

Northwest Educational Council for Student Success

Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 16, 2022, 11:30 a.m.
Township High School District 211
1750 S. Roselle Road
Palatine, IL 60067

PRESENT: District 211: Dr. Lisa Small, Joshua Schumacher
 District 214: Dr. David Schuler, Dr. Lazaro Lopez
 District 220: Dr. Melissa Byrne
 District 512: Dr. Avis Proctor, Dr. MaryAnn Janosik
 NECSS: Nancy Awdziejczyk, Cara Steetz

ABSENT: Dr. Robert Hunt, Dr. Michelé Smith

GUESTS: Christopher Scalet, Dr. Jason Klein, Dr. Stephanie Whalen, Sean Warren-Crouch

CALL TO ORDER

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Establishment of Quorum
NECSS Board Chair, Dr. Small called the NECSS Board meeting to order at 11:34 a.m.
 - Roll Call: 211- present; 214 – present; 220 – present; 512 - absent

APPEARANCES

1. Public Comments
No public attendance or comments

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of [Minutes of August 24, 2022 NECSS Board Meeting](#)
2. Approval of Financial Transactions [FY23 NECSS Budget Report dated October 31, 2022](#)
Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.
 - Motion by M. Byrne, second by D. Schuler
 - Roll Call: 214 – aye; 220 – aye; 512 - aye; 211 – aye;
 - Discussion: None
 - Motion approved

NEW BUSINESS

1. [FY22 NECSS Audit Report](#) - Christopher Scalet - Evans, Marshall & Pease, P.C.
Christopher Scalet from Evans, Marshall & Pease, presented the NECSS Board with the FY22 NECSS Audit Report. Mr. Scalet reported a clean, unmodified opinion. This was the first year of the new state reporting system for the audit. Midyear of FY22, NECSS fiscal agent, D214, switched from Apecs to iVisions which changed how capital outlay and non-capitalized equipment show in the budget within the audit report. In keeping with best practice, the auditing partner from Evans, Marshall & Pease will rotate for next year.
 - Motion to approve the FY22 NECSS Audit Report as presented.
 - Motion by M. Byrne, second by A. Proctor
 - Roll Call: 220 – aye; 512 – aye; 211 - aye; 214 – aye;
 - Motion approved

2. [NIU/Harper Equity EdD Cohort](#) - Dr. Jason Klein, NIU, Dr. Stephanie Whalen, Harper College
Dr. Klein presented information on an EdD cohort opportunity in partnership with NIU and Harper College. The board requested informational sessions on the program to be held to better gauge interest from individuals within each of the districts. N. Awdziejczyk to work with Council after the sessions on possible next steps.
3. [Financial Update](#)
C. Steetz gave the update on the status of funding and expenditures for all grants.
4. [NECSS Time and Effort Certifications](#)
NECSS Time and Effort Certifications were presented in alignment with grant requirements.
5. [Dual Credit Report](#)
N. Awdziejczyk presented the Dual Credit Report. Last year, the NECSS region saw a 4% increase in dual credit hours earned, with a decrease in both transfer and career courses from FY21. However, dual credit hours have had a steady annual increase since FY18.
6. [Dual Credit Fee Structure](#)
 - Motion to approve the proposed Dual Credit Fee Structure for students served for school year 2023-2024 as presented.
 - Motion by M. Byrne, second by D. SchulerDiscussion: N. Awdziejczyk presented Council's recommendation for the Dual Credit Fee Structure for school year 2023-2024 to the NECSS Board, to remain the same.
 - Roll Call: 512 – aye; 211 - aye; 214 – aye; 220 – aye;
 - Motion approved
7. [Harper Promise Report](#)
Sean Warren-Crouch presented the Harper College Promise Scholarship report. Scholarship criteria and enrollment was reviewed. The new Promise Dashboard was highlighted. Information on dismissal and appeals was shared. Annual projections show funding for the Promise Scholarship for a total of 20 classes (Class of 2019 - Class of 2038). Dr. Small shared positive feedback about the presentation and creation of the dashboard. Follow-up on the accessibility of Promise Dashboard data to be brought to NECSS Council.
8. [Harper Retention Data](#)
Dr. Janosik presented the annual Harper's Retention Data report. Average hours earned while in high school has remained consistent. Board members requested more information on what specifically makes up the Course Success Rate and Credentials Earned. It was noted, credential attainment takes time to earn, the numbers for more recent graduating classes are smaller than classes who have had more time after graduation to earn the credentials. Dr. Janosik will follow up with NECSS Council on these two questions.
9. [FY23 NECSS Goals and Areas of Focus](#)
N. Awdziejczyk highlighted the three main areas of focus, including Equity for All, Regional Alignment, and Student Transitions. Under Equity for All, Nancy highlighted recent publicity from the [Daily Herald Article](#) on the Poverty Simulation event. For Regional Alignment, NECSS will hold an education focus event at the end of January to promote and celebrate the education pathways across the region, featuring a keynote speaker, break out sessions and opportunities for students to get programming information from Harper and 4 year institutions. As part of the regional review of dual credit courses, the Power of 15 group is planning a Dual Credit Day evening in February, to connect dual credit faculty from the high schools and the college to collaborate on the components of the review. Nancy presented on dual credit at the Harper Board

meeting on September 21st. NECSS continues to strengthen Student Transitions from high school to college through sharing the good work of NECSS at Dr. Proctor's October 6th Invention Breakfast. In alignment with the new CCPE grant, NECSS hired Jennifer Kloss as our CCPE coordinator, who will work with the district teams to review and update current endorsement plans in the state system. Nancy thanked the marketing committee for their work to promote the regional Endorsement work, and shared additional articles from the [Harper News Bureau - CCPE](#) and the [Daily Herald - CCPE](#). Under Grant Compliance and Management, NECSS received a level 1 risk score (lowest risk). This score means we will continue to review our policies and procedures with our principal consultant, and will not necessitate a site visit.

10. Possible Future Agenda Items

- Harper Phi Theta Kappa students presentation.
- Harper student portal and counselor training.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn.

- Motion by D. Schuler, second by A. Proctor
- Motion approved by voice vote.
- Meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, March 15, 2023

Harper College

Rm. W-219

1200 W Algonquin Rd.

Palatine, IL 60067