



ADVISORY COUNCIL ON CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

SPECIALIZING IN HIRE EDUCATION

TOWER OFFICE PARK
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Full Council Meeting
Virtual Meeting via Zoom
Thursday, December 17, 2020 @ 5:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE: Ronnie Burkle, Judy Diogo, Sandy Gray, Dr. Henry Harper, Leann Hornung, Dr. Karen Hutchison, Sam Lathem, Dr. Joel Littlejohn, Janis Nesterak, Dr. Karen Pickard, Bob Suppe, General (Ret.) Frank Vavala, Manera Constantine and Janet Nichols

PRESENTATION:

Dr. Constantine welcomed Lisa Stoner-Torbert, Career and Technical Education (CTE) Policy Advisor from the Delaware Department of Education to the meeting and asked her to give a presentation to the Council explaining some new CTE initiatives including Delaware Career and Technical Education (CTE) Proposed Department of Education (DOE) Organizational Shifts and DOE Equity Projects. Mrs. Stoner-Torbert's update highlighted CTE Equity Initiatives at the National and State levels including:

- PIPELINE to Career Success for Students with Disabilities
- Post-Secondary Equity Team
- Micro-messaging Professional Learning
- CASEL Bridge – Identifying the Intersection of Social & Emotional Learning and Employment Skills
- Office of Civil Rights – Methods of Administration
- Policy and Program Reviews

The presentation was followed by questions and discussion of DACCTE's future involvement in some of these initiatives.

Dr. Constantine and Mr. Lathem thanked Mrs. Stoner-Torbert for taking time from her busy schedule to give her informative presentation to the Council this evening.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

General Frank Vavala moved to accept the minutes of the October 14, 2020 Council Meeting as presented. Mrs. Janis Nesterak seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

BUDGETARY ACTIVITY:

The Budgetary Expenditure Report as of December 16, 2020 was distributed to the Council. Mrs. Janis Nesterak moved to accept the report as presented, subject to audit. Dr. Joel Littlejohn seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT:

State Budget Hearing – FY 2022

DACCTE staff submitted the Fiscal Year 2022 State Budget Request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) by the October 15 deadline. Dr. Constantine presented the DACCTE budget request at a virtual hearing with Michael Jackson, Director, (OMB) and Michael Morton, Controller General on November 18, 2020. Both have always been very supportive of the Council and understand the impact any cuts would mean to the Council and the work it does.

DACCTE's budget request for FY 2022 will be presented to the Joint Finance Committee of the General Assembly on February 18, 2021.

DACCTE Selection Committee – Executive Director Position

Dr. Constantine reported the staff has worked closely in assisting, planning, developing and advertising the position of Executive Director. Committee Chair Dr. Karen Hutchison has worked with the other committee members Mark Freidly, Sandy Gray and Bob Suppe to vet the applications received, and select and interview the top three candidates. Dr. Constantine thanked everyone on the committee for their hard work.

September 30 Unit Count Report

This year the September 30 unit count actually took place on November 13 due to schools starting late because of Covid-19. The Occupational-Vocational Division I Unit Count Report was distributed to the Council Members for their review. The total unit count, which provides state funding for teachers as of September 30 has increased by twenty-one units over last year. There was an increase of twenty-two units in New Castle County, a decrease of four units in Kent County and an increase of three units in Sussex County. The three vocational school districts represent 32% of the units, while the comprehensive high school represent the remaining 68%.

School Program Reviews

Given the ongoing Covid-19 restriction and virtual learning scenarios, the Fall program reviews are being conducted in the same manner as the Spring reviews. The staff has contacted the six school Principals (Appoquinimink HS, Caesar Rodney HS, Dickinson HS, Mt. Pleasant, Newark HS, and Woodbridge HS) requesting the names of the Lead Teacher for the CTE programs at their schools. The teachers were then emailed a copy of the visitation questionnaire and asked to complete and return it to the DACCTE office via email. Five of the six Principals have responded and the teachers are returning their completed questionnaires.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Dr. Joel Littlejohn moved to go into Executive Session. Mrs. Leann Hornung seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Dr. Joel Littlejohn moved to adjourn from Executive Session. General Frank Vavala seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S POSITION

Chairman Lathem announced that the Selection Committee has completed the interviews of potential candidates for the Executive Director of DACCTE. They have made a recommendation of Mr. Chris Stahl for the position.

Mr. Lathem moved to approve and accept the recommendation of the Selection Committee. Dr. Joel Littlejohn seconded the motion and it carried with the following vote: Ronnie Burkle - yes, Judy Diogo - yes, Sandy Gray - yes, Dr. Henry Harper - yes, Leann Hornung - yes, Dr. Karen Hutchison - yes, Sam Lathem - yes, Dr. Joel Littlejohn - yes, Janis Nesterak - yes, Dr. Karen Pickard - yes, Bob Suppe - yes, and General (Ret.) Frank Vavala - yes

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

The Council presented Dr. Constantine with an inscribed glass vase in honor of her retirement and her thirty-seven years of exceptional leadership, dedication and service to the Delaware Advisory Council on Career and Technical Education (DACCTE). She also received Tributes from the Governor, House of Representatives and Senate honoring her service to DACCTE and service to Career and Technical Education in the State.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Constantine thanked the Council Members for their gift, Tributes and support and wished everyone a safe, healthy and happy holiday.

Mrs. Janis Nesterak, moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m. Dr. Joel Littlejohn seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.