



MINUTES

Commonwealth Education Continuum

Type: Regular Meeting
Date: May 3, 2023
Time: 1 p.m. ET
Location: Council on Postsecondary Education (Virtual via Zoom)

CALL TO ORDER

The Commonwealth Education Continuum (CEC) held a regular meeting on May 3, 2023 at 1 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: CPE President Aaron Thompson, KDE Commissioner Jason Glass, Diana Barber, Kathleen Christian, Debbie Dennison, Mason Dyer, Jim Flynn, John Gregory, Beth Hargis, Corinne Murphy, Amy Neal, Jenny Sawyer, Rep. James Tipton and Lu Young.

John Hughes from the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce attended as proxy for member Ashli Watts. Also in attendance was Meredith Brewer, Amanda Flanary, Travis Muncie, Jessica Fletcher, Beth Kelly, DeDe Conner and Matt Berry.

The following members were not present: Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman, Alisher Burikanov, Rhonda Caldwell, Eddie Campbell Gina Crabtree, Sen. David Givens, Robert Hayes, Robert Jackson, Justin Mitchell, Kerri Schelling, Ashli Watts and Sen. Max Wise.



WELCOME AND UPDATES

KDE Commissioner, Dr. Jason Glass and CPE President Aaron Thompson provided a welcome and thanked everyone for being a part of the work of the Continuum. Dr. Glass provided brief remarks on the focus of the transition to workforce. Dr. Glass also gave an overview of the Profile of a Learner, an agreed-upon set of aspirations for what every learner will know and be able to do when they leave school and identified the skills students need to be prepared for a world driven by technology, human interaction and innovation.

CPE President Aaron Thompson provided brief remarks about the Graduate Profile, a collaborative statewide plan among Kentucky's public postsecondary institutions, focuses on enhancing the academic quality and relevance of all academic programs. Dr. Thompson discussed the 10 essential skills identified by higher education organizations and workforce professionals, as learning outcomes that all graduates need for success in their chosen fields of study.

MEETING OVERVIEW

CPE Vice President, Dr. Amanda Ellis provided a review of the agenda and meeting objectives which were to summarize and discuss legislative action relevant to the CEC, to evaluate progress of the recommendations brought forth and to review and consider postsecondary to workforce transition data.

2023 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

Representative James Tipton provided a summary of key legislation that was enacted in the last legislative session of Kentucky's General Assembly that impacts education in the Commonwealth.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: THE KENTUCKY WORKFORCE INNOVATION BOARD

Deputy Executive Director of the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (KWIB) Debbie Dennison shared the structure, purpose and work of the advisory board shared that the board works to help job seekers access employment, education, training and support services to succeed in the labor market and to match employers with the skilled workers they need to compete in the global economy with the overall goal being to strengthen and improve the Commonwealth's public workforce system and help get Kentuckians, including those with significant barriers to employment, into high-quality jobs and careers and to help employers hire and retain skilled workers.



POSTSECONDARY TRANSITION TO WORKFORCE DISCUSSION

Kentucky Center for Statistics (KYSTATS) Executive Director, Matt Berry and Travis Muncie, CPE's Executive Director of Data Research and Advanced Analytics provided a data overview of the transition from postsecondary to the workforce and highlighted the number of postsecondary graduates and credential earners who are remaining in Kentucky jobs aligning with their degree or credential. Data was presented on what is known regarding earning potential based on level of education and whether the output of our postsecondary degree and credential pipeline aligned to and is meeting the needs of employers especially in high demand sectors. The term "family-sustaining wage" was discussed and how we think about this term nationally and in the Commonwealth.

Members divided into two breakout groups to process the data that was presented and discuss what resonated with them about the data and to determine if anything was missing in the data and what else should be known and where the biggest opportunities to collaborate and/or leverage improvements exist.

COMMITMENTS AND WRAP UP

CPE President, Aaron Thompson and KDE Commissioner, Jason Glass thanked participants for their attendance and commitment to the CEC. Dr. Amanda Ellis reminded the meeting participants of the next meeting of the CEC that is to occur on July 19, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. ET.

The meeting adjourned at 3:08 p.m. ET.