



## Meeting Minutes

### Committee on Strategic Initiatives and Engagement

February 1, 2024

#### Members

Commissioner Doug Snyder  
Commissioner Patrick White  
Commissioner Dino Teppara  
Commissioner Gene Fant  
Commissioner Hugh Mobley

#### Commission Staff Present

Ms. Bunnie Ward  
Ms. Laura Belcher  
Mr. Mark Swart  
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk

Dr. Corey Gheesling  
Ms. Shardai Figgures  
Dr. Kristin Brooks  
Ms. Yarley Steedly

Ms. Leslie Williams  
Ms. Nia Simmons  
Ms. Andrea LaTouche  
Mr. Christopher Glenn

All attended either in-person or via Zoom.

#### **1. Welcome and Call to Order**

Chairman Doug Snyder opened the Committee on Strategic Initiatives and Engagement meeting. Ms. Shardai Figgures took attendance and noted Commissioner Cleveland Sellers was not in attendance and Commissioners Gene Fant and Patrick White would be joining a few minutes late. The Committee did not have a quorum but was being held in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act. Chairman Snyder called the meeting to order 9:02 a.m.

#### **2. Approval of the Agenda**

Chairman Snyder asked for a motion to approve the agenda for the meeting. Motion was seconded, agenda approved.

#### **3. Approval of the Minutes**

Chairman Snyder asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the December meeting. Motion was seconded, minutes approved.

#### **4. Chair's Report**

Chairman Snyder provided a brief update on the agency's budget request to the House Education and Public Works Committee. Chairman Snyder discussed the CHE Mission, Vision & Values document, noting that these are the items that this Committee has been working towards and each area is in alignment with statute from the legislature.

#### **5. Director's Report**

Ms. Ward provided an update regarding the work of the Office of Strategic Initiatives and Engagement team, noting how much has been accomplished this year. She also noted the OSIE team is very capable, knowledgeable and outcome-oriented. Ms. Ward referred to both Dr. Corey Gheesling and Ms. Yarley Steedly in her report, noting they would provide additional updates.

Dr. Corey Gheesling, provided a more detailed update regarding workforce development to include CCWD and the Unified State Plan. A brief update was given about transfer/ transfer leadership council, ITHAKA Transfer Explorer, workforce development, CCWD, Unified state plan, and how that work is continuing on successfully. Ms. Ward reported she is making progress on the development of the Educator Preparation Program Report Card and and more details will be forthcoming.

Ms. Yarley Steedly provided a brief legislative update, stating that all institutions have presented to the House Ways and Means Subcommittee. Commissioners and CHE staff discussed the potential trend topics of cybersecurity and LTAP funding.

#### **6. Communications and Engagement Update**

Mr. Mark Swart provided an update on communications, including the 2023 communications metrics and growth since 2022. He also provided an update on the New FAFSA communications campaign, staff engagements in January, upcoming engagements in February.

#### **7. External CHE Studies**

Ms. Laura Belcher reported the timeline regarding the House Legislative Oversight Committee, stating there was one final formal presentation to the Committee.

#### **8. Other Business**

The committee briefly discussed carry forward lottery funding.

#### **9. Adjournment**

Chairman Snyder asked if there was any other business before the Committee. With no additional business presented, Chairman Snyder adjourned the meeting at 10:23 a.m.