

Executive (KACC) Board Meeting
Thursday, January 15, 2015, 8:30 a.m.
Kankakee Area Career Center

Members Present

Beecher:	Jeffrey McCartney(8:32 am)	Bradley:	Scott Wakeley
Central:	Tonya Evans	Grant Park:	John Palan, Chairman
Herscher:	Richard Decman	Kankakee:	Genevra Walters
Momence:	Gary Miller	St. Anne:	Rick Levek
Reg. Office:	Gregg Murphy		

Absent: Manteno and Peotone

Minutes

The regular meeting of the Kankakee Area Career Center Executive Committee, Kankakee County, State of Illinois was called to order on January 15, 2015 at 8:30 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CONSENT AGENDA

1-3) A motion was made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Dr. Decman at 8:32 a.m. to approve the consent agenda, minutes of the combined KARVES Administrative Board of Control and KACC Executive Committee Meeting, accounts payable and finance reports. Motion carried by unanimous roll-call vote.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

4. Director's Report:

- a. Coalition for Hope and Excellence in Education (CHEE): Mr. Fay spoke about a recent meeting with Dr. Susan Emmeric, who is spearheading this program in the Kankakee Area. Also attending the meeting were two gentlemen from BASF, one of whom is a Reliability Engineer from their Texas plant (Dean Dawson), as well as Suzette Cole. Discussion was held concerning the potential for developing a program to help train and prepare our local workforce. There is significant need for skilled workers in our area. Mr. Fay stated one area of evidence is the fact no one has graduated from KCC's new Manufacturing Technology program as students start the program and wind up being hired prior to finishing. The next CHEE meeting will be held on January 26th. Dr. Decman shared his concern that the education community may be tasked with helping train students for specific industries without the financial support of those businesses. Mr. Fay stated he is anticipating there will be some sort of funding. Dr. Decman shared his willingness to promote a state-of-the-art program as long as the funding support is there. Mr. Fay spoke about our previous Pre-engineering program which was partially funded by Caterpillar. The program dissolved after 6 years because students could not find time in their schedules as they needed other math and science credits. Dr. Decman stated he is in favor, for the right program, of offering science or math credit to students for a program of this type.
- b. Teacher's Institute: Mr. Fay stated he has engaged the services of Dean Vigna to present a workshop for KACC faculty. Mr. Fay has personally experienced this dynamic instructor who works with high schools and universities alike.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

5. Update on School/Slot Changes: Mr. Fay reported BBCHS has made the decision they will not make an alteration to their daily course schedule. Because of this, there are no changes currently being proposed. Mr. Fay acknowledged the increased difficulty for schools to schedule RTI, etc. and stated we will remain as flexible as possible.

6. Grading Scale Change for KACC FY2016: Ms. Goodale reported this topic has been discussed at two principal's meetings. Those principals who were not in attendance were called by her personally to discern their opinions about a change. In addition, Ms. Goodale surveyed other career centers within the State. Eight of the twelve contacted utilize the 90/80/70/60 scale being proposed for KACC. Ms. Goodale also compiled statistics on the effect the new scale would have had if in place first semester of this year. (See Attached). A motion was made by Dr. Wakeley, seconded by Mr. Miller at 8:42 a.m. to change the KACC grading scale to a 90/80/70/60 flat scale as of the FY2016 school year. Motion carried by the following votes: Beecher: Yes; Bradley: Yes; Central: Abstained; Grant Park: Yes; Herscher: Abstained; Kankakee: Abstained; Momence: yes; St. Anne: No; Regional Office: Yes. Peotone and Manteno were absent. Ms. Evans stated even though this topic was discussed previously, she was unaware the Board was prepared to take a vote on the matter and had hoped for additional conversation after the initial conversations. Ms. Goodale then provided additional information in support of the change and clarified the fact KACC reports grades to home schools as a letter grade, not a percentage, so no additional calculation or adjustment need be made on the home school's end.
7. Seniority List: Dr. Decman questioned why the Principal and Assistant Principal appeared on the Seniority List presented. Discussion ensued about the reasons and suggestions made by legal counsel and the fact that an employee who is tenured does not lose their tenure if they move into administration. The breadth of the discussion went to include posting more than current endorsements/position, but all endorsements. Following discussion, a motion was made by Dr. Decman, seconded by Dr. Wakeley at 8:50 a.m. to approve the KACC Seniority List as presented. Motion carried by unanimous roll-call vote.
8. Closed Session Resolution: Mr. Fay reported to the board there are no new closed sessions added to the Addendum, nor any to be released. A motion was made by Dr. Decman, seconded by Ms. Evans at 8:50 a.m. to accept the Closed Session Resolution and Addendum as presented. Motion carried by unanimous roll-call vote.
9. FY2016 Tentative Calendar: Mr. Fay explained the calendar changed from last month by moving a Teacher's Institute day from February, 2016 to January, 2016 because the limited number students who will be in attendance. Mr. Fay believes this first day back from Winter Break will be very productive for the faculty. Ms. Evans questioned the rationale for Spring Break timeframe. Dr. Wakeley explained the benefits to parents and athletic schedulers to have a consistent break – that being the last full week of March. For the next 5 years or so, this timeframe will wind up corresponding with Easter holiday. Discussion was held about the Will County Spring Break being different and the fact that many schools, including Momence, Beecher and Watseka, send a bus to KACC during the times they are closed and KACC is in session. In addition, many students drive to KACC so they do not miss an opportunity to be in school. This is especially important in courses whereby State mandates the number of hours a student must attend in order to test to licensure. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Dr. Wakeley at 8:56 a.m. to approve the FY2016 School Calendar as presented. Motion carried by unanimous roll-call vote.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

10. Principal's Report: Ms. Goodale reported on the following:
 - a. Principal's Meeting: PARCC Testing timeframes will be the major topic of discussion at the upcoming Principal's Meeting on Thursday, January 22nd. Ms. Goodale explained with the increased timeframe of testing being 4 to 6 weeks, there may be a large number of students missing from their KACC curriculum over a long period of time. Dr. Murphy questioned the feasibility of testing students at KACC. Following discussion, it was determined this may not be the way to go. Dr. Wakeley mentioned BBCHS will test freshman students only as this group of students will be their starting point for longitudinal tracking. Ms. Goodale mentioned a majority of the schools she knows of in DuPage and Will Counties are also beginning with their freshman class this year. The Executive Committee agreed the discussion starting-point needs to be the Principal's meeting is an appropriate decision. Ms. Goodale will report back at a future meeting.
 - b. Preliminary Student Enrollment Numbers for FY2016: While three schools have yet to submit their preliminary enrollment, it appears enrollment for next year is on track to be maintain our

current 750-800 students. On an individual course basis, the numbers also appear to be similar to last year's.

11. Special Populations: Mr. Kelley provided the following information:

- a. WorkKeys: Post-Test results, as included in the board packet, were reviewed. Mr. Kelley highlighted the success achieved by our KACC students.
- b. Learning Center Scholarship: Applications for this annual \$250 scholarship have been received, but not yet reviewed. An announcement will be made in the near future.
- c. ACT WorkKeys 3rd Test: Mr. Kelley reported the 3rd test will once again be administered to senior students on a voluntary basis. Those scoring high enough will have an opportunity to earn a national workforce readiness certification. This certification is a wonderful addition to the students' portfolios. Last year 210 seniors volunteered to be tested. Mr. Kelley hopes the number of students will be consistent this year as well. Dr. Decman questioned the WorkKeys testing, scoring and measuring what constitutes success. He questioned what the anticipation of KACC is when it comes to these tests and expressed his concern some of these types of tests become meaningless if there is no true growth component measured. Ms. Goodale questioned if Dr. Decman was referring to the PARA parameters for growth, which is a bit different. Mr. Levek concurred with Dr. Decman's Assessment. Mr. Kelley offered to present the scoring and subsequent interpretation of the scoring in a more detailed method if that is what the Board wants to see. Mr. Kelley expressed his praise for the Learning Center program for helping students, many of whom have IEP's, learn strategies to be successful. In many of KACC's courses, these same students are earning dual college credits. Ms. Goodale stated most career centers look to KACC as a model when it comes to these types of support services offered.
- d. 8th Grade Career Awareness: This two-day event will be held on March 24th and 25th. Mr. Kelley reported the Business Panel is being revamped to include a keynote speaker, with secondary speakers. A planning meeting will be held January 26th to prepare our volunteer speakers for the change. Other changes include a breakout session for STEM and changes to the Manufacturing cluster presentation.

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Decman questioned if everyone was aware of GVAC beginning an aviation program. Dr. Murphy stated KCC is looking into that type of program with our local airport. Dr. Wakeley mentioned this type of program may be beneficial to look at during a previous meeting. Dr. Decman stated he is willing to offer a science credit for a program of this type. Dr. Palan stated some schools offer an early bird program, 7:30 a.m., Zero hour. Mr. Fay stated WILCO also has a program, with the convenience of Lewis' close proximity to their school. Dr. Wakeley spoke about Genoa having the program. Their students were, in fact, rated 2nd, 5th and 7th in Genoa's class rank. Dr. Wakeley spoke highly of the program. Mr. Fay expressed his willingness to investigate the opportunities locally with the Kankakee Airport.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. McCartney, seconded by Dr. Decman at 9:19 a.m. to adjourn the regular meeting of the KACC Executive Board. Motion carried by unanimous roll-call vote.

As Recorded By: _____
 Tonya Evans, Secretary

Attested By:

 John Palan, Chairman