

CONNECTICUT TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL SYSTEM BOARD

**Minutes
of
Meeting of Subcommittee on Quality and Policy
April 7, 2017**

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of State, the Connecticut Technical High School System Board Subcommittee on Quality and Policy met on April 7, 2017 at 25 Industrial Park Road, Middletown, CT via teleconference.

I. Call to Order

Ms. Keavney called the meeting to order at 1:00PM.

Present: Patricia Keavney-Maruca, Chairperson of the Subcommittee on Quality and Policy
Robert J. Trefry, Chairperson of the CTHSS Board
Karen Eichstaedt, Member of the Subcommittee on Quality and Policy
Jeffrey Wihbey, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Cynthia Mischel, Education Consultant
Beatrice Tinty, Education Consultant

Absent: Daisy Cocco De Filippis, Member of the Subcommittee on Quality and Policy
Peter Hoecklin, Member of the Subcommittee on Quality and Policy

II. Public Participation

There was no public participation

III. Consideration of Minutes of the March 10, 2017 Meeting

The Board voted unanimously that the minutes of the March 10, 2017 meeting be approved.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Strategic Planning for the Connecticut Technical High School System

A. Review of Admissions Policy

Goal Number 2 of the Strategic Action Plan is to create an alignment between K-12, Post-secondary and Adult Programs to provide a continuum of educational services resulting in readiness for career and college. The Framework for Success 2.4 is to refine the district's admissions policy.

Assistant Superintendent Wihbey introduced Education Consultant Cynthia Mischel to the Committee members.

Ms. Mischel provided an update on the CTHSS admissions and recruitment/outreach efforts. Her presentation included updates to the current application process this year including:

Requirement of a numeracy and literacy assessment;

Interest statement no longer included on application;

Interest statement is completed at time of numeracy and literacy assessment;

Number of points awarded for numeracy and literacy assessment was determined in conjunction with Dr. Dougherty's research on predictive validity of ability to progress in the CTHSS program;

Number of points awarded for interest statement response was determined with input from Technology Instructors on traits that indicated student would most likely continue in technology; and

The Rubric for Class of 2021

Ms. Mischel also provided a summary of the next steps the admissions committee would be following including extensive research Dr. Wallace is conducting on historical documentation of previous application assessments and challenges with the application process. Ms. Mischel indicated that the CTHSS will not know the impact of the current literacy and numeracy assessment and the current rubric until these students have completed at least one year of study. She hopes to "stay the course" with the current process but will continue to research options which will improve the number of students who fill Connecticut technology workforce needs.

Ms. Mischel responded to questions the Committee members raised which included: the admissions timeline; when Counselor Breakfasts occur during the day; the reaction from parents/students to the comparison document and how it was created with SDE colleagues, how the assessment process is working, is there concern on applicant pool numbers decreasing, what is the question which prompts the student interest statement, clarification on the STAR scaled scoring on the rubric, is there a cut score the CTHSS will not go below, is enrollment continuous, transportation issues, how the overall admissions looks for the district, and does the CTHSS inform parents/students of their ability to attend other technical high schools.

The CTHSS will continue to update the Committee on the admissions process.

The Committee members thanked Ms. Mischel for the Admissions update.

A copy of the PowerPoint Presentation on the Application Process and the following handouts are included in the official file of this meeting: Dear Parent/Guardian First Step Letter, Comparison table of Traditional High School versus CTHSS, Informational Session Invitation, and the Admissions Point Conversion Tables for Applicants to the Class of 2021.

V. The Next Meeting of the Subcommittee on Quality and Policy

The next meeting of the committee will be held on May 12, 2017.

VI. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10.

PM.

Prepared by:
Diane Curtis, Administrative Assistant