



Commonwealth Education Continuum

MINUTES

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Type: Regular Meeting
Date: January 24, 2024
Time: 1:00 p.m. ET
Location: Council on Postsecondary Education (Virtual via Zoom)

CALL TO ORDER

The Commonwealth Education Continuum (CEC) held a regular meeting on January 24, 2024 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 met utilizing a video teleconference. Members of the public were not permitted to attend the meeting in person but were encouraged to view the meeting on the Council on Postsecondary Education's YouTube channel.

ATTENDANCE

The following members were present: Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman, CPE President Aaron Thompson, Interim Education Commissioner Robin Kinney, Lynn Baker, Diana Barber, Matt Berry, Heather Bushelman, Eddie Campbell, Kathleen Christian DeDe Conner, Alicia Crouch, Debbie Dennison, Mason Dyer Jim Flynn, John Gregory, Beth Hargis, Robert Hayes John Hughes, Jamie Link, Travis Muncie, Jenny Sawyer, Diana Woods. Ashley Ireland attended as proxy for Robert Jackson.

The following members were not present: Alisher Burikhanov, Rhonda Caldwell, Eddie Campbell, Jo Carole Ellis, Robert Jackson, Solyana Mesfin, Justin Mitchell, Corinne Murphy, Sharon Porter-Robinson, Ryan Quarles, Rep. James Tipton, Madison Silvert, Kerri Schelling, Ashli Watts and Rep. Steve West.

WELCOME AND AGENDA

CPE President Aaron Thompson began the meeting by extending a welcome to members and meeting guests. Dr. Thompson shared that Kentucky had the highest fall-to-fall total enrollment gains in the nation, experienced a 5.6% increase in overall



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enrollment growth during the same period and ranked second nationally for undergraduate enrollment growth and fourth nationally for graduate enrollment.

Dr. Thompson discussed the importance of working together to build a strong, sustainable education pipeline for KY students and expressed appreciation for the support provided by the General Assembly.

Lt. Governor Coleman extended a welcome to the members and meeting guests and discussed the importance of each continuum member using their collective voices to help influence and strengthen the education pipeline for all Kentuckians. Lt. Governor Coleman discussed items in the Governor's budget proposal that intended to help strengthen the Commonwealth's education pipeline and help grow Kentucky's economy.

Interim Education Commissioner Robin Kinney welcomed members and shared her excitement after her initial meeting of the conversations and different perspectives being brought together to work toward a common goal.

Robin Kinney introduced Diana Woods, At Large Member of the Kentucky Board of Education and Lynn Baker, Interim Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Early Childhood as the newest members of the Continuum.

CPE Vice President Amana Ellis welcomed members to the first meeting of 2024 and provided a brief review of the meeting agenda and objectives to review and update the CEC mission and vision, identify and prioritize the areas of focus for 2024 and to provide a CEC progress update and to define continuum member roles.

CEC Mission and Vision

Dr. Robert Hayes provided a review of the feedback received from members to update the CEC Mission and Vision. Dr. Amanda Ellis presented the Commonwealth Education Continuum's mission to remove barriers throughout the system to ensure Kentucky students can access a seamless P-20 education journey and earn the necessary degrees and credentials to succeed in the workforce. The vision to champion an agile education system that serves Kentuckians from cradle to career and aspire to be the most seamless education system in the nation was presented and discussed.

CEC Focus for 2024



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CEC members split into two breakout groups and used questions from a decision matrix to discuss the suggested areas of focus and identify priorities for 2024, the feasibility of the priorities and whether the priorities align with the work and purpose of the CEC. The groups reconvened and identified the top priorities for the upcoming year.

CEC MEMBER ROLES FOR 2024

Dr. Amanda Ellis discussed the next steps for the members and told the group that workgroups would be formed as needed and that CEC members would be called on to provide data, and to offer suggestions and feedback as work begins to develop a data dashboard.

CLOSING

Dr. Amanda Ellis announced the remaining meeting dates for 2024 and allowed members to ask questions and make final comments. Robin Kinney thanked members for the attendance and participation in the meeting and members were reminded that they will receive follow-up information from the days meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 2:38 p.m.