

CREC
Council Meeting
10/16/2024
11:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
In-Person and ZOOM Meeting (Link in Calendar Invite)

COUNCIL MEMBERS	CREC ATTENDEES
Tyron Harris, Chair	Greg J. Florio
Leonard Lockhart, Co-Chair	Sandy Cruz-Serrano
Meg Scata, Secretary/Treasurer	Desi Nesmith
Chris Campbell	Carol Dewey
Steven Tatum	Carlos Figueroa
Charlotte Riley	Aura Alvarado
Elizabeth LaBorious	Deb Borrero
Lydia Tedone	Sasha Douglas
Bobbie Granato	Elsie Gonzalez
Louis Daniels	Heather Tartaglia
Miriam Underwood	

I. CALL TO ORDER and APPROVAL of MINUTES

10/16/2024 Council Meeting @ 11:36 a.m.

A. 9/18/2024 Council Meeting

MOTION: A Motion to approve the September 18, 2024 minutes was made by Leonard Lockhart and seconded by Meg Scata. The motion was passed unanimously.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Jon Winer presented the Innovation baseball team with respect to the sportsmanship award it received.

III. PRESENTATIONS to COUNCIL

Amy Karwan, from the CREC Resource Group (CRG), presented information and facts about CRG, its partnerships, family engagement teams, funding sources, and offered services.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Meg Scata reported on the Audit and Fiscal committee meeting that was held last week. The committee discussed the entitlement grants and a carryover from the Wallace Foundation. Those two topics will be up for approval.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

A. 2024-2025 New Programs

- 1) Wallace Foundation: Closing Opportunity Gaps for Adolescents (Attachment A)
- 2) Entitlement Grants (Attachment B)

MOTION - A motion was made by Leonard Lockhart and seconded by Lydia Tedone to approve Attachments A and B. The motion was passed unanimously.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Florio talked about the CREC presentation in November which will be given by Heather Tartaglia specifically highlighting the Farmington Valley Diagnostic Center in Simsbury. Sara Steinberg, who is the director of that program, will be in attendance to present on the center.

There will be no meeting in December. In the new year, there will be presentations on magnet schools and operations.

CREC held its 10th annual charity golf tournament which benefits the CREC Foundation to provide scholarships to area students.

Dr. Florio also discussed the work we are doing with respect to the House Chair of the Education. CREC has been meeting with potential chairs to start developing that relationship.

CREC will be hosting a breakfast at the end of November for the area superintendents and their business managers to discuss the upcoming legislative session. The CT School + Finance Group will also be in attendance.

VII. COUNCIL CHAIR'S REPORT

None

VIII. DELIBERATED ACTION

- A. **Continuing Appointment of CREC Hearing Officer** – Mr. Szilagyi has served as a hearing officer for CREC for several years. He has mainly presided over student discipline matters, including expulsion hearings. He is also available for hearings related to student accommodation matters and personal matters.

MOTION: A motion to approve the continuing appointment of CREC Hearing Officer, Attorney Frank Szilagyi was made by Leonard Lockhart and seconded by Meg Scata. The motion was passed unanimously.

B. **Policy Approval** (Attachment C)

The following policies/regulations were approved by the Policy Committee on September 18, 2024 as a first reading:

- 1) Proposed Revised 4112.51P – Reference and Background Checks
- 2) Proposed Revised 4112.51R – Reference and Background Checks
- 3) Proposed Revised 4118.22P – Code of Ethics
- 4) Proposed Revised 4118.22R – Code of Ethics
- 5) Proposed Revised 6146P – Graduation Requirements
- 6) Proposed Revised 6148P – FAFSA
- 7) Proposed Revised 6159P – Planning and Placement Team (IEP)
- 8) Proposed Revised 6159R – Planning and Placement Team (IEP)

The following policies are presented by the Policy Committee for a second reading:

- 1) Proposed Revised 4112.51P – Reference and Background Checks
- 2) Proposed Revised 4118.22P – Code of Ethics
- 3) Proposed Revised 6146P – Graduation Requirements
- 4) Proposed Revised 6148P – FAFSA
- 5) Proposed Revised 6159P – Planning and Placement Team (IEP)

MOTION - A motion was made by Leonard Lockhart and seconded by Meg Scata to approve policies 1 through 5. The motion was passed unanimously.

IX. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Deb Borrero informed the council that we are preparing for the legislative session. Patrice McCarthy reported on the recommendations currently made, but doubts that the legislature will hear all of them. There is overlap in some of the recommendations, particularly around the special education task force and fully funding excess costs.

X. REPORTS**A. Financial Report (Attachment D)**

As of last month's council meeting, the total approved budget was \$433.7 million. Due to the Wallace Foundation and entitlement grants approved today, the new total is \$439.4 million which will be reflected in next month's budget. Auditors are wrapping up.

XI. COUNCIL COMMENTS

None

XII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Motion made by Leonard Lockhart and seconded by Meg Scata. The motion was passed unanimously to adjourn the council meeting at 12:28 p.m.