

J. M. Wright Technical High School  
Ad Hoc Committee  
Minutes of January 25, 2010 Meeting  
1:30 p.m.  
CTHSS, Central Office, Middletown

Members in Attendance:

Mark McQuillan, Commissioner of Education; Patricia Ciccone, Interim Superintendent, CTHSS; Ceferino Lugo, Assistant Superintendent, CTHSS; Jan Hochadel, Vice President, State Vocational Federation of Teachers (SVFT); Richard Cavallaro, Principal, H. C. Wilcox Technical High School and President of the American Federation of School Administrators (AFSA); \*Theresa Hopkins-Staton, State Board of Education; James Chasse, Education Consultant, CTHSS; Peter Cerruto, Chief of Engineering, CTHSS; Ray Mencio, Unit Coordinator for Trades, CTHSS; Al Richmond, Consultant, CTHSS; Jack Condlin, President and CEO, Stamford Chamber of Commerce; Al Sanseverino, J.M. Wright Tech Advisory Committee; Michael Fedele, Lt. Governor; Moira Lyons, Norwalk Community College

\*Participated via telephone

Chairman Condlin called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

1. Welcome

Chairman Condlin welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Consideration of Minutes of December 22, 2009 and January 11, 2010, Ad Hoc Committee Meeting

Ms. Lyons moved, Lt. Governor Fedele seconded, that the Committee approve the minutes of the December 22, 2009 and January 11, 2010 meetings.

Vote:	In Favor:	All Members Present
	Opposed:	0
	Abstained:	0

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Enrollment Study Update – Progress on Commissioning Study

Ms. Ciccone informed the Committee that she met with Peter Prowda, former Data Consultant for the State Department of Education, for the purpose of commissioning an enrollment study. Ms. Ciccone will meet with Dr. Thomas Cooke, Director, Center for Population Research and Connecticut State Data Center, University of Connecticut, Storrs, on January 28<sup>th</sup> to discuss the enrollment study.

4. Review of Stamford Chamber Market Analysis Updates

Chairman Condlin spoke of beginning the planning process. He presented a PowerPoint which included areas of job growth; middle skill jobs; ad hoc committee challenge; what must be included in the plans for trades and student population; 5 areas of focus; facility; trades which include green elements; regional recruitment; staff recruitment and recruiting new qualified teachers and front office staff; and a summary plan for the

opening of the school. A copy of the PowerPoint and Chairman Condlin's White Paper is available on file at CTHSS, Central Office.

Mr. Sanseverino asked about the funding for renovating J.M. Wright. Lt. Governor Fedele stated that it would be based on enrollment, the cost of renovating, staffing, etc., and with the support of the State Board of Education and the Ad Hoc Committee, it would be presented as a package to the legislature, then a decision can be made.

Ms. Hopkins-Staten asked if there was any flexibility in the May 14, 2010 deadline for the Ad Hoc Committee to finalize its recommendations. Chairman Condlin stated he wants to stay focused on the May 14, 2010 date and if an extension is needed, the committee will ask for one.

Mr. Cavallaro suggested if the projected enrollment numbers were not met, that the CTHSS hold a summer academy for 4-6 weeks that would guarantee entrance to Wright Tech. Members supported the idea.

Ms. Hopkins-Staten asked about the refusal of teachers that were redeployed to Wright Tech. Ms. Ciccone stated that the Bureau of Human Resources will work that out and see what options there are for the teachers to return under contract agreements.

5. Review of Trade Technology Selection with Briefing on Cost Projections

Mr. Chasse presented a PowerPoint on trade selection and cost projections; renovation timelines and costs associated with trades being considered and other trades that might be considered in the future. He included the scope of the renovation project and timelines; conformity with building Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification; enrollment timelines; and other reopening issues. A copy of the PowerPoint is on file at CTHSS, Central Office.

6. Other Matters

Chairman Condlin asked the committee members what they thought of a steering committee which would meet once a month. After some discussion it was agreed not to form a steering committee.

It was agreed that members who wanted to participate in the meetings via telephone would be provided with a conference call number. PowerPoint and other meeting materials would be emailed to them for their review prior to the meeting.

Chairman Condlin asked committee members what they thought of a name change for the school. Some discussion was held but there was no decision made. Ms. Hopkins-Staten said she wants the committee to stay close to their mission and she does not recommend spending a lot of time on the name change.

7. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Next meeting February 8, 2010, 1:30 p.m. at CTHSS, Central Office, MCR-2, Middletown  
Minutes approved at the February 8, 2010 meeting.