

Members

Tom Raffio, NHCBE Chair, *Northeast Delta Dental*
Jackie Cowell, NHCBE Coordinator, *Early Learning NH*
Craig Ahlquist, *SEE Science Center*
Robert Baines, *STEAM Ahead NH*
Jane Bard, *NH Children's Museum*
Virginia Barry, *NH Dept. of Education*
Don Bossi, *FIRST*
Fred Bramante, *Natl. Center for Competency Based Learning*
Mark Conrad, *Nashua School District SAU#42*
Edna Conway, *Cisco Systems*
Barbara Couch, *Hypertherm*
Maureen Curtis, *The Timken Company*
Bill Duncan, *Advancing NH Public Education*
Heather Gage, *NH Dept. of Education*
Mary Gile, *NH House of Representatives*
Ross Gittell, *Community College System of NH (CCSNH)*
Gary Groleau, *NH Ball Bearings*
Dan Hebert, *JumpStart*
Dana Hilliard, *Somersworth Middle School*
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Paul Leather, *NH Dept. of Education*
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Tim Sink, *Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce*
Michael Skelton, *Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce*
Nick Soggu, *SilverTech*
Nancy Stiles, *NH Senate*
Val Zanchuck, *Graphicast*



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NH Coalition Endorses 65/25 College Completion Goal For Workforce Enhancement

Concord – A group of New Hampshire public and private sector leaders of the NH Coalition for Business & Education has endorsed and committed to a statewide workforce enhancement goal whereby 65% of the State’s population will hold a postsecondary credential or degree by the year 2025. The current postsecondary credential and degree attainment level of the State’s adult population is approximately 51% with almost no forecast growth due to the declining number of high school graduates and “baby boomers” aging out of the workforce.

The 65/25 goal is designed as an effort to improve the quality, access and relevance of education of New Hampshire citizens of all ages so that they have the education necessary to meet their life goals as well as the economic needs of the State.

One of the driving forces for the Coalition in setting this goal is the workforce the fact that 68% of NH jobs will require postsecondary education by 2020, compared to the national estimate of 65%.

Chair of the NH Coalition for Business & Education, Northeast Delta Dental President & CEO, Tom Raffio, said: “The 65/25 goal will be the overarching direction for the Coalition going forward, and will include all the education stepping stones that lead to college, including early childhood learning and secondary school education.”

The Community College System of New Hampshire (CCSNH) has already been promoting the 65/25 goal and using it to set its

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strategic direction, and its Chancellor, Dr. Ross Gittell, has been part of the 65/25 working group of business and education leaders chaired by Dr. Edward MacKay, Director of the Division of Higher Education at the NH Department of Education.

Also part of the working group were University System of New Hampshire Chancellor, Dr. Todd Leach; former NH Center for Public Policy Deputy Director, Daniel Barrick; Business & Industry Association Sr. Vice President, David Juvet; and NH College & University Council President, Dr. Tom Horgan. Participating with the working group were Graphicast Inc. CEO, Val Zanchuck; NH High Technology Council Director of Business Relations, Michelline Dufort; NH Charitable Foundation Director of Student Aid, Judy Burrows; Vice President of Investor Relations and Communications at Albany International, Susan Siegel; Dave Mahoney (retired executive at BAE Systems); NH Department of Education Career and Technical Education Director, Lisa Danley; Trustee of the NH High Technology Council, Fred Kocher; Associate Vice Chancellor of the Community College System of NH, Kristyn Van Ostern; President of the Business & Industry Association of NH, Jim Roche; and Malia Sieve of HCM Strategists on behalf of Lumina Foundation's Strategy Labs, who facilitated the research and development of the 65/25 initiative with the working group.

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