

# CONNECTICUT TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND CAREER SYSTEM BOARD

## Minutes of Meeting of December 12, 2017 Subcommittee on Quality and Policy

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of State, the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System Board Subcommittee on Quality and Policy met on December 12, 2017 at Vinal Technical High School – 60 Daniels Street, Middletown, CT

### I. Call to Order

Ms. Keavney called the meeting to order at 10:00AM.

Present: Patricia Keavney-Maruca, Chairperson of the Subcommittee on Quality and Policy  
Robert J. Trefry, Chairperson of the CTECS Board  
Daisy Cocco De Filippis, Member of the Subcommittee on Quality and Policy  
Karen Eichstaedt, Member of the Subcommittee on Quality and Policy  
Jeffrey Wihbey, Interim Superintendent of Schools  
James Chasse, CTECS Education Consultant  
James Mindek, Bureau Chief  
Bea Tinty, CTECS Education Consultant  
Dr. Donna Wallace, CTECS Education Consultant  
Mr. Ted Oczkowski, Emmett O'Brien Assistant Principal

Absent: Peter Hoecklin, Member of the Subcommittee on Quality and Policy

### II. Public Participation

There was no public participation

### III. Consideration of Minutes of the November 14, 2017 Meeting

The Committee voted unanimously that the minutes of the November 14, 2017 meeting be approved.

Vote: In Favor: De Filippis Eichstaedt, Keavney-Maruca, Trefry  
Opposed: 0  
Abstained: 0  
Absent: Hoecklin,

Motion carried unanimously.

### IV. Strategic Planning for the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS)

#### A. Physical Education Update

Background: At the September 17, 2017 Subcommittee meeting, Physical Education results were discussed and a difference in the pass rate of females compared to males have been identified as an area for improvement. Due to the achievement gaps in P.E. between males and females, Interim Superintendent Wihbey charged a task force to conduct research leading to recommendations for improvement.

Interim Superintendent Wihbey introduced Dr. Donna Wallace, Mr. Ted Oczkowski to the Committee members who presented preliminary findings and outlined the taskforce's action plan. Dr. Paul Bazzano also serving on the committee was unable to attend today's meeting. The research and evaluation will be conducted in early 2018; with a final report by May, 2018. The research proposal has been developed to continue the work in uncovering the factors contributing to the achievement gap of CTECS students on the Connecticut Physical Fitness Assessment (CPFA).

Mr. Wihbey plans to update the Board in the spring with their findings and present a more cohesive report including the taskforce recommendations in improving the achievement gap between males and females in physical fitness. They will also be presenting their preliminary findings and action plan to the principals on December 14, 2017.

Dr. Wallace, Mr. Oczkowski and Dr. Bazzano responded to questions the board members raised. Questions included the state's minimum hour requirements, exploring the idea of the flexibility in allowing credit for extracurricular sports to assist in achieving hour requirements, efficiency of instruction, equity amongst the district, and health required courses to name a few.

The Committee members applauded Dr. Wallace, Mr. Oczkowski and Dr. Bazzano for their efforts and is looking forward to their findings in the spring. Dr. Wallace and Mr. Oczkowski thanked the Committee members for the opportunity to speak on this important topic.

A copy of the handout entitled "Connecticut Technical High School Physical Education Task Force – Fall 2017" (Action Research and Timeline) was provided in the committee member's board packets and is included in the official file of this meeting.

## **B. Ideal Teacher/Administrator Profile**

Interim Superintendent Mr. Wihbey updated the Committee members on the progress of the Ideal Teacher and Ideal Administrator Profile. Steering committees have been formed and on December 1, 2017 there were two successful meetings held in continued efforts to move towards hiring, developing and retaining the best teachers and administrators and staff across the district. At the December 1<sup>st</sup> meeting the Steering committee reviewed the feedback solicited from a variety of stakeholders including central office academic consultants, special education consultants trade technology consultants, school-based administrative teams along with their leadership teams including department heads. Feedback solicited were the characteristics and behaviors of what a CTECS teacher is. The steering committees consists of several principals, assistant principals, a representative from the bureau of human resources and the SVFT.

Interim Wihbey shared with the Committee a handout of the feedback gathered which included baseline attributes and behaviors—a copy of which is included in the official file of this meeting. The Steering committee plans to meet again in January to review the data and develop actionable processes that will lead into hiring practices, interview questions, etc. Eventually, surveys and focus groups for students and parents will be created for their input.

The charge of the Ideal Teacher steering committee is to undergo a process to develop a profile of the perfect teacher for the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System.

The committee members engaged in a discussion about the Ideal Teacher/Administrator Profile. A suggestion was made to conduct a validation activity. Mr. Wihbey will share this suggestion with the Steering committee.

Interim Superintendent Wihbey will keep the Committee members updated on the progress of the committees work and is hoping to have this completed by early spring.

## **V. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM.

Prepared by: Diane Curtis, Administrative Assistant