.

C. CTECS Healthy Food Certification Statement

Superintendent Wihbey introduced Ms. Jackie Schipke to the Committee members. It is recommended that the Outreach and Finance Subcommittee recommend approval to the CTECS Board that CTECS **will participate** in the Healthy Food Certification for school year 2018-2019.

Under the Section 10-215b of the Connecticut General Statute (C.G.S.), which passed in 2006, school districts have the option to implement Healthy Food Certification (HFC). Those that participate in HFC receive an additional \$.10 per lunch served. The amount of funding is based on the total number of reimbursable lunches claimed by the district in the prior school year. Annually, each board of education for each Connecticut public school district that participates in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) must vote “yes” or “no” on whether to implement this healthy food option. In order to receive the additional funds, the local board of education must certify that all food items sold to students, separate from a reimbursable breakfast or lunch, will meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CNS). These food items include food offered for sale to students at all times in all schools and from all sources, including, but not limited to school cafeterias, vending machines, school stores, culinary arts programs, fundraising activities on school premises, and any other sources of food sales to students. CTECS has never opted to participate in HFC missing out on the additional state funding available.

The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 made significant improvements to school meals by updating the meal patterns and nutrition standards for the NSLP and School Breakfast Program (SBP) to align them with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. The Act also introduced Smart Snacks nutrition standards, which applies to all competitive foods sold on school campus during the school day in public schools participating in the NSLP and SBP. There are minor differences between the USDA Smart Snack requirements and those of the CNS, however the USDA does not provide any additional funding for compliance with the standards. Without any additional funding, as a participant in the NSLP, the CTECS must comply with all USDA Smart Snack standards.

Ms. Schipke provided administrative implications, and a financial analysis implementing the healthy food certification:

Projected increase in revenue from state’s \$.10 per lunch funding:	\$ 70,000+
Projected cost for effective administrative communication and oversight:	(\$1,000)
Potential impact on food service operating results:	<u>(\$69,000)</u>

After discussion, two motions were called at this time.

Motion #1

Commissioner Jackson moved, Commissioner Smith seconded that the Outreach and Finance Subcommittee provide a favorable recommendation to this item for consideration by the full CTECS Board and add this Item IV.C. to the CTECS Board agenda for approval.

Vote: In Favor: Keavney-Maruca, Trefry, Jackson, Smith, Walker
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: Chiarella, Comer

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion #2

Commissioner Smith moved, Commissioner Jackson seconded that the Outreach and Finance Committee **recommend** to the CTECS Board pursuant to Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes, approval that the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS) **will participate** in the Healthy Food Certification for school year 2018-2019, and directs the Superintendent of Schools to take the necessary action.

The Board **will allow** the sale to students of food and beverages items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards (food) or Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes (beverages) provided that the following conditions are met:

- 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend;
- 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and
- 3) the food items are not sold from a vending machine or school store.

An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting or extracurricular activity. The “school day” is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held, and must be the same place as the food sales.

Vote: In Favor: Keavney-Maruca, Trefry, Jackson, Smith, Walker
Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: Chiarella, Comer

Motion carried unanimously.

A copy of the Healthy Food Certification Executive summary is included in the official file of this meeting.

V. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20

Prepared by: *Alane Curtis*

Administrative Assistant
Connecticut Technical Education and Career System