

Full Council Meeting
Duncan Center
Dover, Delaware
Wednesday, December 13, 2017

ATTENDANCE: Dr. Richard Bacon, Judy Diogo, Nelson Freidly, Dr. Henry Harper, Leann Hornung, Sam Lathem, Dr. Joel Littlejohn, Janis Nesterak, Dr. Robert Parsons, Bob Suppe, Dr. Thomas Welch, Manera Constantine, Ed Wilchinski and Janet Nichols

NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS: Chairman Lathem introduced and welcomed the following new Council Members appointed by the Governor: Ronnie Burkle, Director of Operations at SoDel Concepts; Mark Freidly, CTE Teacher at Newark High School; Karen Hutchison, Local Program Success Specialist with National FFA Organization; Michael Jahnigen, President/Owner of Sun Pile Foundation and Karen Pickard Program Administrator Beebe Healthcare.

Dr. Constantine thanked the new members for being in attendance today and reported that she had an orientation meeting with them and looks forward to working with them in the future on matters pertaining to Career and Technical Education. Dr. Constantine asked each of the new members to give a brief summary of their background and their interest in Career and Technical Education.

MOMENT OF SILENCE: Chairman Lathem asked everyone to bow their heads and observe a moment of silence in honor of long time Council Member John Land who passed away in late November.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Dr. Robert Parsons moved to accept the minutes of the October 11, 2017 Council Meeting as presented. Dr. Henry Harper seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

BUDGETARY ACTIVITY:

The Budgetary Expenditure Report as of December 12, 2017 was distributed to the Council. Dr. Thomas Welch moved to accept the report as presented, subject to audit. Janis Nesterak seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT:

School Monitoring Visits

The Fall school monitoring visits of Career and Technical Education Programs have been completed. A visit to Dover High School, which took place on October 4 was reported at our October Council meeting.

- October 17, 2017 Dr. Wilchinski, Council Member Dr. Joel Littlejohn and Dr. Peg Enslen from the Department of Education (DOE) visited Appoquinimink High School. Dr. Littlejohn reported that there are over 1700 students at the school and the CTE classes are full. There is a Career Counselor on staff at the high school who works with the students. The Culinary Arts teacher is new and doing a great job. All of the CTE teachers were very upbeat and positive. It was reported that class enrollments do exceed the limits recommended by the Department of Education. Overall this was a very positive visit.
- October 24, 2017 Dr. Wilchinski, and Council Member Dr. Robert Parsons visited Sussex Central High School. Dr. Parsons reported that there was adequate staffing with regard to funding and that the CTE teachers are very enthusiastic. Administrators were also very supportive of CTE. There are some excessive enrollment issues in some areas. They generated nineteen teachers units, but there are only fourteen CTE teachers. This was also a good visit.
- November 8, 2017 Dr. Wilchinski, Council Member Dr. Richard Bacon and Mike Fitzgerald from DOE visited Smyrna High School. Administrators are very supportive of CTE programs and CTE staff is enthusiastic and committed. Funding resources are reaching the programs. Smyrna generated twenty-one teacher units, but only have seventeen CTE teachers. The Health Occupations program is starting a dual enrollment with Delaware Technical and Community College, but there are some issues that need to be resolved.

It was noted that there were some common factors during all four visits. The Department of Education is requiring all schools to transition from the Delaware Career Pathways to Programs of Study. The State has currently approved twelve models and districts have the option of adopting one of the approved models or creating their own. As a requirement of the Programs of Study, students must participate in “work based learning”. Scheduling issues are making this problematic, as is finding employers willing and able to participate.

Dr. Constantine thanked the Council members for their participation and commended Dr. Wilchinski for his leadership role in conducting the monitoring visits. DACCTE will continue the next series of visits in the Spring.

Budget Hearing – FY 2018

On November 14th Dr. Constantine and Chairman Lathem presented DACCTE's Fiscal Year 2019 State budget request at a hearing before the Office of Management and Budget and the Controller General in Dover. Chairman Lathem spoke to the committee regarding the value and demand for quality Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs in the schools and the need for additional funding to improve and expand the CTE programs.

DACCTE's budget request for FY 2019 will be presented by Chairman Lathem and Dr. Constantine at a hearing before the Joint Finance Committee of the General Assembly in February of 2018.

Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO) Fall Leadership Conference

Dr. Constantine announced that again this year the Council has provided sponsorship for the CTSO Fall State Student Leadership Conference which was held on October 25-26 in Dover. This state conference provides leadership activities and workshops for more than 840 Career and Technical Education students and teachers. A copy of the conference agenda was shared with the Council Members. Seven of the eight CTSO groups attended this two day conference. Future Farmers of America, (FFA) holds their own conference separately since they are the largest student organization.

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

Dr. Constantine reported that New Castle County Vo-Tech School District has implemented a new IT certification curriculum at several of their high schools. They have worked with Microsoft and Dell among others to develop this comprehensive and rigorous IT curriculum, and students will graduate with an IT certification. Dr. Constantine serves on the Districts IT Advisory Committee.

NCCVTSD Forum & School Review

Dr. Constantine was invited by Dr. Vicki Gehrt, Superintendent at NCCVTSD to attend a District Forum and School Review and provide input on the district's three year strategic plan. Attendees included three members of the State House of Representative, the Director of the State School Board Association, the President of the AFLCIO, district teachers, School Board Members and administrators and Dr. Constantine.

Division I Unit Count Report

The Occupational-Vocational Division I Unit Count Report was distributed to the Council Members for their review. The total unit count, which provides funding for teachers for the state as of September 30, 2017 has decreased by three units over last year.

Federal Perkins Legislation

The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act (Perkins) is the primary source of federal funding for Career and Technical Education (CTE). The Perkins funding has decreased in previous years and is currently level funded.

H.R. 2353, the “Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act” was unanimously passed by the U.S. House of Representatives in June. The bill is currently awaiting action by the U.S. Senate. In an effort to see the legislation passed and sent to the President for his signature, the U.S. House of Representative has sent a letter to members of the U.S. Senate supporting the Perkins Reauthorization. Delaware’s U.S. Representative Lisa Blunt-Bradley was one of the members who supports this legislation.

Career and Technical Education (CTE) Statewide Workshop

The Fall CTE Workshop will be held in conjunction with the Department of Education, Luke Rhine State Director for CTE and the CTE Education Associates. It is tomorrow Thursday, December 14 at the Collette Education Resource Center in Dover. There are approximately 55 individuals pre-registered including teachers, counselors, principals, curriculum supervisors and superintendents. Attendees will participate in four different break-out sessions on topics relating to State Models of Programs of Study and College Readiness for CTE.

Career and Technical Education Articles

Dr. Constantine briefly discussed the following articles which were distributed to Council Members.

- o “Demanding a Bachelor’s Degree for a Middle-Skill Job is Just Plain Dumb”
- o “The Future of Work? More Home Health Aides Than Software Developers”
- o “Four Essential Components of a Quality CTE Program”

PRESENTATION:

Dr. Constantine welcomed Lisa Stoner-Torbert, Policy Advisor, Career & Technical Education, (CTE)/STEM Initiatives, at the Department of Education. Dr. Constantine explained to the Council Members that Mrs. Stoner-Torbert is joining us today to provide an overview and update on the Career Pathways/Programs of Study, (POS).

Mrs. Stoner-Torbert thanked Chairman Lathem, Dr. Constantine, the staff and Council Members for their continued support through-out the years and the opportunity to be at the meeting today. She gave a detailed and informative background on how the statewide Programs of Study initiative started in Delaware and how it has progressed. The key to making this a success, lies in making sure students are trained for the careers that are in demand and making sure that these students are prepared to succeed in the workforce or in continuing their post-secondary education.

Chairman Lathem and Dr. Constantine both thanked Lisa for taking time from her busy schedule to join us today. Dr. Constantine thanked everyone for attending today and wished them all happy holidays.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Nelson Freidly, Chairman Emeritus told everyone he hopes they have a marvelous holiday before moving to adjourn the meeting at 12:30 p.m. Dr. Joel Littlejohn seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.