

CONNECTICUT TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND CAREER SYSTEM BOARD
Hartford, CT

Minutes
Full Board
December 14, 2022

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (hereafter “Board”) met on December 14, 2022, at 39 Woodland Street, Hartford, Connecticut.

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Patricia Keavney-Maruca called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

Present: Patricia Keavney-Maruca, Chairperson
George Anderson, Board Member
Jeff Aucker, Board Member
Christine Benz, Board Member
Todd Berch, Board Member
Lane Hall, Board Member
Paul Lavoie, Board Member
Kelli-Marie Vallieres, Board Member
Karen Wosczyzna-Birch

Absent: Jim Gildea, Board Member
Charlene M. Russell-Tucker, Board Member

Chairperson Patricia Keavney-Maruca welcomed Board members and lead the pledge of allegiance.

II. Public Participation

There was no public participation.

III. Trade Programming Spotlight

• Health Technology - Norwich Technical High School

Ms. Lori Koziol

Remy a 12th grade health technology student and Evelyn a 10th grade health technology student at Norwich Technical High School and Ms. Lori Koziol, Department Head, Health Technology from Norwich Technical High School shared their reasoning’s for pursuing the health technician trade and how the program has been highly beneficial and more advanced than expected. They

praised the hands-on aspect of learning provided by Norwich Technical High School and shared that the curriculum is robust enough to thoroughly prepare students to go onto higher education.

Questions/Discussion included:

Chairperson Mrs. Patricia Keavney-Maruca shared comments of appreciation for the presentation and asked the students about their educational plans after high school.

Mr. Hall asked about the percentage of students that usually pursue higher education and Ms. Koziol shared that about 75% do so.

Dr. Solek shared talks of expanding the curriculum have taken place and subjects like medical mathematics could be highly beneficial in future. She then thanked the students for their presentation and commended them on their aptitude on the subject.

IV. Consideration of Minutes

Mrs. Patricia Keavney-Maruca

Chairperson Mrs. Patricia Keavney-Maruca motioned, Dr. Karen Wosczyzna-Birch moved, Mr. Todd Berch seconded to approve the November 14, 2022 meeting minutes.

Vote:	In Favor:	Anderson, Aucker, Benz, Berch, Hall, Lavoie, Vallieres, Wosczyzna-Birch
	Opposed:	0
	Abstained:	0
	Absent:	Gildea Russell-Tucker

Motion carried unanimously.

V. Committee Reports

A. Outreach and Partnership Committee

Mr. Paul Lavoie

Mr. Lavoie spoke about policy and on how to engage more with industry.

- CTECS Donations

Dr. Ellen Solek
Mrs. Ronke Stallings

Board members held discussions on streamlining potential donations to CTECS and the overall policy regarding donations.

It was mentioned that the process should be consistent and that a team is currently working on helping with this as CTECS continues to move forward amidst the separation from the Department of Education.

B. Policy Review Committee

Mr. Todd Berch

- Naming Facilities at Schools Draft

Dr. Ellen Solek

Mrs. Susan Scott

Mr. Berch shared that the Policy Review Committee had some good conversations regarding the naming of facilities at schools. Mr. Berch then defers to Dr. Solek for further details.

Dr. Solek shared that there have been some very productive discussions taking place around the Naming Facilities at Schools Draft policy. The subcommittee made some recommendation that require further review for the next meeting. Mr. Berch tabled the item topics.

- Pre-apprenticeship and Apprenticeship Programming

Mr. Todd Berch

Mr. Berch shared information on the tabling of the pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship training programs and asks the Board to discuss this further as per the Chairperson Mrs. Patricia Keavney-Maruca.

C. Finance and Facilities Committee

- CTECS Building Construction Update

Mr. Donald Poulin

(Platt, Bullard-Havens, Windham)

Chairperson Patricia Keavney-Maruca introduced CTECS Chief of Engineering Mr. Don Poulin for construction updates.

Mr. Poulin gave an overview of expansion going into the new year. He shared there was an executive meeting with Connecticut Green Bank regarding possible solar installations in the CTECS district.

VI. Report of the Executive Director

Dr. Ellen Solek

Dr. Solek gave a brief report related to some previous discussion on potential grants and how they could benefit CTECS going forward.

Dr. Solek thanked Dr. Wosczyzna-Birch for reaching out and bringing this potential multimillion-dollar grant, which brings together many educational organizations, Yale, the University of Connecticut and the University of Massachusetts and possibly CTECS to the discussion. Dr. Solek asked Dr. Wosczyzna-Birch to go over the potential grant in further detail, which she obliged. With this potential grant, there is a letter of intent to commit that would need the Boards

approval. Dr. Solek looks to the Board for consideration on the signature and submission of the letter.

Chairperson Mrs. Patricia Keavney-Maruca motioned, Dr. Kelli-Marie Vallieres moved, Dr. Christine Benz seconded for signature and submission of the letter.

Vote: In Favor: Anderson, Aucker, Benz, Berch, Hall, Lavoie, Vallieres, Wosczyzna-Birch

Opposed:	0
Abstained:	0
Absent:	Gildea Russell-Tucker

Motion carried unanimously.

- Program Advisory Committee (PAC) Feedback and Recommendations

Mr. Marc Hussey

Dr. Solek introduced CTECS Educational Consultant Mr. Marc Hussey.

Mr. Hussey gave an informative summary of feedback he received from a previous meeting held at Wilcox Technical High School. The new format for PAC will allow for presenters to have more time in order to discuss topics of interest. There was a total of 36 individuals from industry that came to participate, with several new attendees including Electric Boat, Volkswagen and CT Green Bank.

Dr. Solek shared her enthusiasm on the great feedback received and thanked Mr. Hussey for his presentation to the Board.

- Admissions Update

Mrs. Shelley Visinski

Dr. Solek introduced CTECS Interim Director of Admissions Mrs. Shelley Visinski.

Mrs. Shelley Visinski shared applications have been steadily coming in and that CTECS currently holds enough applications to fill all open seats, at every school except one, in the upcoming school year. Additionally, she shared that she has still yet to gather the figures related to RESCO, but the applications are pouring in.

Questions/Discussion included:

Dr. Solek commended Mrs. Shelley Visinski for all her efforts related to admissions of new students and her attention to detail.

Chairperson Patricia Keavney-Maruca asked for further clarification on 9th grade student enrollment and retention issues.

Mrs. Shelley Visinski clarified that she doesn't have that specific data, but she would be happy to look into it further.

- CTECS Staffing Report

Mr. Robert Sartoris

Dr. Solek introduced CTECS Director of Talent Management, Mr. Robert Sartoris to discuss staffing.

Mr. Sartoris shared some numbers on the overview of what the talent office is currently working on. He continues on to give praise to the marketing team at CTECS for all their efforts in aiding with recruitment.

Questions/Discussion included:

Dr. Solek thanked Mr. Sartoris for his presentation to the Board. CTECS has hired over four hundred staff members in the recent past, a phenomenal number as of date.

Dr. Solek mentioned there is still some uncertainty related to the two separate positions of Executive Director and Superintendent. The need for both positions is extremely important to the success of CTECS as a whole and she greatly urges the Board to keep the conversation moving in the direction of finding designees for both positions. This is of the utmost importance and time is truly of the essence.

VII. Report of the Chair

Mrs. Patricia Keavney-Maruca

Chairperson Mrs. Patricia Keavney-Maruca shared the continued concern regarding the Executive Director and Superintendent positions being held in tandem. She mentioned that any help regarding the matter would be greatly appreciated moving forward. She gave thanks to the Board for their participation in the meeting and wished all a joyful and peaceful holiday season.

VIII. Adjourn

Chairperson Mrs. Patricia Keavney-Maruca motioned, Dr. Kelli-Marie Vallieres moved, Dr. Christine Benz seconded the Board adjourn the meeting.

Vote:	In Favor:	Anderson, Aucker, Benz, Berch, Hall, Lavoie, Vallieres, Wosczyzna-Birch
	Opposed:	0
	Abstained:	0

Absent: Gildea
Russell-Tucker

Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 A.M.

Prepared by: Mr. Maxwell Waldorf, CTECS