

Connecticut State Board of Education
Connecticut Technical High School Committee
Minutes of Meeting Held on
November 10, 2009

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the Connecticut Technical High School Committee (the "Committee") met on November 10, 2009, at Howell Cheney Technical High School in Manchester, CT.

Committee Members Present: Mrs. Beverly Bobroske, Chair
Ms. Theresa Hopkins-Staten
Ms. Linda McMahon

State Department of Education and CTHSS Staff Present: Ms. Patricia A. Ciccone, Interim Superintendent
Robert Lombardi, Assistant Superintendent
Beatrice Tinty, CTHSS Legal Consultant
Mr. James Chasse, CTHSS Consultant
Pamela Bergin, SDE Office
Nikitoula Menounos, American Federation of School Administrators
Robert Sartoris, Howell Cheney Technical High School Acting Principal
Kendall Segar, Howell Cheney Technical High School Student
Sealiteal Pacheco, Howell Cheney Technical High School Student

I. Chairperson Bobroske called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

II. Executive Session – None

III. Consideration of Minutes of October 14, 2009, CTHS Committee Meeting

Ms. Bobroske moved, Ms. Hopkins-Staten seconded, that the Committee approved the minutes of the October 14, 2009, Connecticut Technical High School Committee.

Vote:	In Favor:	McMahon, Hopkins-Staten, Bobroske
	Opposed:	0
	Abstained:	0

Motion carried unanimously

IV. Public Participation – Chairperson Bobroske asked the students of Howell Cheney Technical High School, Kendall Segar and Sealiteal Pacheco, to explain why they decided to come to a technical high school and who encouraged them to attend. Kendall and Sealiteal stated it was the best choice for them because they were not only getting an education but they were also getting hands on training for their careers. They are both very happy with their choice.

V. Consent Agenda – None

VI. Items Requiring Action - None

VII. Items for Discussion

a. CTHSS Inventory Update

Mr. Chasse handed out a 2004-2009 Inventory Report, showing current inventory, items not found and additional items of donations. He explained the proper procedures of new inventory, donations and disposed items. All disposed inventory are first reviewed to see if they are eligible for state auction, if unusable they are discarded properly. Mr. Chasse stated that all Business Managers should send paperwork of Disposed Items for proper removal.

Mr. Sartoris spoke about "Items Not Found" in the report and has met with the business manager and building maintenance supervisor and has come up with a Monthly Shop Inventory Form for the Department Head to fill out on a monthly basis. Items on the inventory report that had been disposed of years ago are still on the inventory sheets and he would like to see the reports reflected accurately.

Ms. Bobroske stated that this should be created for the district and all schools should keep Department Heads accountable and track what is missing.

b. J.M. Wright Tech Update

Ms. Ciccone talked about her walk through J.M. Wright and looked at materials, resources, and inventory and what could be used. Looking at the school without students, it needs to be cleaned and it is in need of refurbishing. Schools will be summoned to collect supplies and Human Resources will be asked to pick up Employee Files. The building is in need of repairs and would need all of the allotted time to complete just that. She does not see it opening sooner. Lt. Governor expressed interest in reopening the school if feasible.

Ms. Bobroske would like to see Lt. Governor Michael Fedele on the advisory committee and will ask Commissioner Mark McQuillan to extend an invitation to him to serve on the committee.

A discussion then ensued regarding the best time to make repairs to a school.

It was then noted that on October 29th Commissioner McQuillan and Interim Superintendent Ciccone met with the Lt. Governor Fedele to discuss forming the Ad Hoc Committee.

c. CTHSS Admissions Policy – Draft

Goal

A detailed discussion ensued regarding proposed revisions to the CTHS Admissions Policy. After discussion, the Committee determined further revisions were needed and requested an updated draft for its December 9th meeting.

VIII. Report of the Superintendent

a. Recruitment

Ms. Ciccone stated that recruitment for the 2010 school year is underway. Counselor breakfasts have been held (where?). AAC (define this acronym) Teams assembled. A letter from Commissioner McQuillan has been sent to the Superintendents of the towns that our schools serve, asking for "full access" to the students in their schools.

Grants – Green Technology

Working on adding Green Technology into our curriculum in HVAC, Electrical and Plumbing Trades. CTHS received a \$200,000 grant for our HVAC and Plumbing shops to help with resources on solar power. This funding will provide equipment for the Electrical and Plumbing Technologies at Ella t. Grasso, E.C. Goodwin and Oliver Wolcott.

Also working with the community colleges, Three Rivers, Manchester Community College and Asnuntuck to have access in the evenings. They are building weatherization labs to help develop skills. Community Colleges will train our instructors and then our instructors will teach our students in the labs.

b. Bristol Dedication

She further stated the dedication of the Bristol school cafeteria in the name of Andrew "Andy" Grande is moving forward. School officials are working with Bullard Haven's Graphic Arts students.

c. Bullard-Havens Principal

Ms. Ciccone stated Ms. Viviana Santana has been named the new Principal of Bullard-Havens. She will be starting on November 16, 2009. She has many years of educational experience, six years as an urban administrator, Spanish/bi-lingual background, Title I schools experience and she has experience with budgets and high risk student populations.

IX. Other Matters

Next meeting will be December 9, 2009 at Grasso Tech in Groton.

X. Public Participation

Ms. Ciccone talked about how Whitney and Ellis are in line for construction projects. Wilcox has been approved to go forward. We know that Eli Whitney is in need and she was contacted by the reporter who will meet with her. The reporter is going to be taking pictures of Eli Whitney and then she will go to A.I. Prince to take pictures to show what a school with the same urban demographic could/should look like.

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

Minutes approved at the February 17, 2010 meeting.