

Connecticut State Board of Education  
Connecticut Technical High School Committee  
Minutes of Meeting Held on  
December 8, 2010

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the Connecticut Technical High School Committee (the "Committee") met on December 8, 2010, at Harvard H. Ellis Technical High School, Danielson, CT.

Committee Members Present: Joseph Vrabely, Jr., Chair  
Beverly Bobroske  
Theresa Hopkins-Staton  
Pamela Partridge West

State Department of Education: Patricia A. Ciccone, Superintendent  
Robert Lombardi, Assistant Superintendent  
Ceferino Lugo, Assistant Superintendent  
Nivea Torres, Assistant Superintendent  
James Chasse, CTHSS Consultant  
Drew Soltys, CTHSS Consultant  
Al Richmond, CTHSS Consultant  
Pamela Bergin, SDE Office  
Bea Tinty, CTHSS Consultant  
Barbara Mazzonna, CTHSS Consultant  
Nikitoula Menounos, Norwich Tech Principal and  
V.P., American Federation of School Administrators  
Brian Mignault, Principal, Ellis Tech  
Angela Corentin, Assistant Principal, Ellis Tech  
Tricia Staley, Assistant Principal, Ellis Tech

I. Chairperson Vrabely called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. Executive Session – None

III. Consideration of Minutes of November 10, 2010, CTHS Committee Meeting  
Mrs. Bobroske moved, Mrs. Partridge West seconded, that the Committee approve the minutes of the November 10, 2010 Connecticut Technical High School Committee.

Vote: In Favor: Bobroske, Partridge West, Vrabely  
Opposed: 0  
Abstained: 0

Motion carried.

IV. Public Participation – None

V. Consent Agenda – None

VI. Items Requiring Action  
a. Reauthorization of Trades

Ms. Ciccone recommended to the Committee, the reauthorization of the following trades for the period January 2011 to January 2016:

- Early Care and Education
- Bioscience Environmental Technology
- Health Technology
- Certified Nurse Assistant
- Dental Assistant
- Medical Assistant
- Licensed Practical Nurse Program
- Surgical Technician

Mrs. Bobroske moved, Mr. Vrabely seconded, that the Committee approve the Reauthorization of Trades.

Vote: In Favor: Bobroske, Vrabely, Partridge West  
Opposed: 0  
Abstained: 0

Motion carried.

b. Achieving Competitive Excellence Grant Award

Mrs. Bobroske moved, Mrs. Partridge West seconded, that the Committee accept the Achieving Competitive Excellence Grant Award at Grasso Technical High School.

Vote: In Favor: Bobroske, Vrabely, Partridge West  
Opposed: 0  
Abstained: 0

Motion carried.

VII. Items for Discussion

a. Inventory Executive Summary

The electronic data base will be available to Department Heads who will inventory all items twice a year. The program will be piloted at Vinal and Norwich Technical High Schools at the beginning of January 2011.

b. Fiscal Report

All school budgets are posted on the web site. Mrs. Hopkins-Staten asked Mr. Chasse to explain how the budgets are reached, if the schools were involved and how it was decided on as to what went where.

Mr. Richmond works with the schools on the building maintenance budgets. School construction budgets are not shown, as the State Department of Public Works does them.

The budgets are updated bi-annually and submitted to the General Assembly. They are now being asked to update every three months.

May vacancy list numbers are still the same. Mr. Vrabely stated that the way the numbers are currently showing looks like the system is in good shape. Need to list differently so that it shows shortages.

Mrs. Partridge West asked if there were extra funds available. Mr. Chasse explained that there is 50% less money available. Technology is behind – there is a five year Capital Plan in place for technology replacement.

Mr. Vrabely suggested that the budgets and expenses be done at the same time.

Mrs. Bobroske asked why the student cost is between \$11,000 - \$16,000. Ms. Ciccone explained that it is the difference with having Title I schools and not having them.

Ms. Bobroske stated that she would like to see the enrollment numbers listed. Also pages numbered and dates included.

Mr. Chasse and Mr. Richmond explained as to why construction budgets are so different.

Mr. Vrabely suggested that reports should show dates when projects should be done, delay dates and when projects are done.

Mr. Vrabely asked what the process was to get more funds. Mr. Richmond explained the process.

Mr. Chasse also stated that per OPM the system can only ask for \$100 million dollars annually for construction.

c. CTHSS Admission Policy Update

Ms. Ciccone and Ms. Tinty explained the changes in the admission policy (use of CMT scores, why students want to attend and extra curricula participation). Once a student enters the system, they are ours no matter what exploratory grade is. With this new policy, six students would have had to leave the system; with the new policy none have left.

This policy was adopted by the SBE on July 7, 2010.

The cut off numbers are different at some schools, as it has to go by number of spots for students to be in.

There will be a meeting on Friday with all schools to go over how marking of students will be done – so that all schools are using the same numbers for each area.

Ms. Hopkins-Staten asked about how the Admissions Committee was chosen. Ms. Tinty explained how the committee is chosen and that the members serve for four years.

February 1<sup>st</sup> is the acceptance date for new students.

d. Parent Engagement Centers

Ms. Ciccone explained that all schools will have these centers by November 2011. Parents will have access to materials about our schools and programs offered to our students.

### Report of the Superintendent

Ms. Ciccone reported that the new busses are being delivered to the CTHSS –first one was last week. They are blue with 24 seats with seatbelts and storage space in the back of the bus and underneath. Six to seven buses are being delivered per week. 49 buses are currently ready with 20 more ready to come from the Bond commission.

The LPN program moving is moving forward. Staff is working on helping students with financial issues.

Construction projects – currently there are five schools on the renovation list. Hopefully one or two will start next spring or summer the latest.

The CTHSS is working on a state wide calendar. LEA's like the idea that all are the same which will save them money in the long run. Ms. Ciccone is working with the local boards. It has been suggested that the LEA's use our calendar as we are state wide.

Mrs. Bobroske asked about hiring issues. Ms. Ciccone stated that no changes have been made.

Mrs. Bobroske said that maybe we should go to the foundation on behalf of (Mr. Davenport) and set up a fund in his name to generate sending scholarships for students.

Ms. Bobroske asked about snow delays – Ms. Ciccone said that all schools run with their district schools.

Ms. Hopkins-Staten asked about audit report issues at Grasso and if there are standards to use at all schools. Mr. Chasse and Ms. Ciccone explained that all schools have the same standards and issues that have happened are being corrected.

Mr. Vrabely stated that the LPN program is fantastic and he suggested that the system hook up with hospitals and the possibility how they may help students with their financial needs.

### VIII. Other

Mr. Vrabely wanted to express to Ms. Ciccone, Principals, Assistant Principals and staff on what a good job the system is doing selling the system to the people that need to know more about it.

Mrs. Partridge West wanted to let Ms. Ciccone know that she is doing a fantastic job for the system and that we are very lucky to have her.

### X. Public Participation – None

### XI. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Minutes approved at the April 13, 2011 meeting.