

CAACE Board of Directors Meeting
VRABE, 70 Loveland Hill Rd, Vernon, CT
February 16, 2018

Present: Mayela Aguirre, Kymbel Branch, Lawrence Covino, David Downes, Risa Filkoff, LuAnn Gallicchio, Roszena Haskins, Aileen Halloran, Kristin Hempel, Kelley Lanahan, Joseph Lawler, Heather Pelletier, Glen Peterson, Gabriel Riccio, Lori Wyrebek

3. SDE (Glen Peterson)

(Glen gave his update to start off the meeting to assure that he could make a later morning commitment.)

There is a Digital Learning event at ACES on 2/22.

ED 245, 245a are due 4/6.

Cap is at 8.44%, with 2.5% held back; the total is at 10.44%.

The CDP Advisory Committee is working to bring hours, etc., in line with high school credits.

GED Ready is considered as a prerequisite for test registration to promote accountability.

CARS is still a work in progress. Federal reporting is necessary to move the project forward.

Computer Associates is working to move it forward. Call Sabrina if you are having problems.

All State agencies will be redirected to a new, more user-friendly website.

1. Minutes

Motion to accept January 2018 minutes was made by Heather Pelletier; it was seconded by Kristin Hempel. It was passed unanimously.

2. Treasurer's Report

Lori Wyrebek reviewed the reviewed the Treasurer's Report. Larry Covino called for its acceptance. Joseph Lawler moved that it be accepted; the motion was seconded by Mayela Aguirre. It was passed unanimously.

4. Committee Reports

Conference (Heather Pelletier) -

There is a need for more proctors; proctors are entitled to a reduced conference registration fee. Also, we need volunteers to sit in for an hour or so for the vendors so that they are able to take a break when needed. The big push now is to secure registrations; there are only a few rooms still available at the Marriott, so it is advisable to get them in ASAP. It's not too late to line up additional vendors is there some with whom we have done business who have not yet committed.

Advocacy (David Downes) –

The legislature has reconvened, and it will be important to advocate against the proposed reduction in our funding levels. Richard had already made a presentation on behalf of Workforce Development. Appropriations will be discussed on 2/22.

We continue to push against the need for background checks. It will be addressed as part of a broader bill. Extension course providers should be given special consideration.

There is a meeting on 2/17 for Workforce Development. Also, there is a meeting on March 1 for Fiscal Stability and Economic Growth – what are Connecticut’s “big ideas”? Employers should be an important part of the discussion on how we go forward.

Surveys are going out to determine which programs offer child care; addressing this might have an impact on attracting students and retaining them! Human Services is interested in pursuing options for disassociated students and workers as a way to help people get out of poverty. The State will be turning to the Dept. of Labor as being instrumental in this initiative. Judy Blei will be preparing a white paper to discuss how Adult Education can make an impact. Board members are asked to write to Larry to let him know how we are handling this, if at all, and how the costs associated with it are being met.

Make sure we contact state reps and news agencies to share our successes.

Membership (Kelley Lanahan) –

Everyone is paid up at this time.

Finance (Lori Wyrebek) –

N/A

Nominating (Kelley Lanahan) -

We currently have twenty-one Board members; we are down four. Start thinking about new representatives. We should consider broadening our scope and invite prospects to pre-conference Board meeting on March 16.

Personnel

N/A

5. Public Comment (Aileen Halloran) -

The International TESOL Association is celebrating its 50th Anniversary in three years. Consider getting your teachers involved for the October conference. It is an all-day Saturday event, and some have brought their students as well. DACA has been well-represented at this event. We need more representation from Adult Ed. The Association needs more Bard members as well, so please give that some consideration.

6. Old Business

PD Update (Larry Covino) -

The Tina Jeter letter was well written.

So far, we have \$1700 in pledges with another \$500-\$600 expected. We need to support the initiative with a write up for the conference brochure, and perhaps tout it during the luncheon program.

7. New Business (Risa Filkoff) –

We need to push for sponsorship. Asking for money is not easy, and not popular in current economic pattern, but even being told “no” plants an important seed in who we are, what we do for the community (and our business community) and what may be a positive contact down the road. Make a list of who you know; do they share an interest in and support for education? Make the pitch about the students themselves – bring it to the “grass roots” level. Make you pitch face-to-face; develop a personal relationship. Suggest you already know that they care about what you do. It may be useful to prepare your talking points in advance.

8. Correspondence

N/A

9. Good and Welfare

Please share anything you have concerning expelled student policies. How are dropouts reflected in our graduation rate statistics?

Please reach out to Superintendents (Directors, program representatives, etc.) to attend the March conference.

As discussion had closed, the motion to adjourn was made by Joe Lawler and was seconded by Heather Pelletier. The motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Gabe Riccio, 3/16/18

