Carbon Career & Technical Institute
Joint Operating Committee Minutes

Regular Meeting
March 17, 2022

The Carbon Career & Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee met Thursday – March 17, 2022 for its Regular meeting. The meeting, held in the dining room of the School, 150 West 13th Street, Jim Thorpe, Pennsylvania, was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Gerald Strubinger, at 6:20 PM with the Secretary being present.

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<td>Mr. Gerald Strubinger, Chairman</td>
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<td>Mr. Nathan Foeller, Member</td>
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<td>Mr. Earl Paules, Member</td>
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<td>Mr. William Mansberry, Vice-Chairman</td>
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<td>Mr. Thomas Connors, Member</td>
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<td>Mr. David Reinbold, Administrative Director</td>
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<td>Mr. Brent Borzak, Assistant to the Administrative Director</td>
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<td>Mrs. Michelle Allen, Principal</td>
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<td>Mr. Jeffry Deutsch, Bus. Administrator/Treasurer</td>
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<td>Mr. Ken Walters, Supervisor of Bldg. &amp; Grounds</td>
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<td>Mrs. Christine Trovato, Facilitator of Special Education</td>
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<td>Mr. Rich Flacco, Alternate Member</td>
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<td>Mrs. Stacey Connell, Alternate Member</td>
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<td>Mrs. Chrissie Houser, Alternate Member</td>
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<td>Mr. David McAndrew, Jr., Superintendent of Record</td>
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<td>Attorney Robert T. Yurchak, Solicitor</td>
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<td>Mrs. Christina A. Graver, Secretary</td>
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Others present: Members of the Public: John Gunsser, CCTI Tutor, Melissa Storms, Parent; CCTI Students: Autumn Benedict, HM Senior (PASD), Gracie Heintzelman, Marketing Sophomore (PVSD), Makenna Montefour, Marketing Freshman (JTASD); CCTI Staff: Stephen Anderson, Math Teacher/CCTI EA Vice-President, Anna Leigh Conway, Science Teacher/CCTI EA President, Jalissa Kuehner, Marketing Instructor/DECA Major Advisor, Nate Rinda, Director of Technology, and Officer Frank DeMatto, School Police Officer; Media Representation: James Logue, Jr.

The Committee met in Executive Session prior to the meeting to discuss personnel, litigation, and negotiation items.
Approval of Minutes

A. MOTION by Mr. Mansberry, SECONDED by Mr. Foeller to approve the Minutes of the February 24, 2022 Regular Meeting.

VOTE: YES - 5   NO - 0   ABSENT - 0   ABSTENTIONS - 0

Motion carried.

Courtesy of the Floor to Visitors

- Anna Leigh Conway, CCTI Education Association President shared the following items in her report:
  - Welcome Ms. Michelle Allen as the new principal of CCTI who had a great introduction at the faculty meeting. She will be a great fit for CCTI as a strong female leader and we look forward to working with her.
  - Looking forward to spring presentations, competitions, and preparation for the end of year testing sessions of NOCTI/NIMS, AP, and Keystones.
  - SkillsUSA advisors and teachers are diligently preparing students for the SkillsUSA state competition. 25 students are competing at states which will be held in Hershey on April 6th -8th.
  - Parent teacher conferences were held on March 3rd. We had a great parent and guardian turnout.
    Mr. Tom Bartholomew, Welding Instructor took 2 students to Northampton Community College for an AWS (American Welding Society) competition. The awards banquet is March 29th. Both students performed well and hope to place. The Welding Fabrication team also went to a state competition for welding fabrication for SkillsUSA at the Pennsylvania College of Technology. Although they did not place, all 3 students performed well and enjoyed their experience.
  - Students in the science classes are getting prepared to start the school garden, preparing for the Envirothon competition, and the Cranberry Bog Field Trip. Physics classes are starting projects that include student made cars and water rockets made with 2 liter bottles.
  - We are looking forward to the smooth transition of administration. Assistant to the Director, Brent Borzak, has an energy that can be felt throughout the building and we are looking forward to the new initiatives he will be rolling out. As always, the EA association is ready and available for collaboration.
Approval of Treasurer’s Report (February 2022)

A. MOTION by Mr. Mansberry, SECONDED by Mr. Strubinger to approve the Treasurer’s Report for February 2022 showing a final balance of $7,422,029.59 in the General Fund, and $81,333.58 in the Student Activities Account.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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Motion carried.

Approval of Payment of Bills

A. MOTION by Mr. Mansberry, SECONDED by Mr. Foeller to approve Payment of Bills - General Fund and Other Accounts.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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Motion carried.

Administrative Reports

Mr. Reinbold, Administrative Director

- Welcome and introduction of Mrs. Michelle Allen, Principal
  - Mrs. Allen thanked the JOC members for appointing her as Principal. She shared that the first 4 days have been extraordinary. They have been very busy days. Mr. Reinbold, Mr. Borzak and staff have been a wealth of information to her and have all given her a warm welcome. She has been a cosmetology teacher for 23 years. She taught for 5 years at CCTI (formerly CCAVTS) and then moved on to the Career Institute of Technology where she served as a teacher as well as filling many leadership roles. She has a Master’s degree and her Director’s certification and is thrilled to be here. She thanked Christine Trovato, Ken Walters, Frank DeMatto and the rest of the CCTI staff for all of their assistance thus far.

- Tutors
  - Mr. Reinbold introduced Mr. John Gunsser a long-time CCTI Tutor
    - Mr. Gunsser shared that this is his 63rd year of teaching, he served on the JTASD School Board for 24 years and the CLIU #21 Board for 24 years.
He said he could not be more comfortable in the CCTI setting. He is certified in Mathematics as well as Chemistry among other areas. He provides one-on-one tutoring to students identified by teaching staff who need additional help. He thanked Mr. Reinbold for bringing him on as well as others who serve as tutors, noting that no other school district in the area provides private tutoring to their students within the school day. He invited members of the JOC to visit CCTI during the day to see this tutoring process in action. At the age of 83, Mr. Gunsser has dedicated his life to teaching.

Mr. Reinbold then introduced the following to present:

- **Principal’s Report – Mr. Brent Borzak**
  
  The 2021-2022 school year is approaching the fourth marking period. Third marking period progress reports have been sent to all parents. Various CTE Month activities have taken place and were very successful. Students had a lot of fun throughout the activities. CCTI students and staff are extremely busy and focused on preparing for our upcoming weeks of testing for NOCTI and Keystone Exams, as well as AP testing and other certification tests. The Spring Occupational Advisory Committee (OAC) meeting will take place during the evening of March 24th, at CCTI. The OAC consists of members from local business and industry, who provide input to our CTE programs. The National Technical Honor Society Induction Ceremony will take place at CCTI on the evening of April 20th. The CCTI Salon, Restaurant and School Store all have been open for business and doing well. Guidance has been busy going through applications of new and incoming students.

  Mr. Borzak shared flyers and information on the following upcoming events at CCTI:

- **CCTI and SHINE Non-Traditional Summer Camp**
  
  - Collaboration with SHINE After School Program
    - Mrs. Rachel Strucko, Director
    - Mrs. Taryn Stewart, Coordinator/Lead Teacher
  
  - 2 weeks, 4 days a week – Weeks of June 20 & June 27
  
  - Transportation and lunch is provided
  
  - CCTI teachers and instructional aides will be teaching the trades
  
  - Opportunity to reach 5th through 8th grade students with exposure to trades
  
  - Within the 1st 3 days, over 80 students registered
  
  - No cost to the CCTI JOC. Costs will be covered through Perkins Grant funding with a large portion being provided by the SHINE program through LCCC
  
  - Mr. Borzak shared that 40% of students who participate in the SHINE After School Program, ultimately enroll at CCTI.

- **Women in Business Expo Event**
  
  - Professional women in Carbon County will be at CCTI to speak with all female students regarding soft skills, climbing the career ladder, and
providing professional advice on March 22, 2022.

Mr. Borzak shares that the flyers for both events were created by CCTI students.

- Jalissa Kuehner, Marketing and Distributive Education Instructor and DECA Advisor with students Gracie Heintzelman (PVSD Marketing Sophomore) and Makenna Montefour (JTASD Marketing Freshman)
  - Ms. Kuehner shared that she is an alumni of CCTI and worked in industry prior to returning to teach at CCTI
  - Makenna shared the following information about DECA - 18 competitors during districts, all students placed. Only 7 competitors competed during states due to Covid and parents not wanting them to travel. All 7 placed in only mini awards, which is good practice because they haven't competed in 2 years due to Covid.
  - Gracie shared the following about the School Store - The school store was closed due to Covid when I started working in April of 2020 with an amount of around $1080.98 sitting in the school store account. We reopened the school store September 2021 and have grown that amount to a profit in the school store of currently over $4,000.00. We are open both lunch A and B every day, making a profit of over $200 per day. All merchandise and accessories are made by the students using our commercial heat press, vinyl cutter and sublimation printer. We sell healthy food and beverages, and the marketing students make healthy fresh smoothies and movie theater popcorn every day. We will be making samples to hand out of our flavor of the month for St. Patty’s Day “Granny Smith Green Apple with Ghiradelli Caramel Drizzle.”

- Frank DeMatto, School Police Officer
  - On Thursday February 10, 2022 I had the privilege of taking 5 students to the Carbon County Commissioners Meeting at which time the Commissioners issued a proclamation honoring CCTI in recognition of Career and Technical Education Month in Pennsylvania.

  JTASD        Rachelle McFeeley 12th Grade Welding
  LASD         Kyle Nothstein 12th Grade Welding
  PASD         Autumn Benedict 12th Grade Health Medical Nurse Aid
  PVSD         Abigail Orach 12th Grade Marketing and Distributive Education
  WASD         Kelsey Mehlig 11th Grade Marketing and Distributive Education

All students spoke about what CCTI and Technical Education means to them. The students also presented each commissioner and County Administrator Eloise Ahner with Sublimation Mugs with a picture of the CCTI Building made at CCTI.
Along with the Proclamation, Commissioners presented CCTI with enlarged News Articles of CCAVTS opening in 1966.

Commissioners took several photos with our students and gave them the tour of the Commissioners Offices in the Carbon County Annex Building.

Students were treated to lunch at Gaetano’s Pizza by CCTI.

Autumn Benedict said that she and the other four students were able to speak with the Commissioners and share information about CCTI and the great opportunities it affords its students, for example she, in the Health Medical program has experience through clinical days and will graduate with her CNA certification.

- Business Administrator’s Report – Mr. Jeffry P. Deutsch, Business Administrator
  - Brief 2022-2023 CCTI Budget Update/Approval – see agenda motion.
    - Officially approved
    - JTASD to vote on Monday
    - Thanked all Board Members
    - Next year will be the 9th year in a row with no overall increase to the districts
  - Brief year-to date financial status report for 2021-2022.

- Facilitator of Special Education Report – Mrs. Christine Trovato, Facilitator of Special Education

Special Population Numbers
- Students with IEPs – 78 (LASD - 22; PASD - 23; JTASD - 20; WASD - 2; PVSD - 11)
- Students with GIEPs (Gifted) – 2
- Section 504 Service Plans/Health Plans – 23
- Homeless Students – 1
- English Language Learners - 3

Informational Purposes
- PDE offers professional development resources (for administrators and teachers): Power Up with PA Data Power Shots are short videos that serve as forms of professional learning and are meant to support school leaders and teachers in understanding how to use data to make decisions to drive instruction, and refresh their understanding of different topics related to using data. Each video is focused on a specific concept, skill, report or data use. They can be used for individual professional development or with small groups or larger groups of teachers (ex- data team meetings, professional learning communities, department, faculty meetings), and as an induction training for staff. Videos have “Companion Guides”, which are used to guide the viewer in how to use the video.
• Act 158: Pathways to Graduation Toolkit –Visit SAS to see the tool kit and flow chart.
  o Summarized- Act 158 & Act 6 (CTE) provides alternatives to PA’s state requirement of attaining Proficiency on the 3 Keystones (Alg. I, Lit., Bio) in order to achieve statewide graduation requirements.
  o Effective w/ 2023 graduates, students have the option to demonstrate career readiness through 1 of 4 additional pathways.
  o Keystones will still continue as the state test to comply w/ accountability requirements set forth in ESSA.
  o Students will no longer be required to achieve proficiency to meet state graduation requirements.
  o Students with disabilities must meet IEP goals shall meet the Act 158 or Act 6 requirements.
  o ELLs are still required to take the ACCESS WIDA assessment.
  o CTE students need to still take the Keystones (unless opted out) and also meet 1 of the following: attainment of competency cert. related to CTE program of study OR demonstration of the high likelihood of success on approved competency test as evidenced by performance on benchmark, course grades, & other factors related to the concentrator’s goals/career plan (determined by director) or the student’s consistent demonstration of meaningful engagement in his/her program of study, benchmarks, grades, etc. (determined by director).
  o Completion of local grade requirements in any science and technology and environment and ecology course will satisfy the Keystone Bio exam for CTE students.

Visit for more info:
SAS:  
https://pdesas.org/Page/Viewer/ViewPage/56/?SectionPageItemId=12190&PpageItemId=12199

Looking Forward
• March 30th - Homeless and Foster Regional Meeting (Information will follow at the April JOC meeting)
• Throughout the month of April...Applicants with IEPs and/or 504 Service Plans will participate in Transition meetings to review documents, discuss needs, and make changes as needed to reflect the new school setting and programming.

Mr. Reinbold noted the great job that Christine has done with transition meetings.

• Building and Grounds Report – Mr. Ken Walters, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds
  o Shared some upcoming events to take place in the near future at CCTI
  o Scheduled to meet with a management representative from KME about donations due to shut down. Will also discuss need for substitutes and process for onboarding.
  o For safety and as part of the ESSER grant we’ll be trading in a 2004 Chevy cobalt and purchasing a 2022 ford escape with no impact to our budget.
  o Flickr house project showcase. Mr. Walters complimented the work of Mr. Hazelton, Carpentry Instructor, Mr. O’Donnell, Carpentry Instructional Aide, Mr. Gower, Electrical Distribution and Automation/Electrician Instructor, Mr. Reiter, HVAC
Instructor, as well as the students on the work they have been doing on the house project. This is the largest house our students have built thus far at 54’ x 44’. CCTI is considered a Modular Home building site in the state of Pennsylvania. The State comes out and does all of the inspections as we are a certified center.

- Projects scheduled for at least the next 5 years.

Mr. Reinbold shared that CCTI will be applying for an ESSER (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief fund) grant in the amount of $384,000.00.

- Technology Report – Mr. Nate Rinda, Director of Technology
  - Chromebooks - All new Chromebooks are set up and distributed to those in need.
  - Graphic Design - Updating Compass testing software for Adobe certification testing.
  - CDT testing - More rounds of testing going on.
  - PowerSchool - Started implementation of Special Education add-ons. Project schedule set and rollout has begun.
  - Promethean - 3 new 75” touch panels have arrived. Just awaiting installation.
  - SkillsUSA – Support and setup of technology for next competitions.
  - Building technology inventory - Working on updating inventory database of all CCTI Technology.
  - Continued support/ training - to staff and students with Google Suite and all technology needs.

Items of Business

Personnel

MOTION by Mr. Mansberry, SECONDED by Mr. Strubinger that the following motions be approved:

Title IX and Section 504 Coordinator and School Safety and Security Coordinator Appointed

A. that Michelle Allen be appointed Title IX and Section 504 Coordinator and the School Safety and Security Coordinator for the Carbon Career & Technical Institute for the 2021-2022 school year, effective March 14, 2022.
Revised Threat Assessment Team Approved

B. to revise the following Threat Assessment Team for the 2021-2022 school year to conform to Pennsylvania Public School Code Article XIII-E:

- Dave Reinbold, Administrative Director*
- Brent Borzak, Administrative Director**
- Michelle Allen, Principal***
- Ken Walters, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds
- Rebecca Schaeffer, School Nurse
- Eugene Colosimo, Guidance Counselor
- Christine Trovato, Facilitator of Special Education
- Francis L. DeMatto, School Police Officer

Note: Among its provisions, Article XIII-E requires the establishment of at least one Threat Assessment Team for each school entity in Pennsylvania by the start of the upcoming 2021-2022 school year.
*Through March 31, 2022
**Effective April 1, 2022
***Effective March 14, 2022

Category C (Long-Term) Substitute Teacher Approved

C. to approve Autumn Frey, Health Medical Instructional Aide as a Category C (long-term) substitute teacher (Health Medical), effective March 07, 2022 through the end of the 2021-2022 school year at a pro-rated step 1 salary, as per the current CCTI Education Association Agreement.

Resignation Date Extended

D. to extend the resignation effective date of David Reinbold, Administrative Director to April 30, 2022 and to appoint him Assistant to the Administrative Director for the period April 1, 2022 through April 30, 2022.

Letter of Resignation Accepted

E. to accept the letter of resignation received from Geri Vavra, Instructional Aide, effective July 11, 2022.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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Motions carried.
Education

MOTION by Mr. Mansberry, SECONDED by Mr. Foeller that the following motions be approved:

A/B Two-Day Rotation Schedule Approved

A. to approve the A/B Two-day rotation schedule for the 2022-2023 school year.

Note: This schedule will result in students spending a full day in their technical areas and a full day in their academic classes on a two day rotating basis.

Senior Class Trip Approved

B. to approve a senior class trip to Knoebels Amusement Resort, Elysburg, PA on May 19, 2022 at a cost not to exceed $3,500 for ticket and transportation expenses.

Note: Expenses for the trip are included in the 2021-2022 General Fund Budget

Homebound Instruction Approved

C. that homebound instruction be approved for student #8015 for 2.5 hours per week from March 1, 2022 through April 1, 2022.

Homebound Instruction Approved

D. that homebound instruction be approved for student #11140 for 5 hours per week from March 15, 2022 through April 1, 2022.

Field Trip Approved

E. that Kevin Kuehner, Precision Machine Technology Instructor, and Michele Klock, Cooperative Education/School Improvement Coordinator, chaperone nine (9) Precision Machine Technology students on a field trip to Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology, Lancaster, PA May 3, 2022.

Note: There is no cost to the CCTI Joint Operating Committee.

Field Trip Approved

F. that Anthony (A.J.) Burke, Culinary Arts Instructor, and Ashleigh Rehrig and Michele Troutman, Culinary Arts Instructional Aides chaperone fourteen (14) Culinary Arts students on a field trip to Walnut Hill College, Philadelphia, PA May 18, 2022.

Note: Expenses for the trip are included in the 2021-2022 General Fund Budget
Senior/Junior Class Trip Approved

G. to approve a class trip to all interested juniors and seniors to Pocono Whitewater Rafting, Jim Thorpe, to partake in a Family Style trip including a BBQ lunch and an educational presentation on employment opportunities with Pocono Whitewater Rafting on May 31, 2022. Transportation will be provided by Pocono Whitewater Rafting at a cost of $100 per bus (48 students per bus).

Note: Expenses for the trip are included in the 2021-2022 General Fund Budget. A sign-up sheet will be provided for any interested juniors and seniors. The Family Style trip is 8 miles in class I & II whitewater rapids. CCTI Faculty/Staff will accompany as chaperones. All participants (students and faculty/staff) will be required to complete a Pocono Whitewater Rafting liability waiver as well as a CCTI permission slip.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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Motions carried.

Budget & Finance

Receipt of Budget Resolutions Acknowledged

A. MOTION by Mr. Foeller, SECONDED by Mr. Mansberry to acknowledge receipt of the Resolution pertinent to the 2022-2023 Proposed Operating Budget for the Carbon Career & Technical Institute calling for receipts and expenditures in the amount of $9,050,721 as follows:

**Lehighton Area School District**
Yes – 9, No - 0, Absent – 0, Abstentions – 0 – Approved

**Palmerton Area School District**
Yes – 9, No - 0, Absent – 0, Abstentions – 0 – Approved

**Panther Valley School District**
Yes – 6, No - 0, Absent – 3, Abstentions – 0 – Approved

**Weatherly Area School District**
Yes – 5, No - 2, Absent – 2, Abstentions – 0 – Approved

VOTE: YES - 5  NO - 0  ABSENT - 0  ABSTENTIONS - 0

Motion carried.
**Buildings & Grounds**

NONE

**Administrative**

MOTION by Mrs. Houser, SECONDED by Mr. Mansberry that the following motions be approved:

**Student & Parent Handbook Purchase Approved**

A. to approve the purchase of 650 2022-2023 Student & Parent Handbooks for CCTI at a cost of $4,615.00.

Note: Motion is to approve purchase at price quoted. Revisions will be forthcoming.

**Graduation Ceremony Revision Approved**

B. to revise the previously approved 2022 CCTI graduation ceremony as follows:

- Friday, June 3, 2022
- 5:00 p.m.
- Located at CCTI field

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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Motions carried.

**Reports**

**Foundation Report Accepted**

A. MOTION by Mr. Mansberry SECONDED by Mr. Foeller to accept the Carbon Career & Technical Institute Foundation Report, as presented.

Note: The balance in this account stands at $969.52.

VOTE: YES - 5  NO - 0  ABSENT - 0  ABSTENTIONS - 0  Motion carried.
Administrative Reports

A. MOTION by Mr. Mansberry, SECONDED by Mr. Foeller to accept Administrative Reports from the following:

a. Mr. Brent Borzak, Principal/Assistant to the Administrative Director
b. Mrs. Christine Trovato, Facilitator of Special Education
c. Mrs. Francine Kluck, Adult Education Site Supervisor

VOTE: YES - 5  NO - 0  ABSENT - 0  ABSTENTIONS - 0  
Motion carried.

Old Business

NONE

New and Miscellaneous Business

A. MOTION by Mr. Foeller SECONDED by Mr. Mansberry to acknowledge receipt of the conference report submitted by the below listed individuals, after attending the Auto High School Instructor Seminar at the Automotive Training Center, Warminster, PA on March 16, 2022:

- Harold Resh, Auto Service Technology Instructor
- Stephen Nesler, Auto Collision Repair Instructor

VOTE: YES - 5  NO - 0  ABSENT - 0  ABSTENTIONS - 0  
Motion carried.

Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting: Thursday – April 21, 2022

Adjournment

Mr. Foeller moved, seconded by Mr. Strubinger, that the meeting adjourn. By unanimous consent, the meeting adjourned at 7:16 PM.

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Christina A. Graver
Joint Operating Committee Secretary