

Central Teacher Education Network (CTEN) Meeting Minutes

March 26, 2026, 3:15 – 4:30 pm HB 313 and via Zoom

In Attendance: H. Abadiano, J. Barile, B. Clark, A. Correia, S. Czekalski, R. Fuentes, A. Greenwell, T. Goh, M. Gunter, K. McGrath, D. Mortensen, C. Mulcahy, L. Scharfenberger, L. Shaw, D. Sianez, N. Takemae, J. Thomas, D. Torres-Hill, J. Visone, J. Werblow, R. Wolff, & L. Zidani-Eroglu

CTEN Meeting Minutes - Approval of February 19 minutes. Motion moved (B. Clark & J. Visone). Minutes accepted.

Spring Meeting Dates:

- April 30, 2026 (final meeting)

General Announcements:

- Update on the Review Committee on Procedures and Practices in Teacher Education (C. Mulcahy)
 - A draft was sent to the full committee ahead of the Friday, March 27th meeting
- CT Educator Preparation & Certification Board (P. Talty)
 - [Document from Paula](#)
 - Working groups have started.
 - Members of Central are on various groups
 - Certification Update
 - There will no longer be a fee for initial certification
 - Additional endorsements will still require a \$100 fee
 - New data portal is planned for a pilot this Spring. This portal will house candidates test scores, along with other key certification information.

Dean's Office Announcements & Updates:

- Career Fair (D. Torres-Hill)
 - Tuesday, April 7th at 5pm – 7pm in Alumni Hall, Student Center
 - Target Audience: current student teachers and recent Central alumni
 - 28 districts have signed up
- Student Teaching (D. Torres-Hill)
 - Interviews are taking place this week (Tuesday, March 24 – Friday, March 27)
 - 56 candidates
 - Placements will begin to be requested in the coming weeks
- Department Merger (J. Barile)
 - Faculty from Technology & Engineering Education and Curriculum & Instruction departments in addition to F. Abe (Educational Leadership & Instructional Technology) and J. Thomas (Earth & Space Sciences – Secondary Science Education) met before spring break to begin talks of merging departments.
 - The same group mentioned above met this morning and voted unanimously to merge departments
- Technology & Engineering Education Department Move (J. Barile)
 - The Technology & Engineering Education, BS program has a review last year. One of the top priorities was to have the department and program transferred to School of Education.
 - Faculty met and voted unanimously on the department transfer.

Discussion of program preferences for CPAST Observation Form

- Open discussion
- Feedback provided on behalf of University Supervisors by D. Torres-Hill
- Vote:
 - [Sample 1](#): with numbers
 - [Sample 2](#): without numbers
 - [Student Teaching Observation Overview](#)

Discussion of Bridge documents and CAEP Standard 2 suggested goals to meet AFI's

- Formed breakout groups of virtual attendees & in-person attendees

- Members from the Partnership Subcommittee were in corresponding breakout groups and will review during their next subcommittee meeting and provide a report back during April meeting.

Subcommittee Reports:

- Research Reassigned Time (RRT)
- Partnership (L. Scharfenberger & M. Gunter)
- Assessment Subcommittee (C. Ciotto & H. Abadiano)
- Strategic Planning, Policy & Procedures

CTEN Areas of Focus for 2025-2026:

- Engage in CAEP Accreditation Work
- Provide input about the SOE strategic plan
- Ensure programs are current with legislative changes to teacher certification
- Engage with District Partners to foster continued coloration
- Position Central as leader in Connecticut for teacher preparation

Open Agenda

Meeting adjourned at 3:48pm.