



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



## Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee (JATC) Meeting

Tuesday, July 22, 2025  
12 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
Virtual Online

### MINUTES

**PRESENT:** Mary Glassman, Sinthia Sone-Moyano, Shuana Tucker, Ashley Wright, Jessica Ocasio, Megan Krementowski, Victoria Malvey, Susan Saluru, Ed Leavy, Todd Berch, Janice Albert, Ashley Osbourne, Michelle Belcher-Felton (Recording Secretary)

**ABSENT:** Kate Dias, Frances Rabinowitz, Paula Talty, Tanner Callahan, Benjamin Gagne-Maynard, Nicole Reddig, Olivia Rice, Katie McGarry, Larry Satchell, Owen Golding

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER/OPENING REMARKS

- Mary Glassman called the meeting to order at 12:04 pm and commenced introductions of all participants. Following the introductions, Mary outlined the agenda for the meeting.

#### 2. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

- The minutes of the meeting on April 4, 2025, were reviewed and approved as presented.
- The minutes of the meeting on June 10, 2025, were reviewed and approved as presented.

#### 3. DISCUSSION

- Dr. Jessica Ocasio, Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE), provided an update on the status of the Bridgeport Public Schools employer agreement, explaining that they have completed their intake form, and finalized their employer agreement with the union Bridgeport Education Association, including the formalizing of the University of Bridgeport Educator Preparation Program (EPP) as the Related Instruction Provider (RIP) for their apprentices. A motion to recommend approval of the Bridgeport employer

agreement to the Connecticut Department of Labor (CT DOL) was made and carried without objection.

- Mary Glassman informed the JATC that Bethel Public Schools was not able to meet the deadline of July 15, 2025, to complete their required paperwork for the JATC to be able to recommend approval of their employer agreement to the CT DOL. Further, due to budgetary concerns, Bethel remains uncertain as to whether or not they will be able to proceed with an apprenticeship program for the upcoming 2025-26 school year. If their status changes, the CSDE will inform the JATC.
- Ashley Wright, CSDE, provided an update on the following approved school districts:
  - Waterbury:
    - All required steps have been completed.
    - The employer agreement has been signed and submitted to the CT DOL, (awaiting CT DOL signature).
    - Apprentice selection for 4 apprenticeship openings is underway.
  - New Britain:
    - All required steps have been completed.
    - The employer agreement has been signed and submitted to the CT DOL, (awaiting CT DOL signature).
    - Apprentice selection for 8 apprenticeship openings is underway.
  - East Haven:
    - All required steps have been completed.
    - The employer agreement has been signed and submitted to the CT DOL, (awaiting CT DOL signature)
    - Apprentice registration for 8 apprenticeship openings is underway.
  - Danbury:
    - All required steps have been completed.
    - The employer agreement has been signed and submitted to the CT DOL, (awaiting CT DOL signature).
    - Apprentice selection for 5 apprenticeship openings is underway.
- Todd Berch, CT DOL, provided clarification that all 4 of the above districts are approved by the CT DOL, and they can proceed forward with apprentice selection.
- Ashley Wright explained that the CSDE has encountered several frequently asked questions about the Teacher Registered Apprenticeship Program (TRAP) from school districts, EPPs, and potential apprentices. In response to these questions, the CSDE is working with the National Center for Grow Your Own (NCGYO) to create a 2-page

document that explains the program in brief, including the benefits to the employer districts, the EPPs, and the apprentices, as well as the requirements for each in the program. The document also lists contact information for anyone who might have further interest in the TRAP. Once this document is finalized and approved by the CSDE, it will be posted to the website and shared with EPPs and school districts.

- Dr. Jessica Ocasio stated that, additionally, the CSDE and NCGYO are working on other documents that explain the step-by-step processes for becoming RIPs and employer districts. Once these documents are finalized and approved, they will be shared with the JATC, the EPPs, and the school districts, as well as posted to the web site.
- Dr. Shuana Tucker provided a legislative update. House Bill 7287 earmarks \$750,000 to the CSDE to be made available for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2026, and June 30, 2027, for a teacher residency program. The CSDE has a meeting with the Governor's Office on July 28, 2025, to provide an overview of the collaboration with CT DOL and all the other partner agencies, on the status of the TRAP, and what the next steps should be, including the need for further funding to continue to fund at current levels and prospectively grow the TRAP.

#### **4. MOTIONS**

- Dr. Shuana Tucker made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting on April 4, 2025. Susan Saluru seconded the motion, and the motion was carried without objection.
- Dr. Shuana Tucker made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting on June 10, 2025. Ed Leavy seconded the motion, and the motion was carried without objection.
- Ed Leavy made motion to recommend approval to the CT DOL of the employer agreement for Bridgeport Public Schools. Dr. Shuana Tucker seconded the motion, and the motion was carried without objection.

#### **5. ACTION ITEMS**

- The CSDE will notify Bridgeport Public Schools that their employer agreement has been recommended for approval by the CT DOL and inform them of next steps, including the registration of apprentices with Janice Albert at the CT DOL.

#### **6. FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE**

- The next three meetings were set as follows:
  - September 12, 2025 – 10:00 am to 11:30 am – in person at Central Connecticut State University
  - January 23, 2025 – 10:00 am to 11:30 am – Virtual online

- April 17, 2025 – 10:00 am to 11:30 am – in person at the University of Saint Joseph

## 7. **ADJOURNMENT**

- Mary Glassman called the meeting adjourned without objection at 12:23 pm.