

Connecticut State Board of Education
Connecticut Technical High School Committee

Minutes of Meeting
April 9, 2008

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the Connecticut Technical High School Committee, the "Committee" met on April 9, 2008 at the CTHS Central Office, Middletown.

I. Chairman Coolican called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Committee Members Present: Donald Coolican, Chairman
Theresa Hopkins-Staten
Dr. Alice Carolan
SDE Staff Present: Commissioner Mark K. McQuillan
Abigail L. Hughes, Superintendent

II. Executive Session: None

Chairman Coolican changed the order of the agenda in order to facilitate the Stamford Delegation.

III. Public Participation – Members of the Stamford Delegation all expressed their support of the New Model for Norwalk Community College and J.M. Wright Technical High School.

Lt. Governor Michael Fedele
Representative Carlo Leone
Representative Christel Truglia
Representative Gerald Fox
Representative James Shapiro
Representative William Tong

IV. Consideration of Minutes of the February 4, 2008 and February 13, 2008 Connecticut Technical High School Committee Meetings

The minutes were unanimously approved.

V. Consent Agenda: None.

VI. Items for Connecticut Technical High School Committee Action:
None

VII. Items for Discussion:

a. Dr. David Levinson, President, Norwalk Community College – Presentation of New Model for Norwalk Community College and J.M. Wright Technical High School

Dr. Levinson presented to the committee the New Model for Norwalk Community College and J.M. Wright Technical High School. It is proposing that Wright Tech continue as a four-year technical

high school. The proposal includes, but is not limited to, offering additional programs to students; a strong employment connection and a transition from Wright Tech to the community college system. The proposed partnership would serve the entire population of Fairfield County.

Committee members expressed their displeasure of being left out of the planning process. They also had many questions and concerns which included: at the end of grade 12 in the new proposed model, what will the students do; teacher salaries; financial implications; who will provide construction of curriculum, who will handle special education requirements; will students have less time in shop; extra curricular activities; recruitment; what preparation will there be for students who are having difficulty keeping up; will it be a charter or a magnet school; longer school day; etc.

Committee members agreed that since students were sent acceptance letters for the Wright Tech class of 2011, the 9th grade program will be available in August.

b. Goodwin Tech Recruitment Plan, Mr. Steve Anderson

Mr. Steve Anderson presented to the committee on Goodwin Tech's recruitment plan which included its recruitment history, enrollment, physical capacity, scores and its retention plan. A discussion with committee members ensued concerning students who declined academic support to students having difficulty acclimating to the curriculum and the teacher's responsibility to not let students fall too far behind, percentage of college bound students and what contributed to the increase in enrollment.

VIII. Report of the Superintendent

a. CAPT and NOCTI Assessment

Dr. Hughes gave a brief update to the committee on CAPT and NOCTI Assessment. She stated that it was a successful implementation of CAPT and NOCTI. Some students receive work offers from the NOCTI judges who are very impressed with their performance.

IX. Other Matters

X. Public Participation – the following individuals all expressed their support of the New Model for Norwalk Community College and J.M. Wright Technical High School.

John P. Condlin, President & CEO, Stamford Chamber of Commerce

Anthony Masarelli, Wright Tech Advisor

Al Sanseverino, President, Alumni Association for Wright Tech

XI. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.