



Student Success Committee

CCSNH BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting of March 18, 2021

Attending (teleconference): Trustee Steve Rothenberg (Chair), Trustee John Calhoun, Trustee Jeff Cozzens, Trustee Sharon Harris, Trustee Zander Johnson, NCC President Lucille Jordan, RVCC President Alfred Williams, CCSNH Interim Chancellor Susan Huard, Trustee Paul Holloway, Trustee Tricia Lucas, Trustee Bob Baines, WMCC Business Affairs Officer Scott Fields, CCSNH Executive Director of Government Affairs and Communications Shannon Reid, NHTI President Gretchen Mullin-Sawicki, LRCC President Larissa Baia, MCC President Brian Bicknell, WMCC President Chuck Lloyd, CCSNH Chief Advancement Officer Tim Allison, CCSNH Interim CHRO Monica Bradley

Regrets: Trustee Bryant Abbott, Commissioner Frank Edelblut, Commissioner Taylor Caswell, CCSNH Director of DOE and College Access Programs Beth Doiron

Committee Chair Rothenberg called the meeting to order at 8:02 am. Regarding the conduct of a telephonic meeting and counting all members toward the quorum requirement whether or not physically present in the meeting location, the Chair declared an emergency meeting in order to follow social distancing guidelines related to the current public health crisis, pursuant to RSA 91-A: 2 (III)(b).

Approval of December 17, 2020 Minutes

VOTE: The Committee, on motion of Mr. Calhoun and seconded by Mr. Cozzens, voted unanimously by roll call to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2020 meeting as written.

Legislative Update

Ms. Reid provided an update on ongoing conversations of the house finance division II committee and the house education subcommittee, both of which are interested in the policy and financial implications of the proposed merger of the state's two higher education systems.

Mr. Johnson joined the meeting at 8:28 am.

Overview of the Issues Facing CCSNH and Higher Education

Chair Rothenberg invited the CCSNH senior leadership team to provide information that will help trustees better understand the nuances of student success in the context of the proposed merger of the state's two higher education systems.

Chancellor Huard discussed the need to ensure that merger conversations that take place inside and outside the legislature include the understanding that 70% of students attend CCSNH colleges to attain a technical degree and are not pursuing 4-year degrees. To serve this majority of community college students, each college has invested in expensive labs and technical facilities to deliver hands-on instruction to technical trades.

As a comprehensive community college, in addition to the 70% of students seeking a technical degree, CCSNH colleges also serve students who cannot afford or are not yet academically prepared to attend a



four-year institution. The presidents discussed the importance of bringing attention to the stories and anecdotes of these students.

Discussion followed regarding CCSNH as the workforce engine that allows business and industry to thrive and succeed in the state and the importance of having labor and trades representation on the board.

Ms. Lucas suggested these points be included in a carefully framed message that can be used to inform the board, improve overall board engagement, and build cohesion.

Mr. Baines discussed a recent presentation delivered by the USNH Chair Joseph Morone that focused on the cost savings he believes would result from the proposed merger.

Discussion followed regarding engaging business and industry in this conversation.

In considering an integrated state-wide model of transfer, the committee discussed the Florida model of transfer pathways that could be implemented, with more information at http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7534/urlt/pathways_to_success.pdf.

Other Business

No further business was stated. The meeting adjourned at 9:40 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meghan Eckner
Executive Assistant to the Chancellor and Board of Trustees