

CONNECTICUT TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND CAREER SYSTEM BOARD

Minutes of Meeting of September 18, 2018 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 September 18, 2018 at H.C. Wilcox Technical High School, 298 Oregon Road., Meriden, CT.

I. Call to Order

Ms. Keavney called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.

Present: Patricia Keavney-Maruca, Chairperson of the Subcommittee on Quality and Policy
Robert J. Trefry, Chairperson of the CTECS Board
Karen Eichstaedt, Member of the Subcommittee on Quality and Policy
Jeffrey Wihbey, Superintendent of Schools
James Chasse, CTECS Education Consultant
James Mindek, Director of Technology, Operations
Joseph Uccello, CTECS Management Analyst
Vincent Diana, CTECS Education Consultant
Peter Haberlandt, SDE Director of Legal Affairs
Robin Cecere, CSDE Staff Attorney

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

II. Public Participation

There was no public participation

III. Consideration of Minutes of the June 19, 2018 Meeting

The Committee voted unanimously that the minutes of the June 19, 2018 meeting be approved.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

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

Draft Strategic Operating Plan Goals from Board Retreat

Superintendent Wihbey reported that on September 11, 2018, the CTECS Board held a retreat to work on strategic action planning. The Board retreat was facilitated by Mr. Richard Lemons, Executive Director of the Connecticut Center for School Change. The CT Center for School Change has been procured as the consultant to assist in the transition of CTECS as an independent agency as well as shepherding CTECS through the strategic operating plan over the next year and provide support. During the retreat, Board members reviewed the strategic indicators, new possibilities, potential strategic goals and strategies work list including concepts that were prepared as a result of the Superintendent's Entry visits conducted at CTECS schools earlier in the year to identify strategic plan goals, next steps, etc.

As a result, the Board members came up with six directional broad goal statements for the 2018-22 Strategic Operating Plan. The Board has charged the CTECS in taking these broad goal statements and crafting them into specific goals that would include strategies and delivery chain of people responsible and timelines through a Strategic Operating Plan Steering Committee. After, Strategic Operating Plan Engagement Presentations will be conducted at each school through a faculty meeting for feedback and then be brought back to the Board for review finishing work. The Superintendent reviewed the draft Strategic Operating Goals with the Committee members. It is hopeful by late fall CTECS will have a final Strategic Operating Plan.

The six draft goals are listed below:

- 1) Put students first to ensure their success.
- 2) Recruit, Hire, Develop and Retain Top Talent for Teachers, Administrators, Central Office in a timely and LEAN manner.
- 3) Partner with Key Regional Employers to develop curriculum, pathways and new opportunities to support student success, business growth and economic activity.
- 4) Strengthen relationships with local education agencies and colleges to create clear articulated [guaranteed, innovative] pathways for student opportunity.
- 5) Transition to new agency model through the creation our new school system, which facilitates flexibility, and innovates timely education.
- 6) Align/calibrate programs and offerings to meet our Foundational Imperatives. (5, 7, 8 and 9)

Mr. Trefry sent a request to Board members who were not present at the Board retreat to submit their input. The Committee members were impressed with the draft broad strategic goal statements and thanked Superintendent Wihbey for all of his hard work.

Copy of the Strategic Operating Goals from the Board Retreat is in the official file of this meeting.

A. School & District Scoreboard/School Performance

Superintendent Wihbey reviewed the CTECS District Scoreboard report with the committee members. Mr. Vincent Diana, CTECS Education Consultant, also joined the discussion. The data includes demographics, discipline, attendance, testing/program scores, inventory, surveys, mastery scores, CAPT, SAT, etc.

The scoreboards are provided quarterly to all principals and are also used for the principal evaluations. Mr. Wihbey reviewed the indicators in detail with the Committee members. Mr. Wihbey called special attention to Math Course Mastery Algebra 1 and 2, 11th grade students who received credit.

Superintendent Wihbey felt it important to note one of the Principal's Student Learning Objectives will be connected to climate surveys and learning objectives. He also will be looking at teacher attendance as well. The Department of Administrative Services is in the process of releasing guidelines and processes to support staff attendance for all state employees. Last year, the average number of teachers out per day was 79.9. The number of teachers out 5+ days were 1,021.

He explained the focus first, will be the metrics connected to the school performance indicators in the accountability index for the State of CT. CTECS is moving towards utilizing those metrics. Currently, there are approximately 15-16 different indexes connected to the Student Performance Index, some are chronic absenteeism, SAT scores, physical education achievement, and the number of ninth graders who receive non-credit. These will be built into the evaluations.

The new data scores 2018 for science has not been released due to a new test. Results can be brought back to a future subcommittee meeting.

Superintendent Wihbey plans to update the board more on the specific metrics connected to the SPI. Mr. Wihbey was requested to walk the committee members through the Principal's three evaluation goals including SPI, school climate, and area of concern.

Questions/Discussion included: Mr. Dianna will follow up on the previous year's scores of the 2017 SATs, including the number of ELLs. Mr. Wihbey commended Mr. Diana on a job well done producing the report.

A copy of the School and District Scoreboard School Performance Data is included in the official file of this meeting.

B. Demographic Profile of the Enrollment for next Year's 9th Grade Class

Superintendent Wihbey opened the discussion. This year's incoming class of ninth grade students is 2,989. Grasso Tech had the largest group of students they have accepted in some time (142). Windham Tech also had large growth. They accepted 138 students. Areas of concern continue to be Vinal and Wright Tech regarding overall growth. Mr. Wihbey presented data included the total number of students, percentage of special education, ELL and Ethnicity. He also presented 9th grade enrollment applicant scores by school for September 2018. The data included a breakdown of the number of students versus scores and the percentages. The information also included is the 9th grade enrollment by school and sending town as of September 11, 2018.

Superintendent Wihbey introduced Mr. Vincent Diana, CTECS Education Consultant to the Committee members. Mr. Diana clarified the applicant scores from 0-100, not letter grades, include testing scores, example: home school students--its ok for schools to put in a rank order of all students.

The Committee members engaged in a discussion about the data.

The following charts are included in the official board file: September 2018 – 9th Grade Enrollment, September 2018 Enrollment – Applicant Scores and 9th Grade Enrollment by School and Sending Town as of 9/11/2018.

C. Sheff Lottery

Superintendent Wihbey introduced Mr. Haberlandt and Robin Cecere to the committee members. They were invited back to today's meeting as a follow-up to the September 11, 2018 Board Retreat Sheff Lottery presentation. Ms. Cecere clarified the Sheff Lottery parameters on how the students will be chosen to attend A.I. Prince, E.C. Goodwin and Cheney. Some of the parameters included: trade interest by student, choice of school (rank 1,2,3), geography, legacy of student, sibling preference and preference of the student.

Discussion included marketing i.e. and highlighting the CTECS schools in marketing literature targeting them first in the catalog. CTECS will gain more students/exposure with the common application and CTECS will be the first option choice over magnet schools. The RESCO application is on-line. Students will have access to on-line services via the schools in their areas in the event there is no access at home.

Discussion also included, wait list students. Prince, Goodwin, and Cheney are currently partnering with RESCO. Described the RESCO application process, the lottery cycle and placement process. How are offers made to students? In addition, that the lottery will continue for as many rounds as necessary.

Superintendent Wihbey shared a table by school depicting the total percentage of Special Education Students. The State of CT Prevalence Rate for All Disabilities from 2017-18 for all grade levels is 14.5%.

A copy of the CTECS – Special Education Enrollment – September 2018 table is included in the official file of this meeting.

D. Vacancy Update

Superintendent Wihbey introduced Mr. Joseph Uccello, CTECS Management Analyst to the Committee members who will provide an update to the Committee members on a monthly basis.

Mr. Uccello shared an analysis of vacancies by function including held positions and total. He also reported on the number of 2018 retirements for certified and non-certified positions as of September 1, October 1 and November 1, 2018. He also spoke about the annual turnover rate, annual separations/retirements and the average time-frame it takes to refill a position--approximately 5-6 months.

Mr. Uccello spoke a little about the LEAN will be providing an updated on LEAN at the October 16th full board meeting and bring forward recommendations that came out of the LEAN group.

Questions/Discussion included: Superintendent Wihbey felt it important to note that if all vacancies were to be refilled (147 of 210) it would cause a \$3.8 million deficit and that there should be focus as we prepare for our upcoming budget and legislative session. Discussion also included the number of substitute teachers and how the SAT scores are affected by this.

At the next Quality and Policy Subcommittee meeting, Mr. Uccello will report on the percentage of substitute teachers and whether or not they are certified.

A copy of the Full Time General Fund as of September 14, 2018 is included in the official file of this meeting.

V. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:38 AM.

Prepared by: Diane Curtis, Administrative Assistant