**Providence School Department**

**797 Westminster Street**

**Providence, RI 02903**

**CAREER & TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING**

**October 30, 2024**

1. **Convene Meeting**
   1. **Call to Order – 5:33 PM -**

**Chairman Escobar** – Good evening everybody, thank you for attending the Career and Technical Education Committee of the Providence School Board on October 30, 2024 and I am calling this meeting to order and I am going to go the approval of the agenda and I am going to ask for an amendment to the agenda to switch and put CTE Policies current and proposed to 4.2 and add a 4.3 which would be open discussion and we would love to hear from folks about how the school year is going and if there are any issues or concerns that we should know.

Can anyone help me make that motion to the agenda?

**In Attendance**: Travis Escobar, Brett Dickens, Jennifer Ortiz, Brian Bordieri, Nkoli Onye, Nestor Puello, Judy Valentine

**This Meeting is Livestreamed on Youtube.com – Providence School Board**

**Career & Technical Meeting – 10/30/2024**

**Chairman Escobar** - The first item on the agenda is the approval of the agenda so can I get a motion to approve the agenda?

1. **Approve Agenda**
   1. Approval of Agenda as presented

A Motion was made to amend the agenda by moving item 4.2 CTE Policies Current and Proposed and then adding an item before 4.3 Open Discussion regarding the school year is going in front of item 4.2 so we can just check in and see how the school year is going.

**MSV – Ortiz, Puello (6-0) MOTION APPROVED**

1. **Consent Agenda**
   1. Approval of Minutes –– 8/28/2024

A Motion was made to approve the minutes

**MSV – Ortiz, Puello (6-0) MOTON APPROVED**

1. **Planning**
   1. CTE Updates

**Brett Dickens –** As you know I always have a ton of updates and I did share with you Travis some of our successes for you Travis and I appreciate you sharing them with the whole School Board that way I don’t have to repeat everything again.

**Travis Escobar –** Of course.

**Brett Dickens –** Things that have happened since then are that we submitted four programs for RIDE approval for the school year 26 and one program was moved to the next state which is a full application and that’s the music program at Mt. Pleasant and that application is actually due on Monday the 4th so they will be submitting the full application for approval and we will be notified by the 19th. Two of our programs were approved without going to that second level and that is Mt. Pleasant Pre-Engineering and JSEC’s Computer Science Program, and the reason we don’t have to go to the full application is because we already have the existing Computer Science Program at Mt. Pleasant and we already have an existing Pre-Engineering Program at PCTA and since the curriculum is the same we were able to get through that process without going the full application.

One of our programs was denied and that is the firefighter program at Central and it was denied on a technicality which is that you lose points in the rubric if you don’t have a full-time teacher on staff for the program, you lose four points and you also lose points on the rubric if you don’t have a middle school feeder and because the feeder for the firefighter program is central law and public safety and happens in the junior year we couldn’t argue that we had a middle school feeder. So we don’t intend at Central to hire a full-time Fire Instructor because we would only have one cohort a year and that would not be a good use of our resources, we have been given a ton of support to continue to operate that program as a pathway in the Law and Public Safety Program at Central. So, it’s not bad news, it’s just going to continue to operate as a CTE Pathway.

If music goes through, we will be at 26 RIDE approved programs next year and next Fall we intend to put forward the Finance Program at Alvarez and we will put forward a Dental Program at JSEC as well.

We are very excited about this news and we have gotten a lot of enthusiasm about going forward with the Dental Program so we are very excited.

We have had exploratory meetings with the Rhode Island Dental

Association, Delta Dental and with The Dental Assisting and Hygiene Program at

CCRI so we definitely have an industry partner and the State Association with

tons of connections. We also have Colgate Palmolive that is running a

preventative dental curriculum so we are going to do the pilot and pick this

off it will the students at JSEC that will be part of the Future Health Professionals which is kind of a SKILLS USA organization for health professionals.

What we envision going forward and we will work with the Nursing Department in the Providence Public Schools and Kendra St. Hilaire is working on the K-8 preventative and dental treatment. We are very much interested in what dental care we can provide to our students and then building a pipeline of dental professionals and eventually marrying those two. We would like to start our first cohort in September of 25. We did not put an application forward because we haven’t started the pathway.

**Travis Escobar** – On dental, how many programs are there regionally?

**Brett Dickens** – There is only one in the state and it’s at East Providence and we will be going there to visit and I think it’s causing a little bit of a pipeline issue because the ability to have a Dental Program has not been granted to high schools until the last couple of years so I think they are recognizing they have a workforce shortage and they need to start expanding. CCRI is the only granting institution so partnering with them is going to be very strategic for us and what we hope to do in the next month is visit one in Connecticut and one in Massachusetts just to see what the other states are doing.

We are thinking of starting a cohort of freshmen and sophomores and then we are thinking of a combined junior and senior cohort of approximately 20 students and I think we will max out at 90 once all four grades are in, but even though many students start in their junior or senior year next year at JSEC can’t do the three pathway they would greatly benefit from being in it and I will come to you next to talk about Newcomer students coming into that pathway, especially in the upper grades.

There will also be Robotics and we are also excited about that as well. The last update I want to share that we have working very closely with RIDE for a few months to get approval for School Based Enterprise Processes and Procedures at PCTA starting with the Graphics Program and we now have the ability to have teachers stay two days a week with a cohort of students and do some of the jobs that come into that school and we have the ability to pay the students for their service in that program. The teachers in that program have identified a cohort of seniors and a cohort of juniors, so it will be an afterschool program and they can collect revenue and use that to apply for future jobs.

* 1. CTE Student Survey development and timing
  2. CTE Policies – Current and Proposed

There was a brief discussion on sending out student and staff CTE Surveys

1. **Adjourn**
   1. Adjourn Meeting – 6:44 PM

A Motion was made to Adjourn the Meeting

**MSV – Ortiz, Escobar (6-0) MOTION APPROVED**