

**MINUTES  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**333 Market Street | 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Harrisburg, PA**

**July 11, 2018**

The meeting of the Council of Higher Education was called to order by Council Chairman Jonathan Peri at 1:08 p.m.

**Attending:**

James Agras	Sandra Dungee Glenn	Maureen Lally-Green
Carol Aichele	Donald Fey	Jonathan Peri
James Barker ( <i>via phone</i> )	Pamela Gunter-Smith	Ashley Svec
Nathan Barrett	Kirk Hallett	Karen Farmer White
Nicole Carnicella	Shirlann Harmon	A. Lee Williams
Ellie DeWitt		

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the May 9, 2018, meeting of the Council of Higher Education were approved on a **Gunter-Smith/Dungee Glenn** motion.

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Karen Farmer White opened the meeting of the Committee of the Whole by introducing and welcoming Ashley Svec, the new Junior Student member of the Council of Basic Education. She also announced that Arynn Pratt, the new Junior Student member of the Council of Higher Education, was unable to attend due to a conflict with a summer internship and will join the Board at its next meeting in September.

On behalf of the Board, Ms. Farmer White then presented a resolution to Highmark expressing appreciation for Highmark's renewed commitment to supporting the Board's student leadership program. Kathleen McKenzie, Highmark's Vice President of Community Affairs, attended the meeting to accept the recognition.

**REPORT OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY  
POSTSECONDARY AND HIGHER EDUCATION**

Noe Ortega, Deputy Secretary of Postsecondary and Higher Education, offered the following report.

Deputy Secretary Ortega said the Department will hold regional stakeholder convenings to gather input from the educational community on issues related to Chapter 49, which governs educator certification and will be coming before the Board for a major review in the near future. He noted that Act 39 of 2018 made changes to certification requirements for career and technical education teachers and directs the Department of Education to form a professional advisory committee with ongoing responsibility for ensuring alignment between program design and the professional responsibilities of vocational educators.

The Deputy Secretary then said the Department shortly will announce the recipients of grants for its inaugural Innovative Teacher and Principal Residency Program, which is funded through federal Title II, Part A dollars. Mr. Ortega said 32 applications were received from 26 educator preparation programs/providers seeking to support new or expanded teacher and principal residency programs.

Mr. Ortega went on to discuss the Department's work with the Pennsylvania School Counselors Association on a series of professional development symposia slated for the fall.

He also provided an update on the work of the Transfer and Articulation Oversight Committee to expand the statewide transfer system to include standards for awarding credit for prior learning per Act 55 of 2017.

The Deputy Secretary said the College Textbook Policies Advisory Committee in the final stages of developing a rough draft of its next report that is due to the Board in September.

On the subject of Adult Basic Education, Mr. Ortega reported that the Department awarded 32 Adult Basic Education Direct Services grants totaling approximately \$22 million and seven Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education grants totaling approximately \$1.1 million.

Mr. Ortega concluded his report with an update on the closure of certain private licensed schools. The Deputy Secretary said The Dream Center Foundation is closing 30 of the colleges it purchased last year, including the Art Institute of Philadelphia which is slated to close in December 2018. He spoke to the Department's efforts to facilitate transfer opportunities for displaced students who will not be able to complete their programs before closure.

Deputy Secretary Ortega then addressed the Statewide Postsecondary Attainment Goal and requested that the Board consider its approval later in the meeting. The goal seeks to have 60 percent of Pennsylvania's adult population hold a postsecondary degree or credential by 2025. Mr. Ortega reviewed benchmarks developed by the Department at the Board's request to monitor progress toward attainment of the goal. Mr. Ortega discussed the need to focus on underrepresented subgroups within the aggregate and noted that the progress metrics, focused on postsecondary enrollment and persistence, would be updated to reflect underrepresented student subgroups where data is available.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

**ACTION ITEM**

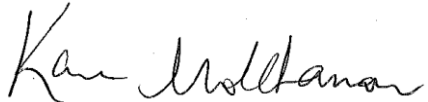
James Agras made a motion to establish a statewide goal for the Commonwealth to have 60 percent of the population ages 25-64 hold a postsecondary degree or industry recognized credential by 2025, with a particular focus on closing attainment gaps for historically underrepresented populations. The motion was seconded by Sandra Dungee Glenn and adopted by unanimous voice vote.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further items of business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:31 p.m.



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Karen Molchanow