



College Credit Plus Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Ohio Department of Education Building, Room 102, 25 South Front Street, Columbus Ohio

May 1, 2019

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

I. Welcome and approval of minutes

Dr. Larisa Harper called the meeting to order at 10:08 am and welcomed the committee members and guests. All attendees introduced themselves, and the following were present:

Committee Members:

- Dr. Larisa Harper, Director of College Credit Plus, Ohio Department of Higher Education
- Wendy Casterline, College Credit Plus Program Administrator, Ohio Department of Education
- Rebecca Gawsyszawski, District Advisor, Ohio PTA
- Dr. James Smith, Vice President for Enrollment Management and Marketing, Mount Vernon Nazarene University
- Matt Smith, Guidance Counselor, Benjamin Local School District
- Michele Brown, Ohio State University
- Dr. JR Roush, Southern State Community College/Shawnee State University
- Tom Woodford, Hilliard City Schools
- Daniel Jackson, Pymatuning Valley High School
- Karla Krodel, Senior Director, Office of College Access and Transition, Youngstown State University (participated via phone)

ODE & ODHE Staff:

- Dr. Stephanie Davidson, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, ODHE
- Charles See, Vice Chancellor, External Relations & Education Technology, ODHE
- Dr. Brenda Haas, Associate Vice Chancellor of P-16 Initiatives, ODHE
- Cheryl Krohn, Strategic Administrator, ODE
- Jill Dannemiller, Director, Data Management and Analysis, ODHE
- Jennifer Stump, Policy Staff, ODE
- Aaron Rausch, Director, Office of Budget and School Funding, ODE
- Laura Padgett, Assistant Director, College Credit Plus, ODHE
- Jeff Robinson, Director of Communications, ODHE
- Jason Wagner, Assistant Legal Counsel, ODE
- Elena Sanders, Financial Manager, ODE

Additional attendees:

- Devin Babcock, Governor's Office
- Karen Starin, Columbus State Community College
- Christine Lemon, Parent
- Sonya Haring-Kaye, Parent
- Kelli Reavling-Cobb, Ohio State University

Dr. Harper noted that, due to staff illness, the minutes from the previous meeting in January were not available. The minutes from the January meeting and this meeting will be available for the upcoming meeting, which has been scheduled for August 28, 2019.

II. Legislative Updates

At this point in the meeting, Dr. Harper asked Laura Padgett to provide a legislative update. Laura noted that a legislative summary document has been added to the College Credit Plus webpage that will be updated on a regular basis. Laura also discussed two bills (Senate Bill 89 and House Bill 166) that affect College Credit Plus which are currently under consideration in the Legislature.

III. Data Updates

Next, Dr. Harper turned to Jill Dannemiller to present to the committee preliminary data from summer and fall 2018, as well as a study on student matriculation trends.

Tom Woodford inquired if the “unknown” students in the data charts included those students who had withdrawn from courses. Jill indicated that this was a possibility.

Tom additionally requested that, since the matriculation data does not currently include national data from out of state and private colleges, ODHE wait to publish the data until a more complete data set could be presented. Dr. Harper indicated that ODE/ODHE staff will discuss the timing of the national report and decide if we should wait to publish.

Dr. Stephanie Davidson asked if it makes a difference in the data that the matriculation report captured both juniors and seniors. Jill indicated that it was possible that the denominator in their calculations could have been inflated and we can consider whether to modify or add notations to clarify.

Daniel Jackson asked for the definition of “matriculated” in the report. Jill stated that it means that the student enrolled in college courses after high school graduation. Mr. Jackson continued with questions about how delivery methods were reported. Jill responded that these are reported through our data portal and verified in ODDEX. Dr. Harper offered to share a link with the group that would allow them to look up data reports and additional information on course delivery methods.

IV. Update on Fiscal Items

Dr. Harper then asked Wendy Casterline to share information about the funding applications for nonpublic and homeschool students. Wendy reported the 1,172 applications had been submitted for homeschooled students and 3,856 applications for nonpublic/private school students. Funding awards will be made by the Department of Education by May 17, 2019. Wendy also reported that ODE plans to make payments to colleges for spring 2019, as well as clean-up payments from FY16, 17, & 18 for homeschool and nonpublic students will be made in July.

Dr. James Smith had several questions and comments about state funding and the application process, particularly for homeschool students. Wendy offered information about the application process and the different funding sources for the different groups of students participating in

College Credit Plus. James stated that his main concerns were about access and predictability in funding for these students. He also shared concerns about credits that end up “wasted” because students are awarded in 4 credit units, and most classes are 3 credits. General discussion continued regarding the credit allocation process. Wendy described the process that ODE uses, which is based in Ohio Administrative Code 3333-1-65.8.

Tom Woodford mentioned some concerns about the funding application, and requested that only participating Ohio colleges could be listed as options in the application system. Wendy stated that she is aware of the problem and is working to make improvements to the system.

V. Subcommittee meetings

Dr. Harper then discussed and introduced two subcommittees on Communications and Policy/Guidance. She offered the group a brief break and asked the committee members to reconvene in the subcommittee groups. Jeff Robinson facilitated the Communications Subcommittee to discuss ways to provide information about College Credit Plus to homeschool and nonpublic students and families. Wendy Casterline led the Policy/Guidance Subcommittee to review the funding application manual and policy ideas to improve the funding application process for homeschool and nonpublic students and families.

VI. Report-out to full committee

After about twenty minutes of group work, Dr. Harper reconvened the full committee and asked for a report from each group.

Jeff discussed that Communications Subcommittee came up with three main takeaways:

- 1) Continue with the successful, early-in-the-calendar-year Facebook ad campaign, but drill down so the ads are reaching parents of nonpublic and homeschool students.
- 2) Look at ways to get involved with organizations that represent homeschool families and nonpublic school students. Specifically, participating in the annual Midwest Home School Convention, which takes place in Cincinnati in late April each year.
- 3) Make current and future messaging more user-friendly. Committee members talked about the website having an intimidating amount of information that may not always be easy to understand. The group suggested producing short videos that could act as tutorials for families and schools to learn more about their role in the CCP process.

Wendy then shared the following discussion points from the Policy/Guidance Subcommittee:

- 1) The group identified two homeschool parent volunteers to review the funding manual and provide feedback on improvements for next year’s application cycle.
- 2) A proposal to consider a statute change to allow unused credit hours to “carry over” from one year to the next for students.
- 3) CCP staff providing Q&A sessions around the state to homeschool and private school groups prior to the funding application deadline each spring.
- 4) The group suggested finding ways to improve communication with private schools due to a gap in communications between the Departments and private school personnel, as well as between the school and students and families.

Dr. Brenda Haas requested that each subcommittee provide their suggestions in writing to circulate to the advisory committee and keep the discussion going on these topics.

VII. Future Meeting: August 28, 2019, 10 am – 12 pm

Dr. Harper noted that the next meeting of the College Credit Plus Advisory Committee would be August 28, 2019 at 10 am.

Dr. Harper asked for any final comments from the group. Dr. JR Roush asked if there were any updates on the OhioMeansJobs Readiness Seal and if there was connection to College Credit Plus. Devin Babcock shared that the Readiness Seal and College Credit Plus are likely to be included in graduation requirements in the future.

VIII. Adjournment

Seeing no further discussion, Dr. Harper adjourned the meeting at 11:46am.

 Date: 8/28/2019
Dr. Larisa Harper, Director, College Credit Plus
Co-Chair, College Credit Plus Advisory Committee

 Date: 9/10/19
Wendy Casterline, College Credit Plus Program Administrator
Interim Co-Chair, College Credit Plus Advisory Committee