

Central Teacher Education Network (CTEN) Meeting Minutes

September 25, 2025, 3:15 – 4:30 pm HB 313 and via Zoom

In Attendance: H. Abadiano, J. Barile, C. Ciotto, A. Correia, D. DeCarlo, B. Flinn, A. Fournier, R. Fuentes, A. Greenwell, T. Goh, M. Gunter, A. Loiselle, K. Love, K. McGrath, D. Mortensen, C. Mulcahy, S. O'Connor, L. Shaw, D. Sianez, P. Talty, J. Thomas, J. Visone, R. Wolff,

CTEN Meeting Minutes - Approval of May 1 minutes. Motion moved (D. Sianez S & J. Visone). Minutes accepted.

General Announcements:

- Welcome new members!

Dean's Office Announcements & Updates:

- Professional Program Fall Application
 - 137 applications compared to last fall at 142
 - Average cumulative GPA 3.21 & Central specific average GPA 3.37
 - Increase in from Fall 2024 to Fall 2025: SPED (27-31), Art (17-23) Math (2-5) PE (6-11)
 - Decrease in Elementary (25-17). Majority of these students do apply in the Spring cycle
- Purchasing of SL&L
 - [SL&L Purchasing Instruction](#)
 - Students who are accepted to the professional program will receive instructions with their acceptance letter
 - Art & Music students will be required to purchase SL&L at time of their application due to key course requirements in that semester (ART 310 & MUS 301).
 - Physical Education (PE 111) has a key assessment and may need to purchase SL&L.
 - In Graduate programs, like Education Leadership, students should receive a letter with instructions for SL&L along with their decision letter (from Graduate Admissions).
- Teach for America Residency
 - Cohort #2 started Fall 2025
 - 20 students enrolled overall (Cohort 1 & 2)
 - Elementary Education MS (initial certification): 13
 - Special Education (initial certification): 5
 - Master of Art in Teaching (MAT): 2
 - Cohort #1 had an average GPA of 3.34
- Fall Student Programing
 - Workshop Wednesdays
 - Demystifying the Praxis – Wednesday, 10/15: 10am & 2pm
 - Application Workshops (professional program) – Wednesday 11/5: 10am & 2:30
 - Cross Endorsement – Wednesday, 11/12:
 - Increased interest in students wanting to receive a cross endorsement
 - Create workshops for graduating seniors
 - Welcome Reception (Professional Program): 11/12 or 11/13
 - Looking at alternate space on campus due to Memorial Hall renovations
- Student Teaching
 - Fall 2025 has 26 student teaching and 52 DSAP candidates in the field
 - The application for Spring 2026 student teaching closed on 9/10 with a total of 127 applications
 - Applications are currently in review and interviews are tentatively scheduled for the last week of October & first week of November.
 - Spring 2026 Student Teacher Orientation has been scheduled for January 20th, 2026, in Alumni Hall
- Field Experience Placements
 - Approx. 360 placements
 - 50 remaining to confirm, but all requests have been made to districts
 - Currently there is a lot of push back from students regarding their placement location. We are holding firm on placements that have been made.
- CFAST Goals
 - New this semester – students are required to submit three (3) smart goals during midterm & final conferences

- [CPAST Goals](#)
- Student Teaching Lesson Plan Template
 - [Current CCSU Lesson Plan Template](#)
 - [Proposed Lesson Plan Template](#) – current lesson plan template and proposed updated lesson plan template (with guideline & blank copy to be used by student)
 - Feedback on lesson plan template no later than December 1, to implement for Spring 2026 student teaching
- Research Reassigned Time (RRT)
 - Full time SOE faculty will receive an email for Fall 2026 & Spring 2027 research reassigned time on Monday, October 29. Additional details, including rubric and review committee members, will be shared in the email.
 - Submission due date is Monday, November 3, 2025

Legislative & Certification Updates

- [Update File – P. Talty](#)
- Educator Preparation & Certification Standard Board
 - Representatives from higher education, CSDE Certification Board, CSDE Talent Office, CEA, & CAPPS
 - Many regulations for teacher certification will sunset on July 1, 2026
 - The board has been working on 2 waivers (over the past 18 months)
 - Testing (praxis) & proof of candidate content knowledge
- Teacher Residency
 - We received additional funding from The Buck Foundation, and this will now include content areas in STEM! Once funding is ready, P. Talty will be contacting those content area coordinators.
- Praxis Bridge
 - The Certification Office, in collaboration with the Standards Board, decided that students had retaken Praxis II assessment a number of times.
 - Students are eligible to take the bridge assessment if they are within one standard of error of measurement. This is free if they complete a particular form.
 - Development of Praxis Bridge Assessments – only open to student who fall within one standard error of measurement.
 - This past year Elementary Education assessments were the first to have access (Mathematics & Social Studies subtests)
 - Plans to move forward to have additional content areas such as Core, Secondary, and All Level to be included)
 - Please have students who have questions or are struggling with Praxis, email P. Talty directly.
- Legislative Updates
 - Governors Bill 6869: calls on all universities to offer dual or concurrent courses available for high school students (grades 9-12)
 - Central has a Dual and Concurrent Enrollment Task Force that has been working
 - Universities are required to achieve NACEP accreditation

Subcommittee Reports:

- Research Reassigned Time (RRT)
 - Report completed under Dean's Office Announcement & Updates.
- Partnership (L. Scharfenberger & M. Gunter)
 - Elementary and Secondary Bridge Document were created.
 - Start collecting information from our partners in the schools as to what the impact of these bridge documents might be.
 - Are they helpful? Are they supporting teaching the way we hoped they would Are they supporting out students?
 - Show evidence of these bridge documents
 - Next step is to begin the creation of the PK-12 bridge document
 - Continuing work with progress reports on CAEP Standard #2 in collaboration with H. Abadiano & C. Ciotto
- Assessment Subcommittee (C. Ciotto & H. Abadiano)
 - Primary work: focus on Standards 3&4
 - Standard #4:

- Begin drafting a recruitment progression and support plan. CAEP looks to have this align with the university's plan.
 - The subcommittee will be reaching out to the Office of Institutional Research & Assessment (OIRA) and Enrollment Management to collaborate and use our available resources.
- Interview focus group style to gather information and data
 - Creating a list of questions to be used with partner district that have hired our students and those who have completed the program
 - While at CAEPCon another EPP proposed working together with other EEPs in the state to create a common set of questions and common time for interview/focus groups.
 - Virtual in Fall and then in-person during Spring semester
- Standard #3
 - Recruitment, Progression, & Support
 - Disaggregated data on our candidate demographics
 - What are the current recruitment efforts that we may or may not be able to address shortage fields and/or diverse populations?
 - What are the admission standards that we require to get into our programs?
 - What is the program progression date that we have?
 - What strategies do we have in place to support our students?
- Standard #5:
 - Proposed Quality Assurance System Manual
- Strategic Planning, Policy & Procedures (J. Barile)
 - Dr. Jonathan Costa (Executive Director, EdAdvance) to be facilitating the planning process
 - First meeting will take place on 9/26 with the committee (internal & external members)
 - Focus areas:
 - Incorporate, adapt and adjust to artificial intelligence (AI) and all its implications, here at Central for faculty and students
 - Innovative and created way to address the teacher shortage
 - Superintendent Summit – Fall 2025
 - J. Barile, P. Talty & J. Kitching have been visiting with CAPPS, regional superintendent groups and other superintendents/districts to share with Central SOE has to offer

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

- Aspiring Educators Scholarship
 - Students receive email notification of scholarship opportunities. Dean's Office will share email with Program Coordinators to help promote opportunities
- Program Coordinators, please remind students to share assessment scores (Praxis, Foundations of Reading, CAT, etc.) with Central to ensure a smooth process with certification.
- First Year Experience (FYE) Courses
 - Proposals for CCSU 102 – theme based are due:
 - Possible themes: Pre-Education: the Next Wave of Educators
 - Currently N. Bergstrom is teaching the FYE course for undeclared teacher prep

Meeting adjourned at 4:13 pm.