

MINUTES

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Virtual Meeting

September 9, 2020

The meeting of the Council of Higher Education was called to order by Council Chair Dr. Jonathan Peri at 1:24 p.m.

Attending:

Carol Aichele

James Barker

Nathan Barrett

Jamie Bracey Green

Nicole Carnicella

Sandra Dungee Glenn

Anne Griffin

Pamela Gunter-Smith

Jeffrey Keeling

Maureen Lally-Green

Jonathan Peri

Eva Rankin

Hon. James Roebuck

Hon. Curt Sonney

Jillian Sweigard

Taiba Sultana

Karen Farmer White

A. Lee Williams

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Immediately preceding the meeting of the Council of Higher Education, Chair Karen Farmer White called to order the Committee of the Whole for recognitions.

Ms. Farmer White welcomed Taiba Sultana who was selected to serve as the State Board of Education's new Junior Postsecondary Student Member. Ms. Sultana, a student at Northampton Community College, will serve a two-year term on the Council of Higher Education as a non-voting advisor.

Ms. Farmer White announced that this is the last meeting where the Board would be joined by Secretary Pedro Rivera before he departs to take on a new role as President of Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology. Ms. Farmer-White thanked Secretary Rivera for his service and for his dedication to the students of Pennsylvania and invited him to deliver parting remarks to the Board. Ms. Farmer White then introduced a resolution honoring Secretary Rivera for his service. A motion to adopt the resolution was made by Ms. Farmer-White and seconded by Rep. Roebuck, and was unanimously approved by the Board by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the July 8, 2020, meeting of the Council of Higher Education were approved on a **Gunter-Smith/Bracey Green** motion.

REPORT OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY
POSTSECONDARY AND HIGHER EDUCATION

Deputy Secretary Noe Ortega acknowledged and thanked higher education leaders across Pennsylvania who have been leading their communities during COVID-19. He said the Departments of Education and Health have been working closely together to develop guidance and recommendations to meet the challenges the institutions have met. Mr. Ortega commented that the Office of Postsecondary and Higher Education regularly meets with those in the field and will make themselves available to address needs of the Commonwealth's postsecondary sector as they emerge in real time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

ACTION ITEMS

There were no action items.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items of business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:32 p.m. on a **Gunter-Smith/Bracey Green** motion.



Karen Molchanow
Executive Director