

MEMO OF RECORD
Commonwealth Education Continuum

Type: Commonwealth Education Continuum –: 9th Grade On Track Workgroup
Date: July 21, 2022
Time: 1:00 p.m. ET
Location: Virtual meeting – Workgroup members by ZOOM teleconference. Public viewing at CPE YouTube Page

CALL TO ORDER

The Commonwealth Education Continuum (CEC) 9th Grade On Track Workgroup held a regular meeting on July 21, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. ET. Pursuant to Executive Order 2020-243 and a memorandum issued by the Finance and Administration Cabinet dated March 16, 2020, and in an effort to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), the CEC workgroup met utilizing a video teleconference. Members of the public were invited to view the meeting on the CPE YouTube page.

ATTENDANCE

The following members were present: J’Nora Anderson, Autumn Bishop, Nick Brooks, Dede Conner, Beth Kelly, Angela Rowe, Jan Sellers, and Lu Young.

The following members were not present: Susan Cintra, Suzanne Farmer, Andrea McKeehan, Melanie Morrison, Kori Nolcox, and Destiny O’Rourke.

Joette Fields, CPE Business Specialist served as recorder of the meeting memo.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

9th Grade on Track Workgroup Co-Lead Jan Sellers and Dr. Jennifer Fraker, proxy for Co-Lead Destiny O’Rourke welcomed the members of the workgroup and thanked them for taking time to collect stakeholder feedback. Members were encouraged to keep their video on to be as interactive and engaging as possible as they bring their unique experiences to the workgroup. Jan Sellers reminded members where to find their workgroup meeting materials in the team’s google folder. Dr. Fraker reviewed the meeting agenda and reminded the group of the purpose of the initiative. Jan Sellers asked the workgroup members to use social media to share the work and help bring awareness to work that is being done by the Continuum. Members reintroduced themselves and shared experiences during their 9th grade year that contributed to their feeling of success.

REVIEW STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK

Dr. Jennifer Fraker shared the stakeholder insights that were compiled by Education Strategy Group (ESG). Dr. Fraker stated that interviews and focus groups were conducted with 39 individuals with representation from counselors, teachers, principals, assistant principals, district administrators, and education professor, a business owner as well as students and parents. Dr. Fraker said that most of the participants were from central KY and the only region not represented was southern KY. Dr. Fraker also discussed the diversity and gender of the interview participants and stated that stakeholders worked at or attended schools in districts that served predominately low-income students, rural districts, and racially diverse schools.

DISCUSS STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK

Dr. Jennifer Fraker discussed the key themes of data systems, academic expectations, social and mental health, family engagement and postsecondary goals that emerged from the stakeholder interviews and focus groups. The group went into two breakout rooms to take some time to process and discuss the stakeholder feedback data and what they learned. Each group shared their takeaways from the breakout room discussions to the full group.

NEXT STEPS

Jan Sellers thanked the workgroup members for their robust conversations in the breakout groups and asked the members for recommendations on how to prioritize the key challenges found from the stakeholder feedback. Members discussed the findings through the lens of what key challenges students and institutions face related to 9th grade readiness and how the workgroup can prioritize the challenges and what initial recommendations can be made to the CEC to address the challenges.

WRAP UP AND ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Jennifer Fraker reminded the group that the next meeting will be held virtually on August 23, 2022, from 1:00-3:00 pm. Members were asked to determine examples of best practices around 9th grade on track to highlight during the next meeting and members were also asked to consider possible definitions of 9th Grade-On-Track and that during the next meeting the group would begin to formulate recommendations to bring forward. Members were thanked for their attendance and were reminded to reach out to the workgroup co-leads for any questions or concerns.

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m. ET.