MEETING MINUTES OF THE CATEC CENTER BOARD

December 10, 2019

At 6:00 p.m., Mr. Jonno Alcaro called to order the meeting of the CATEC Center Board.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Juandiego Wade (arrived at 6:05 p.m.), Mr. Jonno Alcaro, Mrs. Leah Puryear, Ms. Katrina Callsen, Ms. Jennifer McKeever, and Dr. Kate Acuff.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Mrs. Stephanie Carter, Director; Mr. Doug Keaton, Assistant Principal; Mrs. Deborah Gannon, Apprenticeship and Adult Programs Coordinator; Mrs. Shannon Tomlin, Career Center Specialist, Mr. Sidney Trimmer, Building Trades and Electricity instructor; and Ms. Leslie Chisholm, Clerk.

OTHERS PRESENT: Ms. Debora Collins, Albemarle County Deputy Superintendent for Student Learning and Mr. Casey Carwile, Personnel Director for Design Electric, Inc.

AGENDA ITEM 19-62

AGENDA

Dr. Acuff offered a motion to adopt the agenda. Ms. McKeever seconded it and the motion passed with Mr. Wade absent.

AGENDA ITEM 19-63

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Steve Koleszar spoke about his great affection for CATEC, for the CATEC Center Board, and for what a wonderful thing CATEC is. The definition of what it means to be educated is the biggest change he has seen in his 24 years on the Albemarle County School Board. Now, to be able to be educated means to be able “to do;” to apply that knowledge a student has gained to make things happen. That’s the understanding that CATEC has always had. The second special thing about CATEC is that it is one of the few really good examples of the City and the County working together. That partnership needs to continue to grow and he feels, ultimately, the best solution for the region would be for the City and the County to merge. It would make the region much stronger and improve the education system. In the meantime, there is room for the two school systems to work better together. He suggested a generic MOU that would enable students to cross over to the other district to take a class they want. For CATEC’s and the two school districts’ opportunities to flourish, all four of the comprehensive high schools need to be on the same schedule.

AGENDA ITEM 19-64

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Callsen offered a motion to approve the Center Board minutes for the October 15, 2019. Ms. McKeever seconded it and the motion passed with Mr. Wade absent. Mrs. Puryear abstained; she was not at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM: 19-65

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATUS

Mrs. Puryear offered a motion to approve the financial statements. Ms. Callsen seconded it and the motion passed with Mr. Wade absent.

AGENDA ITEM: 19-66

PROGRAM PRESENTATION

Mrs. Carter stated that it is her intention to expand the Electricity program to two years and to embed academics in the curriculum. She introduced Casey Carwile, Personnel Director for Design Electric, asserting that they are great
business partners who have hired many of our students as Youth Registered Apprentices as well as CATEC adult students.

Mr. Sid Trimmer, Electricity instructor, reviewed the history of the program and where it stands currently. He went into detail about what he teaches, including NCCER training. He stressed that all the work the students do counts toward the 4-year apprenticeship program. Both Electricity and Building Trades programs are an accredited training and education facility and the students receive nine dual enrollment credits with PVCC. Mr. Trimmer listed the certifications that the students can earn. Both his Building Trades and Electricity classes are full and he reviewed the core curriculum which includes a lot of math. He also explained the apprenticeships, what he does to recruit more students, as well as the advantages of going to a 2-year program next year.

Mr. Carwile stated that Mr. Trimmer’s class provides a well-rounded worker. There is so much demand for electricians and construction professionals in so many different areas of both industries. He shared with Board the advantages CATEC students gain working for Design Electric including the greater potential for getting a good job with benefits. Mr. Trimmer hopes that his students will, in the future, be able to earn a science/physics credit.

**AGENDA ITEM: 19-67**  **PROGRAM OF STUDIES**

Mrs. Carter briefly reviewed the Program of Studies at the last meeting. Tonight, she went into great detail about the changes and why they are important, including the addition of options for post-grads. Her hope is that this will reduce barriers and increase access to CATEC programs. Post-grads will have to pay tuition, but she hopes the CATEC Foundation will help with funds. Mrs. Carter described the additions necessary to embed academic courses into the programs. In an effort to improve communications, Mrs. Carter is creating a CATEC - specific registration dashboard which she will show the Board at the next meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM: 19-68**  **FUNDING REQUEST PROPOSAL**

The Funding Request was presented at the last Board meeting. Because there were no changes proposed by the Board, Mrs. Carter welcomed questions. She acknowledged that it is straightforward with her goal being support of embedding academics into the programs to make CATEC as integrated and strong as it can be for students. There was discussion about what is included in the Director’s Office finances, the technology budget, and the budget for student fees.

**AGENDA ITEM: 19-69**  **COMMENTS**

**Director’s Comments**

Mrs. Carter called a handout, Curriculum Integration: Helping Career and Technical Education Students Truly Develop College and Career Readiness, to the Board’s attention. It is from the Peabody Journal of Education which provides research on the importance and benefits that integrating academics into CTE provides to CATEC students. She went into detail about the three different models and highlighted the findings for the Board. She pointed out that there is a lot of potential for this work especially for ESL students; it is about pedagogy at a deeper level. Teachers will need to be trained in the specific models for the payoff to be realized.

**Adult Education Coordinator’s Comments**

Mrs. Gannon reported that classes are finishing up for the fall semester and registration for next semester has begun. 276 students are already enrolled for the spring semester; 242 apprentices and 44 adult students. She noted that additional stations are being built in the lab areas and that she plans to add new equipment.

**Assistant Principal’s Comments**

Mr. Keaton had no comments.
AGENDA ITEM: 19-70 OTHER BUSINESS BY BOARD OR SUPERINTENDENTS

There was no other business.

AGENDA ITEM: 19-71 CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Wade offered a motion that the CATEC Center Board go into a closed meeting as authorized by the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, section 2.2-3711(A) of the Code of Virginia, under Subsection (1) for the purpose of discussing personnel issues. Mrs. Puryear seconded it and the motion passed.

Certify Closed Meeting

Mr. Wade offered a motion that the Board certify that, to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting, and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered. Mrs. Puryear seconded the motion and roll was called:
AYES: Dr. Acuff, Mr. Alearo, Mrs. Puryear, Ms. Callsen, Ms. McKeever, and Mr. Wade.
NAYS:
ABSENT:
The motion carried by a 6:0:0 vote.

Mr. Wade offered a motion to approve the Director’s recommendations for Staff Members 1, 2, and 3 and the resignation of Staff Member A. Dr. Acuff seconded the motion and the motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:40 p.m., Mr. Alearo adjourned the meeting of the CATEC Center Board.