ATTENDANCE:  Rich Bacon, Angela Case, Judy Diogo, Nelson Freidly, Henry Harper, Lean Hornung, Joel Littlejohn, Janis Nesterak, Bob Parsons, Manera Constantine, Ed Wilchinski and Janet Nichols

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Robert Parsons moved to accept the minutes of the June 07, 2017 Council Meeting as presented. Judy Diogo seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

The Budgetary Expenditure Report as of October 10, 2017 was distributed to the Council. Dr. Robert Parsons moved to accept the report as presented, subject to audit. Janis Nesterak seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

FISCAL YEAR 2019 BUDGET REQUEST

Dr. Constantine presented the FY 2019 State Budget request for approval in the amount of $335,900. This represents a zero growth budget over the FY 2018 state appropriation; therefore the Council has complied with the State Budget Office’s Fiscal Year 2019 budget guidelines.

Dr. Joel Littlejohn moved to submit the FY 2019 State Budget Request by the October 17, 2017 deadline as presented. Dr. Richard Bacon seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

DACCTE Budget Hearing

The Council’s State Budget hearing before the members of the Office of Management and Budget and the Controller General is scheduled for Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at 11:30 a.m. The Joint Finance Committee hearing will be held in February.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Tech Prep Consortium

Dr. Constantine reported that as a result of Governor Markell’s proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2018 the amount of funding for Tech Prep was cut by over 22% and the Epilogue language was changed to eliminate the Statewide Tech Prep Consortium and move Tech Prep under the Department of Education (DOE). The Tech Prep Consortium no longer exists and the three Tech Prep employees became a part of the DOE staff and have been assigned additional duties.

Tech Prep began through this Council in partnership with Delaware Technical and Community College, the Department of Public Instruction and the three Vocational Technical School Districts as the “2 + 2 Program” in 1986. The Tech Prep program, which was one of the first of its kind in the Country, has been a successful, independent statewide consortium for over 32 years. Delaware’s program was recognized nationally as one of the most successful state programs.

The primary focus of Tech Prep was to obtain articulation agreements between high schools and colleges. These agreements provided free college credits for course work taken and passed during high school. Tech Prep also provided additional services to the high school CTE programs which included: providing grants, sponsoring professional development, and supporting the Career and Technical Student Organizations.

Dr. Constantine has served as the Chairman of the Tech Prep Consortium Board since it was formed in 1986 and DACCTE Chairman Sam Lathem served on their Board for many years. She distributed a copy of her final letter to the Tech Prep Board of Directors explaining that the Tech Prep Consortium had been eliminated from the State Budget Bill which was signed by the Governor on July 3, 2017. Council Members also received a copy of the Epilogue language.

Fall School Monitoring Visits

The Career and Technical Education school visits for the fall have begun. On Wednesday, October 4, 2017 the team visited Dover High School. Dr. Wilchinski, DACCTE staff member; Dr. Richard Bacon, DACCTE member and Rita Hovermale, DOE staff member attended this visit. Dr. Wilchinski reported this was a good visit. The teachers are very enthusiastic and dedicated to their programs and students. School administrators are very supportive of staff and CTE. The team found that the state funds are reaching the programs and the teachers are CTE certified. Dr. Bacon gave brief remarks regarding the visit. The next school visit is scheduled for Tuesday, October 17, 2017 at Appoquinimink High School. Followed by Tuesday, October 24, 2017 at Sussex Central High School, and the last visit will take place in November at Smyrna High School.

Chairman Emeritus Nelson Freidly

Dr. Constantine welcomed Nelson Freidly to the meeting. Nelson spoke briefly about his many years with the Council and the valuable work it has done for CTE. He reminded members that he is the only remaining founding member. Dr. Constantine commended him for his many years of service and dedication to the Council, Career and Technical Education the citizens of our state.
DACCTE Award Recipient

Dr. Constantine reported to the Council that Nickel Electrical, the 2017 recipient of the DACCTE Award for Outstanding Contribution by a Business was featured in the News Journal, which included a picture of company President Steve Dignan and Council Vice Chairman Bob Suppe who nominated the company.


Last year the federal government passed the “Every Student Succeeds Act”, (ESSA) which includes Career and Technical Education, (CTE) and puts national focus on CTE. Fourteen state plans have been approved and U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy Devos announced that Delaware was the first state to submit their plan and be approved for funding.

New Castle County Vo-Tech School District (NCCVTSD) IT Committee Meeting

Dr. Constantine was asked by Dr. Vicki Gehrt, Superintendent at NCCVTSD to serve on a committee to review plans to develop an IT Academy curriculum. They are working with Microsoft and Dell among others to develop a comprehensive and rigorous IT curriculum.

Upcoming Meeting

Dr. Constantine announced that the December Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 13 at the Duncan Center. A “Mark Your Calendar” will be sent to Council Members later this week.

State Board of Education President

Dr. Constantine informed the Council that Dr. Dennis Loftus has been appointed as the new President of the State Board of Education. Dr. Loftus was the former Superintendent at New Castle County Vo-Tech School District and is very supportive of Career and Technical Education.

Federal Funding Legislation

The Federal government is once again proposing cuts to the Perkins grants. The revised Fiscal Year 2017 proposed State grant has been reduced by $22,704 which would bring the funding amount down from $3,326,547 to $3,303,843. There is a new Democratic Coalition which has sent a letter to President Trump opposing the cuts and asking for level funding. The federal government is currently under a Continuing Resolution until December which results in level funding until the C.R. ends.

With the recent State cuts and proposed Federal cuts, Delaware will receive less money for Education, which could impact Career and Technical Education negatively.
Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO)

Dr. Constantine announced that the Council sponsored students to attend the HOSA Student Leadership Conference which was held in Washington, DC this Fall. Dr. Peg Enslen, Education Association for Health Occupation at the Delaware Department of Education has raised the bar for the Delaware HOSA Students and their organization. The Council also provided sponsorship for the CTSO Fall State Student Leadership Conference to be held October 25-26, 2017 in Dover. This conference provides leadership activities and workshops for Career and Technical Education students as well as CTSO State Officers.

Delaware Career Compass and Teachers Guide

The Council helped sponsor the 2017/2018 Delaware Career Compass and Teachers Guide. Copies of the Compass and Teachers Guide are made available to all middle, high and charter schools as well as state agencies, colleges and other organizations at no charge. Copies were distributed to the Council and Dr. Constantine pointed out to members the specific pages which contain information about Career and Technical Education (CTE) and the CTE Student Organizations.

New DACCTE Council Members

Dr. Constantine reported that Chairman, Sam Lathem has been in contact with the Governor’s office regarding the appointment of several new Council Members. There are currently vacancies in two categories due to the resignations of two members. Dr. Constantine is hopeful that the appointment process will be completed in a timely manner and the new members will be able to join us at the December 13 Council meeting.

Job Centered Learning Broadcast

Dr. Constantine informed the Council Members about a one hour documentary that will be broadcast tomorrow, October 12 at 6:00 p.m. on the PBS World channel. The program will focus on “High School CTE Programs and the Critical Impact on Student Lives”.

EDUCATION RELATED ARTICLES

The following articles were distributed and discussed with Council Members:

- “Work In Progress – How CEOs are Helping Close America’s Skills Gap”
- “Career Readiness and State ESSA Plans”
- “Who Is Really Responsible for Preparing Students for Careers?”
- “Poll: Academic Achievement Less Valuable than Career Prep”

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Nelson Freidly moved to adjourn the meeting, Leann Hornung seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.