

HB 7728

PA 684 (Vetoed)

1971

Education 839-894

House 3575-3580

Senate 3265-3270

**JOINT
STANDING
COMMITTEE
HEARINGS**

EDUCATION

**PART 3
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1971

EDUCATION

Tuesday

April 13, 1971

THE NEED FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO SERVICE
GREATER MERIDEN AREAHB 7728

Rep. Klebanoff: Presiding, called the meeting to order at 3:15.

Rep. Klebanoff: I will turn this meeting over to Rep. Thomas McNellis, Clerk on the House side to conduct this start of the meeting as there is another roll call in the House. I will be back in just a few minutes.

Rep. Thomas McNellis: Rep. James F. Gaffney of the 80th District.

Rep. James F. Gaffney: (80th District - Meriden) I would like to speak in favor of locating a community college in the city of Meriden and hopefully at a site that will be available in the future - the Connecticut School for Boys.

I consider this a prime location, since Meriden is in the center of the state and certainly is in the center of the major highways throughout the state merging in Meriden including the to-be-accomplished Route 66, 91 and 15.

I have, over the past two or three years, attended just about every community college that is now in existence in the state. These community colleges do not have a campus of their own. I think this was the legislative intent when the community colleges were formulated that they would not have a campus but that they would use existing facilities. They are now utilizing high school facilities that have their program during the day where the community college comes in normally during the late afternoon and runs its program. I think the original intent was fine. I don't think anyone anticipated the kind of growth that has been accomplished through the community colleges with the number of programs and number of students that are being served. I find as a result of this that community colleges throughout the state are now developing programs to require separate facilities. I have read the program being developed by Middlesex Community College in this area to create a separate campus for their community college due to the problems that they are having now with the two programs that are being run - the high school program as well as the community college program. I have witnessed in Norwalk the community college being operated there along with Brian McMahon High School and the extreme difficulties that the staff, the students, and the entire programs are running to as a result of this. Also in Manchester, this is a same problem that is in existence. I think that the reason for this future designation - my own feeling on this designation - is that eventually we are going to have to have in the state of Connecticut community

colleges with separate facilities and I think the proposed phasing out of the Connecticut School for Boys opens up a future site for a community college using existing facilities with no duplication of program.

There is no question in my mind that the location of community college in Meriden is something that is desirable due to the access - because of the merging highways, and as a result of the number of towns that could utilize it, including Meriden.

I certainly urge this committee to take favorable action. I will be sitting on the full Education Committee and will urge its passage during this session. Thank you.

Rep. Della Vecchia: I am from the Town of Southington - 27th District. I am a member of the Committee on Higher Education.

I am in favor of HB7728 which will Establish a Community College in the Meriden Wallingford area, particularly at the Meriden School for Boys site. I feel that the present facility at Meriden is not suited for the type of rehabilitation and confinement necessary for dealing with problems of our youth. At Meriden School there are no fences and only minimum security facilities. All types of our youth are placed together in dormitory type buildings. I believe that the newest type of dealing with youth problems is the group approach with community involvement and a staff oriented to dealing effectively in the rehabilitation of our youthful offenders. I think a cottage type complex should be constructed which would separate the different types of offenders. I believe that the structural problems at the present school would be too expensive to overcome and it would be in the best interest of the state to locate in another area. I further believe that the present site of the Meriden School for Boys would make an excellent campus for a community college. Thank you.

Senator DeNardis: 34th District. I am here to lend my support for the designation of the Wallingford-Meriden area as a location for a community college. I think that need will be well documented by the people who are here today.

I find myself in a rather peculiar position. Meriden and Wallingford are twin cities. There is a high degree of inter-action between the two towns. They are...There is agreement...total agreement...that this area should be served by a community college. There is perhaps some disagreement as to where within the area the college should be located. I think the important thing today, however, is to make a very strong case that the Meriden-Wallingford area be honored with the designation of a community college. I think that both towns can work together to try to discover the optimum location for that college within the two town area. Mayor Curini has asked me to add his support for the notion of a community college within the two towns and he takes a similar position that the important thing is to get the area designated and he feels that he can work with Mayor Schultz and others from Meriden in terms of finding the most desirable location.

I would like to remind the committee that I have a bill in - I'm sorry I do not have the number - to locate the college in the Borton Brook Area of Wallingford. I did that simply to follow through on the recommendations of the A.D. Little Report which studied community college site feasibility and recommended that as far as this area of the state

they felt that based on the several planning factors that they had...that they used as criteria....that the college should be located in southern Wallingford to serve not only Meriden and Wallingford, but also Southington, Cheshire, and northern Hamden and North Haven. So I bring that to your attention that there is a bill in the hopper to locate the college in Wallingford, but it is my hope that the area will be designated for a college and it is my hope that those towns can work together to find the most desirable location within those two towns. Thank you.

Robert Schultz: Mayor of the City of Meriden. I go along with the proposal with your bill to designate the Meriden-Wallingford area for a community college and in particular the Meriden area because of the location of the Connecticut School for Boys which will be phased out eventually. This is such an ideal location - such an ideal beautiful location with such ease of access to the highways. Route 66 will run right by it. I just can't see how we can miss. I would like to bring that to your attention. I would also like to read, in part, some letters from some former Mayors indicating their support for this concept of a community college in Meriden.

This one from Hon. Henry D. Altobello: I wish to be recorded in favor of the bill designating Meriden as the site for a Community College.

Meriden is the largest city in central Connecticut area and easily accessible from Cheshire, Wallingford, Northford, North Haven, Berlin, Kensington and Southington, through its fine highway network.

This bill will carry one step further the wishes of former Governor Ribicoff, to make available to the youth of our State an education within the reach of all.

This one from Hon. William T. Shea: As you know, I have been greatly interested in a Community College for Meriden for the past several years. Originally, the legislature (I was a member of at the time) made the determination that purely political consideration should not be the basis for the establishment of Community Colleges. I wholeheartedly supported that proposition.

Meriden needs a Community College. It has no institution of higher learning. It has nearly 60,000 people and students within its borders. (quoted in part only)

I would like to please bring out that we have an un-partisan approach. Every political party in Meriden is interested in seeing the college situated there.

This one is from former Mayor Francis Danaher: I never cease to be amazed at the remarkable success of the various community colleges throughout the State. The reception by that segment of our public desiring an education has been overwhelming and the only short coming seems to be physical - lack of space, equipment and location of the schools.

And he goes on to say that he supports a community college concept to be located in Meriden.

Gentlemen, I would hopefully secure your favorable indication that a community college in the future, when desirable, could be located within our confines.

Rep. McNellis: Thank you, Mayor.

Mr. Robert Houde: President Greater Meriden Chamber of Commerce. I am here to speak in favor of Meriden as an ideal site and location. As you probably know we are at the center apex of two highways, running north and south - east and west; ideally located in the center of Meriden.

With all due respect to the Arthur D. Little Company who sent a professional educator here to establish that our college should be further away and that we should move out of Meriden and go to different areas otherwise located to attend college, I am more inclined as a businessman and as a taxpayer to go along with the theory that G. Fox and J. C. Penney to establish a center right at this apex they are spending 15 million - because that is where they know everyone is going to come.

We ought to put our money in this same area. Thank you.

William Collett: Chairman of the Education Committee, Greater Meriden Chamber of Commerce. I am also Plant Manager of a Miller Company in Meriden.

I have tried to approach this idea of a community college in Meriden through the eyes of some of the younger men and women who are faced with the challenge today that I think industry and businesses show.

In our small Company we have about 176 people - non-bargining employees. Just about 50% or 87 people are from out of Meriden. I think that this means that when people work from 8 to 5 and then leave the community their interest is neither in the community where they live or the community where they work. I think it is split. I think it is not good for the company or for, in our case, Meriden. I have tried to get a summary and I will take use a minute to read it.

Within our community, we have felt the effects of a lack of college level facilities. The approach utilized can be compared to that of an antiquated Foreign Economic Policy. A small, poor, under-developed country cannot provide its populus with sufficient food, and it turns to the United States. In turn, we provide the necessary food, but spend less time and effort in providing the necessary tools with which this under-developed country might grow. The community college question has been approached in a similar fashion. Our community has been pacified by the availability of college locations within the State, and more importantly by the employment of people outside of our community. We have not provided the "tools", by which Meriden, and surrounding area residents, might have the opportunity to grow within the community.

Of the surrounding areas, Meriden has a majority of the low income population, and these are the people we must provide an opportunity to better themselves. We also

have a number of minority group Americans unemployed and dejected; they also must be given an opportunity to become more proficient at their skills. Equally important are the secondary school students who, when given the opportunity, will become the future generation of leaders in the community.

The concept of a community college is more than classrooms and learning, it stands as an opportunity to all those who wish to utilize it. It stands as insurance to the community that high social and political competence will not be drained from Meriden.

In our day and age of the "return on investment" philosophy, it would be a tribute to society that the return on an investment of a community college could be the betterment of a human being. Thank you.

John Scavetta: Ladies, and gentlemen of the committee it is a pleasure for me to talk with you today about the study undertaken in the Fall of 1969 by the Greater Meriden Chamber of Commerce; this study was given impetus by legislation Public Act 812, sec.6 thus designating the towns of Cheshire, Meriden, Southington and Wallingford as the study area.

Utilizing the defined study area under Public Act 812, the study group was able to complete its work by February 19, 1970. In process of compiling and refining the data much information, interest and concern was uncovered from the leadership of business, industry, municipal government and the community-at-large; and the realization of unmet needs existent within the area began to emerge with a concern for achieving some semblance of balance for the viability of the area in terms of people needs, resource mix and future progress.

(at this point a map was shown and discussed - this map is filed with the Education Committee)

The study area comprises 2 percent of the total towns in the state; has approximately 3 percent of the total land area of the state; and, houses some 5% of Connecticut's population. (141,670)

The New Haven County within which it lies is expected to continue to have the second largest population within the state with 617,800 projected for 1980. When we consider that the area of study now has a population of 141,670 according to the 1970 Census; and, is expected to grow to 176,500 by 1980, thus having some 30% of the total New Haven County population within its borders. Should we include North Haven, North Branford and Hamden we jump to 224,000 or 36% of present population in the New Haven County Area.

The city of Meriden housed 40+ percent of the population in 1960; and, still continues to house this amount in 1970 with 41% expected to be domiciled within it's borders in 1980.

The city of Meriden has 54% of its households earning income of less than \$3000 to \$8000; and the greatest number of families with school age children within this income range.

So it seems to me that we are making a case for the needs within this area. These figures are according to the 1967 Sales Management and Marketing figures. So we have 54% in the lower to middle income range, these are the people who are being priced out of the college education market because of the spiriling cost of education. And these are the people who have the greatest number of school age children - within this income range.

Meriden and the Greater Meriden area does not have some sort of state-supported and sponsored and therefore free or low-cost college-level instructional institution within its boundaries.

This is one of the few labor market areas - the Meriden-Wallingford Market Area - that does not have some sort of publically supported or sponsored institution for higher education within its boundaries. Its employment patterns, and the resultant prosperity are dependent upon a supply of young people educated and trained to the needs for Technical, Middle Management and Skill-training a Community College is designed to provide.

The Meriden area has consistantly for the last ten years been a high unemployment area in relation to the rest of the state. On average its unemployment has exceeded the state's unemployment percentages total. I think that is a very important point to bring out. It lends substance to the fact that our area is tending to move downward in terms of the viability of the community and the people who live within that area.

There is a large, demonstrably eager group of potential students within the area's high schools right now awaiting the opportunity that a Community College would provide. We have stressed the fact that College Costs are beyond the reach of most parents unless located within the area. The school enrollment population in the four town area - not including North Haven, North Branford and Hamden - will support for a full time enrollment some 800 youngsters. We read a survey in 1969 concurrent with the study and we found 774 students that would have taken advantage of a community college in our area if a community college had been located there and an additional 50 students would be willing to take advantage of a part-time education if a community college was there.

The Arthur D. Little study points out that a 1000 students should be the basis for the setting of a community college. Gentlemen, including North Haven, North Branford, and Hamden we will more than meet that basic enrollment figure and within five years we will excede that basic enrollment figure.....that is 5000 enrolled and attending students. That is full and part-time - that is without a qustion of doubt.

The strength of the area lies in its close community identification with the towns of this study including North Haven, Branford and Hamden. We are noted for our steady habits, desire for educational betterment and productive capacity; and, continuing the pattern of urban-suburban living in a viable context should be a goal the state of Connecticut should pursue.

The danger of economic dependency and erratic employment with inadequately maintained pool of needed and educated and trained human resource is a looming danger in the decade ahead.

Ideally, we know that, a community college should serve those wishing to:

1. Enter fields requiring more than a high school but less than a bachelor's degree level of training.
2. Improve their level of general cultural backgrounds.
3. Acquire job skills in a different field or upgrade themselves for advancement.
4. Take two years of liberal arts education at a school near home then transfer to a four-year institution.
5. Obtain further education but are unable to enter other, more selective institutions because they have no high school diploma.

The state of Connecticut has adhered to the concepts of:

Responsibility for making Equal Educational Opportunity Available throughout the state to its residents, regardless of the number of private institutions.

Equality means programs appropriate to interests and demands, at costs that do not discriminate, and offered at times and places where people can attend.

The state is primarily concerned with its obligations to the tax-paying citizens to supply educational services demanded by its citizens, regardless of the tradition of selective education for the intellectually, socially, and economically elite in non-public institutions.

A large number of students (a majority) 85-90 per cent attending each community college will reside (says the state) within that proposed district.

Does the greater Meriden area as defined in this study and including the towns influenced (Branford, North Haven, Hamden) meet these criterions? We believe so.....

For the community of interests, the desires and demands for educational opportunities not now existent within the area are actively and wholeheartedly supported by the citizenry at large.

We have a unanimity of support within the towns that are represented - Cheshire, Meriden, Southington and Wallingford - are a community with traditions of steady habits, or good neighborliness, and of brother feelings. They believe in good education, the principles by which the country has become great. And they want to move in that way.

The educational needs of our technologically-oriented state and area and the requirements of present and future economic developments indicate a growing demand for this type of educational opportunity not now available to this area.

Potential enrollment of the 800 full time and approximately 50 part-time should a community college be provided is indicated for the first year, as I have mentioned. That is with a potential full-time enrollment of 5,000 within the next five years, which is projected.

The argument that we are being served by New Haven, or adequately served by Waterbury and Middletown does not hold water when it is understood that these areas were never intended to serve this area.

The Greater Meriden area does not have a public nor a private higher education facility offering college-grade instruction. The City of Meriden is the only City of its size without such an institution.

That Meriden and the Labor Market Area is one of the last remaining population centers without some sort of state-sponsored and therefore free or low-cost college-level instructional institution within its boundaries.

That the employment patterns in this area, and the resulting prosperity, are dependent on a supply of young people with educational-technical training at the level a community college is designed to provide, is desirable and should be provided.

That there is a large, demonstrably eager group of potential students in the high schools right now awaiting the opportunity that the community college alone can provide.

That for the low-income and middle income families the cost of education beyond the secondary school has been priced out of their reach unless such a public institution is located within the area.

The strength of the Meriden area lies in its local roots, reinforcing community identities, offering home-town opportunities in the context of urban-suburban living; we should therefore seek to nurture and develop these steady habits and healthy life patterns to promote neighborly sound community living.

A recent survey showed approximately 800 students interested in attending a community college with some 26 interested in part-time education.

Gentlemen, I would like to thank you very much. I have tried to condense a heck of a lot of material which is contained in that report. I would hope that you would look through some of the materials that are contained therein, that would substantiate some of the facts that I have mentioned. Thank you.

George McGrath: Ladies and Gentlemen of the Committee I am Superintendent of Schools in Meriden.

You have all the facts before you. You have a lot of emotion before you. I stand here simply to say...to ask very, very sincerely that you take positive action promising Meriden as the next site for a community college.

Meriden has grown since 1920 in our school population over double. The city of Meriden has committed itself very strongly in new buildings and we have been going on with new programs. In order for us to try to plan our present fiscal program to work into a two-year terminal and also a two-year college program we would like very, very much to have assurance from the State Legislature that the next community college will be located within our city boundaries. No money is going to be involved in that decision. We sincerely hope you will see to our wishes in that regard. Thank you.

Statement from John Zajac: (Senator from the 13th District)

Mr. Chairman, a \$54.9 million budget for thirteen state community colleges was approved by the Board of Trustees of Regional Community Colleges at a special meeting some time ago. The total has been set for operation of the schools and the central office for the 1971-1973 biennium. Included in the cost are three new community colleges at locations not yet determined. It is with this thought in mind that I would like to recommend to the Committee that Meriden be designated as one of the three locations for a community college. Certainly, Meriden would qualify on the basis of prior selections of community college sites - that being an area of heaviest population. Meriden's population is near 60,000. With a population like that a Meriden location of a community college serving Meriden and Wallingford would be ideal. As a legislator I can attest to many inquiries from high school students and parents who are concerned because their children have not been accepted at UConn or other state schools. The number of applicants to these schools is so great that even those with B averages have been rejected. For us in Meriden and Wallingford, a community college is a must. We are not asking for bricks or mortar or campuses. We have some interesting possibilities ranging from the relocation of the Connecticut State School For Boys to a vacant factory or even the use of our present high schools in the evenings. All we need is the designation. I urge you in the wisdom of the Committee to favor the designation of Meriden as the next site for the community college. Thank you.

Peter Gillies: (Rep. from the 75th) I would just like to express support for the bill that would provide a community college serving the Meriden area. As a forerunner in the Middlesex County area community college complex I have seen the advantage that such an institution can provide to a municipality and I am sure that the same kind of consideration could be applied to the Meriden area. They are deserving and need such facility and I would urge such adoption.

Donald Dorsey: Commissioner of Community Affairs and Former Mayor of the City of Meriden. I stand here today to urge you to give favorable consideration to the bill which would designate the City of Meriden as a site for a community college. I think that it is interesting to note the type of legislation which the people of Meriden have sought from the General Assembly. They sought and obtained an appropriation for an expansion of their educational system in the technical schools and they are here today - enmasse, asking for a designation for site for a community college.

History will look back upon the people of Meriden and ascertain that their values were not materialistic ones. At least not in the immediate sense. They are looking forward to educating their children and developing their community in a cultural sense, as well as an economic sense. I think that this is significant that the people of Meriden have adopted this trend. I know that the community college would be a vital element in the educational structure of the City of Meriden. We have two large hospitals in the City of Meriden and we need a training facility for para-professionals. We have large industry in the area and they could use another facility for training young men and young women for industry. But, more than that, I think that the City of Meriden and the Town of Wallingford and the entire area, which is served by a radio station and several newspapers, and has a true sense of community, needs a cultural spark. It needs this type of an educational structure to develop the kind.... to develop the cultural interdependence of the people of Meriden. I urge you to give this bill your most favorable consideration. We recognize that there is a financial crunch on in the state of Connecticut and that money is not available to build a college immediately, but we do feel that if we are designated as a site that we will find a way to develop the site for the college for the future. Thank you.

Joseph Coffey: I am Director of the Boys Club in Meriden. We have a membership of over 1000 kids.

Sitting out there in the audience I heard you people talk about well....we may get a college in Meriden if we can get the Connecticut School For Boys out of Meriden. Gentlemen, that is going to take ten, fifteen years, let's fact it to get that school out of Meriden. I would like to suggest that we can add to the Wilcox School in Meriden as long as we have an IN, as long as we are established.

I would like to leave you with one thing. Remember this. 1000 kids. They don't wait gentlemen - they grow. Thank you.

Edward Tonkewitz: I am Assistant Director at the Wilcox Technical School in Meriden. Part of my duties as an administrator is that of administrating technical and technical courses. All I want to do is vow for the fact that we definitely do have a need for training other than that which we give at Wilcox Tech. Strictly, engineering as an extension course of Hartford State Tech College. We run about 550 people through that program and this is a small segment only of the type of people that we are serving. We are serving only a small portion in the Meriden, Wallingford, Cheshire area. Now, how about the many, many inquiries I get from parents regarding courses which are other than engineering in nature and believe me I can vow for the fact that we can service people in the economy area, in the liberal arts area, in stenographic type area. Meriden is growing. From the eleven years that I have been supervisor I have seen the program grow in the college level that we have run from let's say 200 to now 550. I would take an quadruple that figure and that would be the population that we would service and that is only in the adult program. With reference to a day program where our students would be day school graduates we could service probably three times that number. Thank you.

Mrs. Edith Baron: President of the Meriden Wallingford Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Our branch of the NAACP strongly favors Meriden as a site for a community college. We feel that having such a facility within the city would act as an incentive to minority

pupils to prepare to go to college, because it would be realistically within their reach. We find that many of the black youngsters find it difficult to travel, both financially and from the standpoint of responsibilities at home. They cannot devote full time to college.

We have a scholarship committee in our branch, and we have already extended aid to black students. Two specific experiences will serve to point out the problems of which I speak.

One young lady was accepted at the University of Hartford, but turned down our scholarship. When we looked into this, we found that she couldn't afford to travel. So we tried to find some other source of funds for this expense. However, the mother asked us to drop the whole thing, because she needed a great deal of help from her at home. The family was on welfare. However, if a college was close by, we felt that she would have managed.

Then, a young man had to delay his education for 6 months, because he could find no ride to Middlesex Community College. Finally, he moved in with another student in Middletown and got a job to help with his expenses. Fortunately, in this case, the tremendous obstacles were overcome.

We hope that these two examples will help to point out to this committee why we, of the NAACP, have strong feelings toward the goal of the community college in Meriden.

Marjorie Bishop: I am on the staff at Central Connecticut Regional Center and I just want to read a paragraph message from George Zitney who is the Superintendent.

I would like to go on record as being in support of having Meriden, Connecticut designated as a site for a Community College to serve the Greater Meriden area.

As a superintendent of a State agency that serves this region, we are charged with the responsibility to provide care, training and clinical consultation for handicapped children. It is our belief that the Community College, through program development and course content, could be helpful to us in securing trained individuals to work in a variety of related areas through programs designed to prepare them to work in related child care areas.

In addition, a ready source of volunteers would be available from the Community College to help supplement our work force. Meriden offers many opportunities since in addition to my agency, the Central Connecticut Regional Center; there is also the Child Guidance Clinic, Curtis Home for Children, Meriden Boy's School, Undercliff Mental Health Center and other social agencies which could offer job opportunities and training opportunities to the Community College students.

Thank you. Signed: George Zitney.

John Bishop: First Selectman of the Town of Cheshire. I would like to merely say that we endorse the location of a community college in the Meriden - Wallingford area. Cheshire, at the present, has students traveling in four different directions to the various community colleges.

I feel that at the present time the economic situation as it exists today that more students are going to have to go to either state or community colleges. They cannot afford to go to the private colleges at the present time. I have only one opposition and that is as far as the location of the Meriden School for Boy's - I just hope that they do not move it to the Town of Cheshire. Thank you.

John A. Shulga: President of the Meriden-Wallingford Manufacturers Association. This Assoc. has approximately 82 members and unfortunately I think I will have to be neutral as far as the location of where the school ought to be. That is, Wallingford or Meriden. Being a resident of Wallingford and getting my livelihood there...it puts me on the fence. I strongly urge the committee to designate the Meriden-Wallingford area for a community college. The need is certainly strong and it is needed. I hope that you will consider this.

Charles Hammer: Retail Trade Board President from Meriden. We are strongly in favor of a community college in Meriden. I will go along with all the others on this. We do hope that it will soon take place. Thank you.

Carter White: Publisher of the two local newspapers in the Meriden-Wallingford area, The Morning Record and The Meriden Journal.

My purpose in being here is to help show to you the community spirit in the area. We are solemnly in support of this projected institution. The press in the area have been editorializing in favor of this project for several years and we are strongly in favor of seeing that Meriden be designated as a site during this session so that a decision will have been made as to location and any funds can be worked out at a future session. I would like to leave with you two of the editorials that appeared in the Morning Record this year - one in January and one in March. Both strongly proposing this site and giving you the reasons for it. I won't belabor the reasons again. You have heard from many speakers today about this, but we all strongly support this.

Gerald Gilbert: Administrator of Veteran's Memorial Hospital in Meriden. I would like on the subject of "Health Manpower Development & the Role of a Community College". This nation and this state have a chronic health problem. The chronic shortage of health personnel. Across the country it is estimated that nearly 4 million men and women are employed in health services. Despite the sizable work force, demand still exceeds supply. The gap is widening every year. Unlike almost all other industries, and in the face of tremendous advances in electronic and biomedical sciences, the health services industry is becoming more labor intensive rather than less. The number of man days for hospitalized patients in this country has doubled in the past 15 years and shows every sign of continuing to increase.

More important than actual numbers, the skills required for entrance level jobs constantly is on the raise. New techniques such as respiration therapy and whole fields such as environmental health services are making unprecedented demands on our educational system. The national commission on Community Health Services stated in its report to the President: "Every community must have available the skills and techniques of many kinds of health personnel. Its needs are increasing in terms of numbers of people as well as kinds of skills required. The wide range of man-power for environmental and personal health services includes not only

engineers and physicians but many varieties of laboratory technicians, radiologic technicians, nurses, pharmacists, occupational and speech therapists, home-makers, health aides, social workers, nutritionists, health administrators and environmental health personnel".

This Commission recommended that new educational programs be developed to meet these needs. It cited the two and four year community college as critical in helping a community in marshalling its local manpower resources to meet these health manpower needs.

A community college in the Meriden area offering liberal arts, business education, and health professions curriculum will help to serve industry in our community in three major ways: one, it is essential for the recruitment of health professionals at all levels. Such a facility will serve as a magnet to attract professionals to the area. Two, it is essential for the development of the increasingly sophisticated health manpower pool. The availability of such programs will attract young people into following health careers. It will provide the necessary training and skills beyond the high school and vocational school levels needed to pursue a successful health career in today's market. These skills that are in such high demand go beyond the scientific and technical fields into management and administration, budget, business and accounting, medical record terminology, computer technology, and so on. Three, it is essential for the continued personal and career development of health professionals. In addition to recruiting and training new people entering health careers we must also concentrate on providing a means for the continuing education of the people now at work. In addition to sharpening the various personal and technical skills required to pursue today's health career, it will assist in measuring of true personnel mobility up the career ladder so necessary for keeping people in health careers.

The development and execution of a program of education for the health occupations again, according to the President's Commission is: "A challenge that will undoubtedly present difficulties, but the reward will be increased numbers of well-trained health services personnel". Thank you.

John McIntyre: Administrator of the Meriden-Wallingford Hospital. Our hospital serves the Meriden-Wallingford communities as well as Cheshire and a little bit of Southington.

I want to speak directly about the community college and our support for it. We operate the only institution of higher learning in the area - the Meriden-Wallingford Hospital School of Nursing. And I should say the oldest in the area. We are directly interested in seeing the community college established in our area. The education of nurses, which we carry on, and the education of radiologic technicians, which we carry on, are both appropriate curriculums for community colleges. It is essential that in the changing health care scene, and particularly with respect to costs of education, that the educational system of the state bare the major portion of the financial burden to the future of education of health professionals rather than the health care system. Hospitals are not the only employers of these professionals. It is very

essential that the educational system provide the basis for the education of health professionals, that my colleague has so aptly described, in order to provide the sound basis for these individuals to be able to meet the challenges of change. This is the greatest thing about the health care field now. Our own school has met this challenge, but it is with some cost to the sick public. There is some question as to whether this is appropriate. Our school has grown from in 1965 with 9 graduates to 1969 with 18 and we will graduate 17 this year and probably 29 next year. Our goal is about 30 graduates per year and I think you can count on a transition from a hospital school to an integrated community college as soon as it is established and ready to go. The same thing would be true of our School of Radiologic Technology which would be very easily able to adapt to the community college and it to the hospital.

I can assure you that the medical facilities in the area will profit greatly from the establishment of a community college and I might add would be a great help in its establishment because of the co-operative programs that have been demonstrated in many other areas. Thank you.

Mrs. Alan Reid: I represent the YWCA in Meriden and I am here with my committee member on Public Affairs, Mrs. Margaret Squire.

I have a short statement to read to you, but before I do I want to say no one should be denied the opportunity of higher education.

The Young Women's Christian Association is committed to the importance of an education as a fundamental human right as well as an indispensable factor in social and economic development.

With this thought in mind, we believe that there is a real need for a community college in Meriden. This need is based on the economic hardship caused by the high rate of unemployment in our area. Our young men and women, who seek to further their education are forced to abandon their plans, due to the rising cost of college tuition.

Should we neglect these qualified young people by letting them go unnoticed, unrespected and undeveloped, because their financial means did not permit them to continue their education?

To quote from Diogenes: "The foundation of every state is the education of its youth."

Bruce Morris: Rep. of 111th District in New Haven. I am Assistant Majority Leader in the House. I am speaking for myself.

I am in favor of the concept of a community college in Meriden for one particular reason and that is that I think that maybe it is a little bit too far, particularly at night, for some of the young ladies to travel to New Haven. I feel that in the central Connecticut area, such as Meriden, that the school would be most appropriate. I wish we could have a community college in every city in the state of Connecticut because I think it is so vitally needed. Travelling through this country

community colleges annexed to high schools, particularly in Maryland, and I feel that maybe we will have that same concept here in the state of Connecticut where you can go fourteen years to school in that same general area. I would like to support the bill. Thank you.

George Hannon, Jr.: Rep. of the 16th District and Assistant Majority Leader of the House. I should like to address myself to the concept of establishing a community college in Meriden. I speak as one who has been representing a town who has been serviced by the Manchester Community College for a number of years. At was one of the original community colleges when the concept was provided to provide education to those who could not afford the regular campus tuition. I am here at the coaxing and urging of my boss the deputy Majority Leader from Meriden, who on six different occasions this afternoon has said, "Have you gone up to Room 408." We have worn out two pair of shoes voting on various roll call issues - and there is another one (inturreption).

I frankly think that the concept of community colleges is one that we favored back in the early and middle 60's, it is something that has grown and blossomed into 1971, although this particularly college would be unfunded during this biennium, it certainly is a step in the right direction and I lend my wholehearted support to it.

Rep. John Papandrea: Rep. 78th District. Mr. Chairman, let me be very brief. I want only to thank the Chamber of Commerce and all the City agencies and the people within the City of Meriden who took their time to come here this afternoon. I think the case is being splendidly made out. The actual work that is to be done by your area legislators to assure the action that is favorable on this bill is done, not here - it is done behind the scenes. I am sure that they will get plenty of action before this session is up. I do want to thank all of you for your efforts and I want to extend our sincerest apologies for any inconvenience of difficulty that the procedures in the House have made during this hearing.

Please - and one last word - don't judge the fact that there are only two people here is indicitive of the interest of the committee. That committee is of necessity forced to be on the floor today because of the roll calls that have been taken. I assure you that this committee will give this its full attention and I am sure favorable consideration to this bill before this session is up. Thank you.

Terrell Hebert: Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee I work for the Meriden Record Company and I am also with the Chamber on the Education. I would like to urge Meriden as a future designated site for the community college for one reason and the point I want to make is that in interviewing applicants for the future employment at the Meriden Record Company I have asked in the past year (to the applicants who have not gone on to college) why they haven't. More often than not the reason has been access. I feel that the community college will be heavily utilized. I know that Meriden will be better for it and I feel doubly sure that the state of Connecticut will be. Thank you.

Philip T. Ashton: Chairman of the Meriden Planning Commission and I am Secretary of the Regional Planning Agency of South Central Connecticut.

I am here because after we strip out the emotion and the promotion I can think of at least three solid reasons why the state should designate Meriden as a site of a future community college. I think, first of all, that it is good sense from a planning standpoint. Mr. Scavetta has demonstrated that we are at the center of an area not now presently served by any institute of higher education, we have a population in the area of 140,000 roughly, and we consist of four very closely knit communities. We have been closely knit for many years. I think it is very essential from a socio-economic standpoint. Meriden is a core city and it has the problems of the core city which are well publicized today. A community college would provide educational opportunities to those not presently available. It would provide a source of leadership; leadership which is so desperately needed by the cities with which to cope with their problems. It would help, also, to further the development of a responsible citizenry. I think it would also help in the demonstration of, or the development of a sense of identity with the community which seems so badly disturbed in our present hectic world.

I think, lastly, it would be good economics. This is really the reason that we are here. I think that we have something to offer the state, besides the state offering something to us. We think it would..... I can think it would help to hold down expansion in other institutions, which are now already over burdened and particularly help to obviate the need for dormitory needs and other frills which are distance related.

I think it will also reduce travel and thus the cost of access to an institute of higher learning and this is particularly essential for residents of the core community.

I have with me also a letter which I have been asked to present from the Chairman of the Republican Town Committee in Meriden and he stresses right off the bat that this is not a partisan issue - it is a community issue, and the community is solidly behind this.

His key summary is: "Indeed, every responsible leader from the various segments of our community sees this need in the context of the demands and challenges that our society will face in the 70's.....to initiate a community college in Meriden.

Thank you.

Harry Eberhardt: I am the Planning Director for Meriden. I would like to cite page 105 and 106 of a report recently prepared by Arthur D. Little, Inc. entitled: "Needs For Higher Education Related to Regional and Statewide Economic Development in Connecticut." This is the report for the Connecticut Commission for Higher Education. I think recently prepared because I was just able to con somebody out of it recently.

It notes in area E which is our area, a need within a ten year period to educate approximately 15,000 people at a level less than four year college education.

I would also like to note that Connecticut as an urban state ranks 4th in population density in the United States - 1st in per capita income - 1st in the ratio of skilled workers - 3rd in per capita patents - but 17th in the number of scientists, and we all know a lot lower on the list in Aid to Education.

Annually, we export students, which to me is horrible, because we have to be able to train these students at home in order to keep their talents in Connecticut.

I would like to note that in Meriden we have something that is unique and has not been noted recently. It is the only City that I can recall of about 60,000 population that has taken an interest to maintain its transit operation. We have an activated transit system which assures us that we will have a public bus system so that we can transport many of the low income students efficiently within the community. This is not true of the present colleges which require automobile transportation in order to get to. Thank you.

William Templeton: I am an employee of the International Silver Company. Much has been said today as to the urgent need for establishing in the Meriden-Wallingford area a site for a community college. I want to point out to you that my company - International Silver Company, as well as the other members of the INSILCO group in the Wallingford Meriden area are heartedly in support of the establishing of the area as a site for a community college.

I, personally, feel very close to a matter of this sort having been an evening student for six years. I can well assure you that it is extremely difficult after a long hard day's work to go off to night school and it is more difficult if you have to travel eighteen, twenty, fifteen miles away.

A facility of this sort in Meriden would most absurdly be an inducement to those youngsters who would not otherwise continue their education to do so to prepare themselves to take advantage of opportunities that would be available to them in the future and without which such training that would just have no future. Thank you.

James Hass: Gentlemen, I am employed by the Miller Company in Meriden and as a part time student I would like to take this opportunity to just read a brief letter that I have written.

Recently I have read in the local newspapers the gray prospect of a community college within the city limits of Meriden. I feel strongly about a community college in Meriden, not only for myself, but for the future of this city.

I am presently working and living in Meriden, but I have been forced to go elsewhere to continue my education. I am attending Quinnipiac College (Evening Division), and through conversations with fellow students from the Meriden area, have found the concern for a community college is shared by others. According to the local papers a number of young people are employed outside of, and eventually are leaving our community. I feel part of the reason for this is due to the lack of college level educational facilities. Students attending schools in Hartford, New Haven, Waterbury and other large cities are exposed to employment postings, company interviewers and job opportunities within these cities. This type of environment has a tendency to draw some of its students away from their local communities.

If local community leaders expect its citizens to add to the social, political, moral and religious fiber of the community's environment then it must realize the need for a higher education facility.

If you stop and look at the ever increasing educational requirements of our society today, you begin to realize what a great demand is upon us as individuals. The clerks, the technicians, the small and large business supervisors, the mechanics, etc. etc. are all involved in the quest to obtain not only the high educational requirements, but more important the knowledge which exists in achieving these requirements. With education costs increasing in leaps and bounds, it won't be long before the average working citizen will be unable to finance an education of this type for his children, to say the least himself.

As I mentioned above, stop and look at the educational requirements now and imagine what it will be like 10 years from now. The "beginning" is the hardest part of any challenge of this type and it must begin soon. Thank you.

Michael A. Petro: I would like to go on record as favoring a community college in Meriden. From a selfish viewpoint, over the last year I have interviewed hundreds of people and talked about colleges and people going to college and I have recognized a need for a community college in Meriden.

Another viewpoint is that there is no focal point in Meriden for companies in Meriden to recruit. On occasion I have gone to Waterbury, Mattatuck, Quinnipiac, and different colleges in the area recruiting for jobs in our company. I feel that a community college in our area would certainly help to keep our Meriden youth in Meriden. Thank you.

Max Strazzinella: I am a merchant in Meriden and a father of a youngster who just graduated South Central Community College I very strongly urge that you give the youngsters in Meriden the break they deserve. Thank you.

John Thomas: Ladies and gentlemen, I manage a branch office of the New York Stock Exchange in Meriden and I am also a member of the Chamber of Commerce Education Committee and I strongly urge that you designate Meriden as your site for a community college. Thank you.

Sanford Shorr: Executive Vice President of the Chamber of Commerce to conclude our hearing. I would just like to place some letters and notes that were given to me by persons that could not be here or had to leave because of the hearing was at an end.

One is from James Rice, who is executive director of the Meriden Community Action Agency.

One is from Albert Owens, director of the Meriden Human Rights Commission.

Another is from Major Adam Sokolowski from the Meriden Police Department.

Another is from the All Saint's Episcopal Parish, the Rev. Mr. Miller had to leave. Another one from Alderman Brenda J. Vumbaco, and we have a letter from the director of the Neighborhood Youth Corps, the Meriden YMCA, and a resolution from the Unison Club of Meriden, a letter from Our Lady of Mount Carmel School a letter from Mark Bollman who was former principal of the Meriden High School and the final note from the co-ordinator of CDAP in Meriden, Edward Piatek.

Thank you. We thank you very much for your kind attention to our presentation and we hope you will give it sympathetic consideration.

Warren Hill: Chancellor of Higher Education and I am employed for the Commission on Higher Education. I am here to speak in support of improved opportunity in higher education in the Meriden, Wallingford, Cheshire, Southington area.

The last session of the legislature did charge the commission, under P.A.812 with a study and the key quote says, "The Commission shall make specific recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly for the expansion of higher educational opportunities in the towns of Meriden, Southington, Wallingford, and Cheshire. Such recommendations including the identification of proposals to be implemented should be made by the Commission, the Governor and the General Assembly prior to January 1971."

That report was prepared by that date and submitted to the Governor and the leadership of the General Assembly.

I think I ought to identify, not for the committee if you will excuse me, but for the audience the role of the commission of higher education in a sentence or two.

It is the coordinating agency for higher education in the state for planning and for coordination of planning between public and private institutions and within the public. There is no area of the state that is not a matter of concern to this commission. And the Commission is charged with the development, also, of improved opportunity, generally, in higher education. We also have another charge in the law of providing the legislature of objective analysis of all proposals that have to do with higher education.

I would like to commend the people who are here from the area today. I would simply say that in three sessions this is probably the best exposition of public interest that I have heard. It is well organized, lucid, and clear.

I fully understand every statement that is made by anyone who first, approves of higher education, or second, would like to have a college in their town. Because I think that there is no question but what any town would very much benefit by having one in it. I can't think of any opposition to that concept at all.

Now we have had a lot of information from the area and I would like to publically thank Mr. Scavetta for his study which was done with great care and depth and was of value to us. It is vocationally oriented, but it helped us in the total evaluation of this.

Now with a direct charge from the legislature we did three things at the commission level. We examined every study that has ever been made since we have been in business about this state and its regions. We commissioned other studies and one or two speakers, including Mr. Petro was it..... and we reviewed all of the studies that have to do with higher education generally and its expansion and development. Because it is for all regions of the state and this is certainly one of them.

Now there were five studies made between 1965 and now that bear on this. Again, I am not going to quote from them at any length. But I would like to go to this last one that was quoted from and read one very short paragraph. Please recall this is the A. D. Little Company speaking the Commission. But remember that the commission has to look at every Higher Education need in the state, whether it is the Medical Center, Community Colleges, State Colleges, continuing education or whatever.

"From the prospection of currently unmet needs and considering the scarcely appropriated resources to support both existing and new public institutions of public institutions of higher education we would recommend the assignment of a higher priority to the establishment and support of a new community college in the North or Northeastern part of the state and to the further development of the two new community colleges in Bristol-New Britain, and in Norwich-New London. Access to a broad spectrum of education is much more limited in the Eastern and Northern part of the state than it is in the Southington, Cheshire, Meriden, Wallingford area."

This is the report of the A. D. Little Company.

I would like to go back and read about four sentences of the National Study carried on by the College Entrance Examination Board. Published in 1970.

This studied carried out by a Dr. Wellingham indicates that Connecticut leads the nation in the percent of population within commuting distance of free access colleges. Having defined free access institutions as those which are non-selective and cost no

more than \$400 a year in tuition and fees.

Two other sentences: Connecticut lies in the heartland of private education and selective admissions. It is a bit startling that 80% of the state's population lives within commuting distance with a free access college - the highest percentage in the country.

He further added that there are only one or two locations in the state where proximity could be much of an argument in favor of a new institution. Connecticut as much as any state needs to strengthen its existing institutions.

These are, let me say again, a national study and not one that we commissioned.

Finally, the Commission did make recommendations as part of its study where it felt higher education might be improved in this particular area. I think the preamble to that statement bears repetition.

Responsibility for improving educational opportunity in a given region appropriately be shared between the state and the residents of the area.

I would just pause to say that Connecticut is unlike many other states where the cost of community or junior college activities tend to be borne on a tri-part type basis with a third of the cost coming from the state, a third from the region and a third from the student who participates. In ours it is a very low tuition and the remainder of the cost is borne by the state.

The expressed interest of citizens in the region, and the proving...and improving existing opportunity, and we have had very clear evidence of this, is evidence for willingness to undertake the activity toward that end. The state's commitment to improvement is well documented by the current level of support for higher education.

I would note that we lead the nation in the past 10 years because we have had improved support for higher education by 644% in that period of time for operations.

The efforts that have been made to develop a comprehensive system....Following recommendations indicate action that should be considered in any program undertaken to improve opportunities in higher education in this particular region:

1. To clearly strengthen the institutions in these surrounding areas. Particularly note that the higher education center in Waterbury is a new concept. There are many consortium arrangements in the country, but I think that this is one of the unique ones and it is believed that its existence as close as it is to Meriden offers a real opportunity to expand opportunity.

2. ...

By the way, when we talk about providing more support for existing institutions I tell you flatly that the state, and I am very glad all of these gentlemen are listening, is providing support now for community colleges a little less than the level you would provide a good high school. So there isn't all that money being

pumped into that on that kind of basis at the moment. Part of that lower cost is due to the fact that they are sitting around in people's high schools, factories and all these other places.

2. That a Regional Counselling and Testing Center be established in Meriden. The Center would expand higher education opportunity by: (1) assisting potential students to determine what institution or program can best meet their educational aspirations.

Because not all of them need to or want to go to a community college.

(2) serve in cooperation with collegiate institutions and the Connecticut Higher Education Television Association, as a foundation for a College Level Equivalency Program in the state by giving standardized examinations for course credit.

3. Within existing structures, public school officials in the area examine their present efforts and determine whether or not sufficient effort is being given to identifying a total spectrum of post-secondary educational opportunities and to making these opportunities equally accessible to residents of the area.

And finally,

4. That libraries, in cooperation with the schools and the colleges develop study programs utilizing existing resources and acquiring additional resources becomes necessary.

(Above quoted in part from Report to Governor and 1971 G.A. in compliance with Public Act 812 sec. 6 by Connecticut Commission for Higher Education - 1970)

There are one or two other things that are certainly going to improve higher educational opportunities in this state anywhere that you look for it - not just in this one area. One, simply increase appropriations for higher education, increase appropriations for student financial assistance. Particularly the students who have not been recipients of those kinds of awards. I think, Mr. Chairman, that would complete my statement. I will leave a copy on file with you.

Rep. Mesite: 77th District. I want to go on record in favor of a community college in the city of Meriden. And phase the Connecticut School for Boys. The reason for phasing out the Conn. School for Boysat one time in 1967 I was a police commissioner and the total runaways from that school was approximately 350. Well, it is said that they are repeaters. Sure there are repeaters but it is costing the city of Meriden, every time three or four kids run away from the school. They call the police. We send a teletype out - four kids are at large - we pick up two and send out another teletypeif the people of Meriden only knew just what it cost to take care of that Connecticut School for Boys! It is something that people really don't realize as to the cost to have that school there. And now (40 years ago the school was in the proper place) the school is on the boundary of my property and they have cows there and when they have cows there the kids were alright. But, now, with the building around that school and all the neighbors are complaining that the kids are stealing the clothes, food, and one more important thing that people should realize. We are having G. Fox

up there right close to that school and God forbid if they leave those cars there at 40 to 60 stores there what will really happen.....Thank you very much.

Rep. McNellis: Would it be possible to put cows back on your property?

Rep. Mesite: Yes. Maybe I can make more money with them.

No, it was alright about 30-40 years ago when they were farming and everything but now the kids are at-large and God knows. Four or five run away. Even this morning in the paper they had two of them. They keep continusly running away.

Rep. McNellis: But the cows were stepping in your flower beds and you had to get rid of them?

Rep. Mesite: That's right, I had to be rid of them.

Rep. LaGrotta: I would like to ask a question of the entire group and just tell you our problem here. Don't think that we havn't listened to your whole story.

Almost every community that has children over high school age needs a community college. Wherever there are children they need to go to school somewhere. I just want to ask how would you feel about making some contribution from your community, if everyone else did the same, to help to develop a community college in your area? If that were the only way, and everyone were doing it, would you be agreeable to getting up an amount - I don't say a big amount, but AN AMOUNT? We just can't keep by putting pressure on us on every community to build community colleges all over.

Robert Houde: I have been before you earlier. President of Greater Meriden Chamber of Commerce.

I am sure that the entire population of Meriden, if they had the opportunity, would pitch in and see that that is done.

I would like - the reason that I am here now as a point of rebuttal to the Commissioner. He makes a statement that he thought they had a nice place over in Waterbury and that would be sufficient for our boys to travel to Waterbury. We don't feel that way at all and I go back to my same remarks of earlier that in all due respect to the Arthur D. Little Company - they have the professional educator who came here - he happens to be someone from Michigan, and that is not an expert on Connecticut - I don't feel.

We do have experts on Connecticut in the G. Fox and the J. C. Penney establishments. We have a G. Fox in Waterbury that should be good enough for our people in this area to go to, but the businessman who seeks to make a profit feels strong enough that he can dump 15 million dollars more expansion into Meriden and have people come to that area because it is more centrally located, it has highway accessibility, and it is a good investment.

John Scavetta: I would like to speak to two points that Commissioner Hill made. I would like to say, first of all, that at the conclusion of our study and at the time that we released it we presented, and I was the representative designated by the Chamber, a copy to Commissioner Hill. I went over the report with him. I believe our study group has been fair, open-handed, and above board in all of its relationships. We kept the Commissioner aware of what we were doing. We entertained, and asked them to inform us of ways in which we could move toward the concept and the actual articulation of development of a community college within our area. We welcomed criticisms.

I understand that there is an eleven-page study out now which noone knows about except some few key people, of recommendations made for the Meriden area. Meriden, Wallingford, Cheshire, Southington. I don't know how true this is, but I do know that reputable source has given me information with reference to this. An eleven-page study. And yet when we, the leadership,and when I say leadership I mean the selectmen, Mayors of the communities, to my knowledge. . . .and I have spoken with my Mayor and to others who were here today asking if they knew anything about this study. We have not heard anything about it and as I say the study is out and I think that in courtesy to us this study should have been made available to us so that we could look at it and see the directions, the critisims, and make corrective actions dealing with that.

I would like to say, again, getting back to the crux of the matter that the Meriden area is in the center of Connecticut. We have 141,000 population. We are not now being served. The college that was set up to service our area is located in New Haven and is not doing that job and I think, in all fairness, that we are not one community selfishly pursuing an objective. We are a group of four communities, including North Hampton, North Branford. . . .rather Hampton, North Haven, and North Branford. These areas in the concept of a community college. We are asking for the designation and I think that we are not asking for dollars. I think that when they will that this area can provide the viability for a community college development in that area that would be second to none regardless of the fact of how early other community colleges have been established. I think those points are important.

Thank you.

Rep. Edward Iwanicki: 79th District. I know you fellows have been here all afternoon and we have been downstairs, too.

I just want to record that I am in favor of having a community college in the City of Meriden. We need it badly. Thank you.

Rep. LaGrotta: I would like to say that I feel very close to Meriden because I live in Warren and you had a camp up there in Warren. In fact, it has been about 40 years since I have seen Coffey who used to walk up and down the road with those kids. And I was pleased to see him. Everytime I go into Meriden I tell them that I am from Warren and they say, "Oh, I know where you are from, I was there as a kid." So I have a feeling for your problem.

Rep. McNellis: If there are no other speakers, I will close the hearing for this afternoon.

I would like to thank you all for coming.

NOTE: Following are letters that were sent by those unable to attend or having to leave the hearing before presenting them.

GREATER MERIDEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

- STUDY -

NEED FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO SERVICE

THE GREATER MERIDEN AREA

(IN ACCORDANCE WITH PUBLIC ACT 812, SECTION 6 (1969))

Prepared for:

Education Committee of The Greater Meriden
Chamber of Commerce - Robert A. Houde, Chairman

Prepared by Sub-committee:

Robert M. Dorsey, Director
Horace C. Wilcox Technical School

Dr. George Magrath, Superintendent of Schools
Meriden Public School System

John L. Scavetta, Director (Chairman)
Vocational Education - Meriden Public Schools

Date: Thursday, February 19, 1970

The Morning Record

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6—The Morning Record, Meriden, Conn. Sat., April 3, 1971

Plan Now, Build Later

Meriden's Chamber of Commerce accurately reflects the thinking of the community in its decision to defer its demands for a community college in the Meriden-Wallingford area — on one condition. That is that Meriden receive firm designation as a site for a community college as part of the state's long-term, overall planning.

Our claim for designation as a site for college construction is backed by arguments which are both familiar and decisive. Alone among population centers of our size or larger in the state, we are without any public state or community college. Alone among cities and towns in Connecticut, Meriden and Wallingford can offer graduating students no community-based facility for higher education. Time after time, as plans for higher education facilities have been developed, we have been bypassed or thrown the sop of a totally inadequate branch operation.

This is an area of critically high unemployment, an area always especially vulnerable to economic dips that squeeze people, especially young people, out of the job picture. This is an area crying for better-trained people, especially in the technical and high-rated semi-professional service fields. This is an area that would make maximum use and benefit out of a community college.

In spite of all this, we're willing to defer our request. We are well aware of the financial straits in which the state finds itself. We recognize that capital spending must be kept to a minimum and that all except rock-bottom necessities must be postponed. We are realistic enough to know that our chances of getting what we need in this session are so small as to be virtually nonexistent.

But civic leaders and concerned citizens in Meriden and Wallingford are in full accord with the Chamber request that the area be formally designated as a community college site, to be developed when the money becomes available for future expansion of the system. We believe strongly that we are entitled to priority, to a place at the head of the line when community college building is resumed — as it must be.

April 13 at 2:30 p.m. in Room 408 of the State Capitol there will be a hearing on the community college planning before the Education Committee. The Chamber plans to send a large delegation and urges interested citizens to join in their indication of interest. John L. Scavetta at City Hall in Meriden is the man to call for information on joining the delegation.

If enough of us turn up for the planning now, we've got a good chance of guaranteeing the building later.

TUESDAY EVENING, January 28, 1971

THE MERIDEN JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Meriden, Connecticut

Owned and published daily except Sunday and certain holidays by
The Meriden Record Company, a Connecticut corporation.

Meriden's Missing Community College

The State Commission on Higher Education insists that South Central Community College in New Haven is the one that serves Meriden. Somebody had better tell that to Meriden students enrolled in the community college program.

South Central had fewer than ten students enrolled from Meriden last semester. Middlesex Community College in Middletown had from Meriden 166 full-time and 46 part-time students. Waterbury's Mattatuck Community College and Post Junior College had 18 students from Meriden. Even Greater Hartford Community College had 13.

The large Meriden enrollment at Middlesex Community College is no mystery. Middletown is but eight miles away, in contrast to the 20 plus miles between here and South Central in New Haven. On the fair assumption that South

Central and Middlesex are equal in quality, why drive a half-hour or more to school when you can get there in 15 minutes or less?

Obviously, based on these enrollment figures, South Central is not Meriden's community college and is not likely to become it in the future. It's just too far away. It's irony or stupidity, take your pick, but there are two community colleges — Middlesex and Mattatuck — that are closer to Meriden than the college that is supposed to be serving it.

In this year of state austerity it isn't likely the installation of any new community colleges is going to win many friends in the administration. But when things begin to loosen up again, the State Commission on Higher Education should face the fact that South Central will never be viewed by Meriden as its community college.

The Morning Record, Meriden, Conn. Friday, May 8, 1970—5

Meriden Is 10th In State In Minority Pupils -- Report

HARTFORD — Minority group pupils—numbering 75,625 in a total of 650,872 in 173 school districts — now make up 11.6 percent of the state's total public school population, the State Board of education reported Wednesday.

Meriden ranks 10th in minority enrollment with slightly less than 10 per cent of its pupils classed as minority students. Of these, only 3-4 per cent are black students.

Total public school enrollment in Meriden is a little under 11,000.

A report on minority pupil distribution, presented at the board's monthly meeting, contained these highlights:

—The great majority of mi-

nority pupils—67,391, or 89.1 percent—are enrolled in 20 districts where individual school minority enrollments range from none to 100 per cent.

—These districts, in order of rank in minority enrollment, are Hartford, New Haven, Bridgeport, Stamford, Waterbury, Norwalk, New Britain, New London, Danbury, Meriden, Bloomfield, West Haven, Middletown, Hamden, Startford, Grafton, Ansonia, Norwich, Windham, and Portland.

—The number of Negro pupils now totals 55,995, or 8.6 percent, of the state total. This compares with 52,488, or 8.3 per cent, in 1968-69, and 48,028, or 7.8 percent, in 1967-68.

—The number of Spanish-sur-

named pupils now totals 17,908, or 2.8 percent of the state total. This compares with 15,977, or 2.5 percent, of the 1968-69 total.

—Hartford schools have 18,100 minority pupils, or 63.1 percent, in a total enrollment of 28,697. In 1968-69, its minority percentage was 59.4.

—New Haven schools have 12,934 minority pupils, or 59.9 percent, in a total enrollment of 21,608. In 1968-69, the minority percentage was 57.2.

—Bridgeport schools have 12,790 minority pupils, or 51.2 percent, in a total enrollment of 25,001. In 1968-69, the minority percentage was 49 percent.

—Thirty-one districts reported having no Negro pupils enrolled. In 1968-69, 26 districts reported having no Negro pupils.

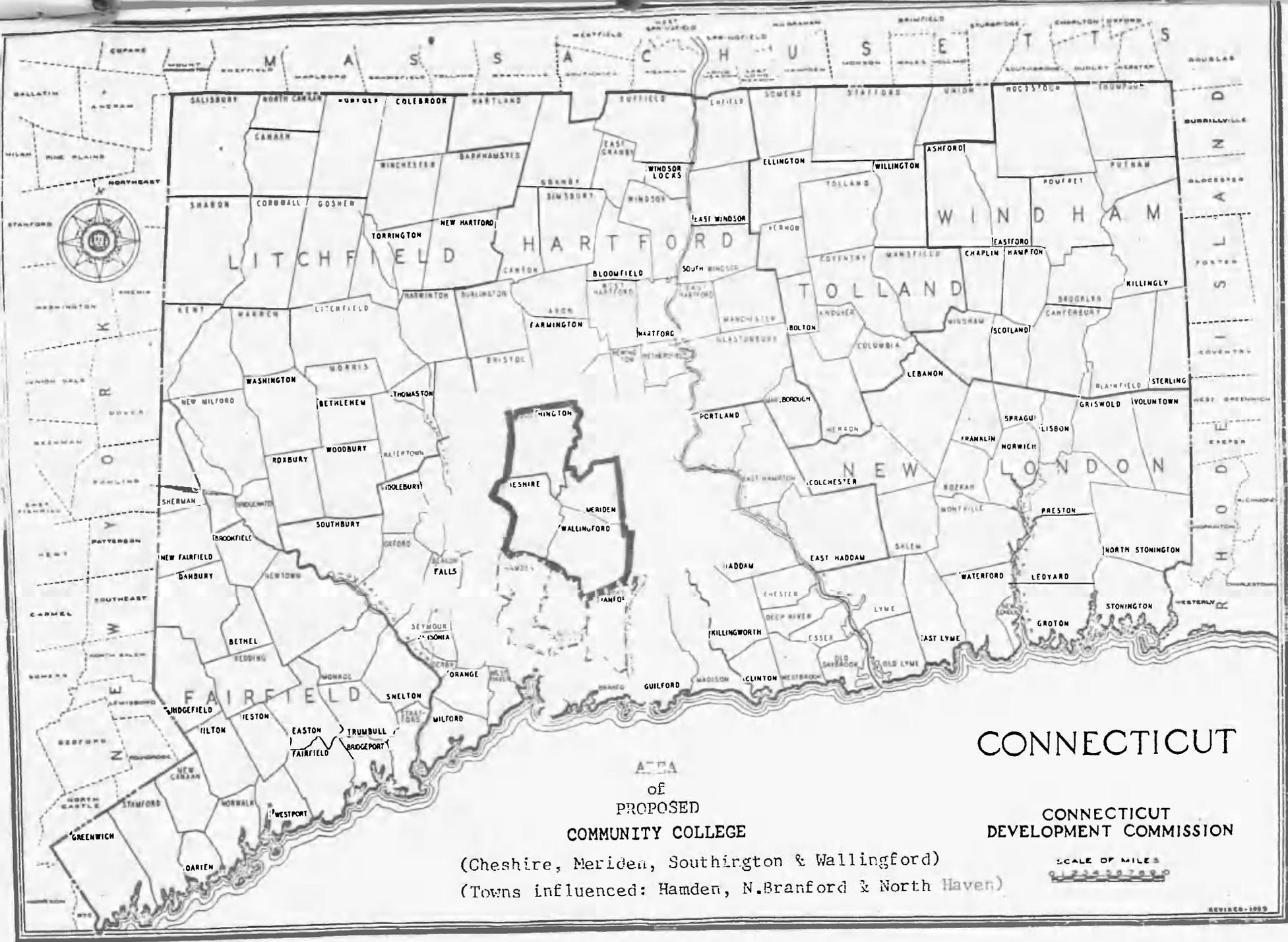
—Negro enrollment is under five percent in 153 districts.

—Twenty-two districts have minority enrollments over five percent.

—Of the 151 districts with less than five percent minority enrollment, 16 districts have at least one school where minority enrollment exceeds five percent. There were 34 such schools in these districts.

—Of the 37,048 professional personnel working in Connecticut schools, 1,244, or 3.4 percent, are minority group members. They include 1,143 Negroes, 84 with Spanish surnames, and 50 Orientals or American Indians. In 1968-69, there were 1,122, or 3.2 percent, minority group members among a professional staff of 34,651.

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FUNDED UNDER TITLE VI-A OF THE ELEMEN-
TARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT.



AREA
of
PROPOSED
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

(Cheshire, Meriden, Southington & Wallingford)
(Towns influenced: Hamden, N.Branford & North Haven)

CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

SCALE OF MILES
0 1 2 3 4 5

REVISED-1965

899

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this study is to determine the question of need for a community college to serve the greater Meriden area. We consider it our function to view this question as the need for such higher education relates to the uplift and betterment of life within our society and as it provides the mechanism for meeting the conditions of change inherent therein.

Toward these ends the study staff has paid increasing attention to the study area's labor market, its level of employment and unemployment, the rate of growth in the population and the rate of growth in the economy, as well as the characteristics of the sociological and related aspects of its population. Finally, the current age requirements for educational opportunity beyond the high school, an established fact of this age, are so vital that provision must be made for young men and women to enhance their growth opportunities and potentials in the light of changing state and national economic, social and cultural patterns.

A word of caution since this is not a technical paper designed primarily to enlighten other technicians, the explanations are neither detailed nor lengthy. Maximum possible use of existing data was considered from previous studies and where applicable utilized in this study.

Employment projections, population and other indices represent the best estimates based on past trends and current conditions for the series 1975 and 1980.

Lastly, since the original purpose of this study was to evaluate and establish the question of need for a community college to better service the geographic heart of Connecticut, the study group firmly believes that the information provided in this report contains an effective and persuasive case for such an institution.

Definition of the Area

It was apparent to the study staff that it would be necessary to define with some precision that area of South Central Connecticut that would be, for purposes of the study, defined as the "Greater Meriden Area" This area is comprised of the towns of Cheshire, Meriden, Southington and Wallingford. (See below)



This is the area designated under Public Act 812; Section 6:

"The commission for higher education shall make specific recommendations to the governor and the general assembly for the expansion of higher educational opportunities in the towns of Meriden, Wallingford, Southington and Cheshire. Such recommendations, including the identification of proposals to be implemented, shall be made by the commission to the governor and the general assembly prior to January 1, 1971."

Geographically, see above, the towns are contiguous and are readily accessible by roadway via "I-84, 66, I-91. 5 and 15." It is of particular importance to note that the influences of Hamden, North Branford and North Haven also has an impact on this need for use of such a proposed community college. The land area comprises some 132.3 square miles, presently housing a population of 139,100. It is pertinent to note that the characteristics of population shift from the peripheries of large cities, ie, New Haven, Waterbury, Hartford, to their suburbs has and is creating problems of congestion on highways; urban sprawl; imbalances in the whole array of societal, and cultural patterns traced to population's

mix; income grouping; educational composition problems (racial imbalances); and the like. Thus, the need for a good cross-section of people, goods and services are the prerequisite to growth of better housing, jobs, commerce, recreation and those institutions that make an area - a college, libraries, hospitals, art museums, etc. It is not the purpose of this study to suggest the extent of political problems inherent in the analysis of the fore-going nor to suggest any panacea to them. For, to our knowledge there is none. However, it is clear that the problems noted above do have a bearing upon this study and should be viewed from this perspective in arriving at any solution(s). Let us now consider the factors underscoring the need for a good community college to service this area - Cheshire, Meriden, Southington and Wallingford.

<u>LAND:</u>	<u>Square Miles</u>	<u>Population (Density:)</u>	<u>(Year 2000)</u>
Cheshire	32.4	537	902
Meriden	23.7	2,422	3,460
Southington	36.8	772	1,736
Wallingford	39.4	911	1,740
Total Land Area	132.3	(Average Density = 1.051)	1,841
Connecticut	<u>4,870.0</u>	<u>615</u>	<u>1,052</u>

ROADWAYS:

Major highways intersecting the study area are as noted in page preceding this. It is also supplemented by Wilbur Cross Highway-route 15 and less utilized because of restrictive characteristics, route 5, and 5A; and routes 10 and 70. It is of great importance to note the high traffic volume recorded on the major highways ie in 1967 Average daily traffic for I-91 near the North Haven-Wallingford town-line was estimated at 30,800; and near the Meriden-Wallingford townline at 29,800. Also Wilbur Cross Highway had an estimated Average daily traffic volume of 17,000. It is reasonable then, to conclude that this rate of Average Daily Traffic is in a growth trend that will tend to congest, if not glut, those present regional centers in which community colleges are located. Thus, the present policy of providing higher educational facilities within the locus of a core area or region may be in

conflict with realities of present-day traffic patterns.

POPULATION ANALYSIS:

Population figures to year 2000. (See following page)

Also in line with these figures of estimated population for the four towns cited, are the projected state (Connecticut) figures for the years projected:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Population:</u>	<u>Four Town Area</u>
1980	3,724,600	176,513
1990	4,404,900	214,904
2000	5,124,000	243,615

The four towns involved in this study will combined have the following percentage of the total state population within their boundaries:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Per Cent of Total (Connecticut) Population</u> (%)
1980	4.7
1990	4.9
2000	4.8

Thus, the four towns comprising 2% of the total towns located within the state, and having 2.7% of the total land area is carrying a proportionately greater portion of its share of total population within the confines of the state.

At the present time the four towns (Cheshire, Meriden, Southington, and Wallingford) are housing 4.7% of the total state's population within its boundaries.

Note also the constantly developing trend towards personally-owned means of transportation (see page 9 this report.).

SOCIOLOGICAL AND ECONOMIC FACTORS

Characteristics of Population - An Analysis:

An examination of population in the four towns discloses that Meriden having the least land area (23.7 sq.mi.) supported 43.9 per cent of the total population in 1960. It had and has the greatest density of population to land (square mile) and has the least flexibility. Upon further examination of the chart on page 6, the following conclusions appear:

Meriden's manpower needs in 1960 were predominantly for "blue collar" labor. Its income grouping showed it lead with the greatest number of households in the lowest income brackets, and the smallest number of households in the \$10,000 and above categories. Its need to diversify its economy then (1960) is still evident today in 1970. Today, it supports 41.3 per cent of the four town grouped population. (See page 7.)

Cheshire is the most fortunate of the four towns studied since it has the broadest based employment characteristics of the group studied. Its proximity to the Waterbury, New Haven and Meriden Labor Markets coupled with its high level of educational attainment and income levels, plus its consistently low unemployment rate gives it the greatest flexibility of the group not to mention its prime ranking within the state. It has the third largest land area (32.4 sq.mi.) but housed only 11.3 per cent of the grouped population then (1960) versus today's 12.5 per cent of the total (1970). (See pages 6 and 7)

Southington has the second largest land area (36.8 sq.mi.) and contained the third largest population...19.4 per cent of the total. It was heavily oriented toward the Meriden Labor Market Area, although even then it showed signs of being significantly involved with its labor force toward the New Britain and Hartford Labor Market Areas. (See table, page 6) Its manpower composition had a high portion of its workers in the "blue collar" area in

1960. Today, although they form still a significant portion of this sector of the Meriden Labor Market, there has been some slippage in the numbers employed in the manufacturing sector of the Meriden Labor Market Area. This points up again the declining requirement for low level skills (unskilled, semi-skilled and to some extent skilled labor), and emphasizes the trend towards highly skilled and technician-type manpower requirements in the manufacturing industries. Southington ranks third in the group regarding its overall income to population mix, and in relation to population density although less congested than Wallingford in 1960 is projected to be near parity in this area in the year 2000 with Wallingford. (See page 2 for comparative evaluation)

The town of Wallingford has the greatest land mass of the four towns and ranks second in population within its boundaries (25.4%) in 1960. (See page 2 of this report) In the year 2000 it will house 28.1 per cent of the total projected population, and will be second in population density within the group. It is important to note here that Meriden will have double the density of Wallingford or Southington and approximately 4 times the population density of Cheshire. Wallingford, too, in 1960 was heavily involved in manufacturing employment. However, it has pursued up to this date an aggressive policy of diversification of employment opportunities with the overall gains to its economy indicating the wisdom of this "mixed" business emphasis. (See pages 13, 15, 17 and 18 of this report)

POPULATION ANALYSIS BY AGE: 1960

(Town) (1)	AGE GROUPS	PERSONS: Male & Female	(2)	(3)	(4)
Cheshire:	0 - 14	4,614	Meriden: 15,181	Southington: 8,005	Wallingford: 10,151
	15 - 24	1,526	5,933	2,498	2,881
	25 - 34	1,713	6,740	3,476	4,522
	35 - 44	2,218	7,572	3,596	4,583
	45 - 54	2,379	10,864	3,698	5,281
	55 - Over	933	5,560	1,524	2,502
		<u>13,383</u>	<u>51,850</u>	<u>22,797</u>	<u>29,921</u>

Breakdown:

Male	= 100%	(1)	<u>48.7%</u>	(2)	<u>48.3%</u>	(3)	<u>50.0%</u>	(4)	<u>49.2%</u>
Female			<u>51.3%</u>		<u>51.7%</u>		<u>50.0%</u>		<u>50.8%</u>

CHARACTERISTIC OF LABOR FORCE:

Description	Connecticut	New Haven	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	(%)	County (%)	Cheshire (%)	Meriden (%)	Southington (%)	Wallingford (%)
White Collar Occupation	43.9	46.3	n.a.	39.0	38.4	38.9
Manufacturing Industries	40.3	32.2	36.1	50.7	53.7	50.3
Unemployed	4.6	4.4	1.4	7.0	4.9	3.9
Out-Commuters (Net)	10.9	4.4	n.a.	4.7	n.a.	6.3
Per Cent With Incomes:						
\$0 - 2,999	9.8	11.6	4.5	9.1	6.4	6.9
\$10,000 & Over	22.1	20.2	44.2	16.9	19.5	18.6
Median Income (\$ Families)	\$6,887	\$5,882	\$9,208	\$7,451	\$6,906	\$6,908

COMMUTING PATTERNS: RESIDENT OF WORKERS = MID OCTOBER 1964: (IN PERCENTAGE)

PLACE OF WORK:	Town: Cheshire	Meriden	Southington	Wallingford
Bridgeport	1.8	.1	*	1.0
Bristol	1.1	1.0	4.7	*
Hartford	2.4	8.0	13.7	3.1
Meriden	15.2	67.6	53.5	64.5
Middletown	*	1.3	.1	.8
New Britain	2.0	5.7	18.2	.7
New Haven	31.7	12.6	3.1	28.2
Waterbury	45.2	2.3	6.0	1.2
Totals	<u>99.0</u>	<u>98.6</u>	<u>99.3</u>	<u>88.8</u>

Sociological - Economic Characteristics -continued:

YEAR: 1960

Town	Population:			Number	Persons
	White	Non-White	Household	Per Hsld.	
Conn.	2,535,234	2,423,684	111,550	752,736	3.27
Cheshire	13,383	13,270	113	3,610	3.70
Meriden	51,850	50,925	925	16,109	3.15
Southington	22,797	22,758	39	6,298	3.60
Wallingford	29,920	29,877	43	8,533	3.50
Town Totals..	117,950	116,830	1,120	34,550	3.41

POPULATION:

ACTUAL

1965

1969

Cheshire	14,900	17,400
Meriden	54,000	57,400
Southington	25,000	28,400
Wallingford	32,800	35,900
Town Totals..	126,700	139,100

YEAR: 1969

Cheshire	17,400	17,278	122	5,025	3.46
Meriden	57,400	49,697	7,703*	18,222+	3.15+
Southington	28,400	28,201	199	7,831	3.61
Wallingford	35,900	35,541	359	10,576	3.40
Town Totals..	139,100	130,717	8,383	41,054	3.41

PROJECTED

1970

1980

1990

2000

Cheshire	17,833	21,159	26,328	29,235
Meriden	58,000	67,500	74,200	82,000
Southington	30,488	38,844	50,876	63,880
Wallingford	35,500	49,000	63,500	68,500
Town Totals..	142,821	176,513	214,904	243,615

Conn. 3,000,000 (NOT AVAILABLE)

U.S. 201,921,000 (NOT AVAILABLE) NOT ANALYZED

PROJECTION = 1980:

U.S. 242,307,000

Conn. 3,744,000

Cheshire	21,169	20,957	212	6,090	3.46
Meriden	67,500	53,390	14,110	21,094	3.20
Southington	38,844	38,068	776	10,850	3.58
Wallingford	49,000	48,510	490	14,411	3.40
Town Totals..	176,513	160,925	15,588	52,445	3.41

Sources: Connecticut Development Commission; U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Series P 25, No. 388; Town Planners: Cheshire, Meriden, Southington and Wallingford: Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency; Central Naugatuck Valley Planning Agency; South Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency; Community Action Agency Meriden*

Further, it is evident that of the four towns, Meriden has the fastest growing non-white population; and, because of its slow rate of total growth comparative to the towns surrounding it a logical conclusion is that the in-migration (non-white) is off-set by the lesser but persistent out-migration of whites into those very same outlying towns of Meriden.

The share of national income going to labor and capital, aside from cyclical swings, has changed little over the years. (See "National Income Analysis," by Charles L. Schultze.) This is a valid statement if we look at the present composition of income distribution and compare it to the situation in 1960. For Example:

PER HOUSEHOLD INCOME DISTRIBUTION BY TOWN - 1967

<u>Income Grouping</u>		<u>Income Distribution by Per Cent of Families in:</u>			
		<u>Cheshire*</u>	<u>Meriden</u>	<u>Southington</u>	<u>Wallingford</u>
\$----0	\$2,999	na	12.2%	6.4%	8.9%
3,000	4,999	na	10.3	7.8	8.8
5,000	7,999	na	31.3	26.0	29.8
8,000	9,999	na	18.5	23.7	21.5
10,000 & Over		na	27.7	36.1	31.0
		na	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

(*Cheshire not available because of its small size and low business and industrial development.)

However, in the 1960 census, we find that families in these income ranges existed:

\$----0	\$2,999	4.5%	9.1%	6.4%	6.9%
na	na	na	na	na	na
10,000	& Over	44.2	16.9	19.5	18.6

It can be seen, from the above, that Cheshire has the least numbers of low income families, and Meriden the greatest; also, Meriden has the smallest number of families in the \$10,000 + category; whereas, Cheshire has the greatest number.

COMMUTING PATTERNS AND GROWTH TREND IN TAXABLE MOTOR VEHICLES

In view of the increasing numbers of cars per family unit; and the growth trend projected (see page 10 and page 11.) in registration of taxable motor vehicles, it is reasonable to expect that mobility and accessibility within and to the proposed community college will be quite high. This assumption is further enhanced as we scrutinize the communicating arteries that bisect and inter-twine the area and note that they are major networks (roadways) and less subject to weather, and other hinderances to proper utilization.

Finally, the excellent roadnets coupled to proper planning within the four town complex regarding the locational site of the community college would capitalize upon the growth of individual mobility; and enhance the opportunities inherent in the present influences felt by the towns of Hamden, North Branford, and North Haven toward this central (four town) area.

GROWTH OF *TAXABLE* TRANSPORT
Four Town Study Versus Connecticut

Year	Connecticut		Four Town				Four Town Growth As Per Cent Change Base Year = 1960
	a. Nr Motor Vehicles b. Persons Per (Total)	a. b. (Total)	Town: Cheshire	Meriden	Southington	Wallingford	
1960	a. 1,059,694	47,831	5,925	20,187	9,800	11,919	-0-
	b. 2.4	2.7	3.5	2.6	2.3	2.5	-0-
1965	a. 1,314,665	61,980	8,168	25,167	12,867	15,778	+29.6%
	b. 2.1	2.0	1.8	2.2	1.9	2.1	-25.0
1966	a. 1,389,489	65,214	8,762	25,877	13,712	16,863	+36.3%
	b. 1.9	1.9	1.7	2.2	1.9	1.9	-29.6
1967	a. 1,456,752	70,252	9,306	26,661	14,918	17,552	+46.9%
	b. 1.8	1.8	1.7	2.1	1.7	1.9	-33.3
1968	a. 1,748,194	71,897	9,990	27,552	15,784	18,571	+50.3%
	b. 1.7	1.8	1.6	2.1	1.6	1.9	-33.3

PROJECTION:

1980	a. 3,248,000	130,882	14,865	53,729	28,474	33,814	+173.6%
	b. 1.2	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.4	-51.9

Note:

Persons per vehicle is approaching a parity situation throughout the state, if not the nation and as projected above indicates the relatively high degree of mobility inherent to the family unit as a result.

*Taxable transport = Motor Vehicles including cars, trucks, tractors, trailers, motorcycles, aircraft.

Source: Connecticut Development Commission; and, Department of Transportation - Connecticut

COMMUTING PATTERNS OF MERIDEN LABOR MARKET AREA

1958¹

EMPLOYMENT TOTAL - Meriden Labor Market Area Residents = 34,510 = 100%
Less Out-Commuting for Meriden Labor Market Residents = -7,500 = -21.7%
Residents employed within the Labor Market Area = 27,010 = 78.3%
Add In-Commuters of Labor to Meriden Labor Market Area = +5,150 = 14.6%
Total Residents and Non-Residents employed in this area = 32,160 = 92.9%
Net Out-Commuting of 2,350 persons.

1964²

EMPLOYMENT TOTAL - Meriden Labor Market Area Residents = 42,570 = 100%
Less Out-Commuting for Meriden Labor Market Residents = -13,790 = -32.3%
Residents employed within the Labor Market Area = 28,780 = 67.7%
Add In-Commuters of Labor to Meriden Labor Market Area = +8,720 = 20.5%
Total Residents and Non-Residents employed in this area = 37,500 = 88.2%
Net Out-Commuting of 5,070 persons.

NOTE: The Meriden Labor Market Area is an exporter of labor; and, as a result may be sensitive to changing conditions i.e., unemployment due to defense curtailment or termination of 'war' in South Vietnam, or technological innovations not anticipated. This may result in a return of Meriden Labor Market Area Residents who are now listed as out-commuters with built-in problems for area and city of Meriden especially. It can be noted from the above patterns that the out-commuters have increased from 7,500 persons in 1958 to 13,790 persons in 1964 or an increase of 215.8% over base year 1958.

1. Meriden-Wallingford Labor Market Area Report, July 15, 1963, page 14.
2. Commuting Patterns in Connecticut, published by Connecticut State Labor Department, June 1966, page 31.

THE ECONOMY

The economy of the four towns is indicated in terms of employment data on the following pages and includes the trend from 1960 to 1969 of relative stability to decreasing employment opportunities in the manufacturing sector to growth trends in the retail trade and services sectors. This is a very pronounced trend for Cheshire and Wallingford because their initial base was very small in the year 1960 versus the relatively larger base for the town of Meriden. Southington's growth has been consistently steady and upward reflecting in a parallel manner the growth trend for Meriden although in a more emphasized way. (See pages 13 and 14)

Retail trade statistics (pages 14, 15, 16 and 17) covering retail sales, per capita retail sales and related data indicate the scope and extent of this type of activity within the economy and the degree to which goods and services are being utilized within this area. It also provides insight into the area of greatest employment potential, that is, the manpower needs in the field of distribution: (1) Research, Design and Packaging; (2) Pricing and Buying; (3) Transporting and Storing; (4) Advertising and Promoting; (5) Selling; (6) Servicing; and (7) Finance and Risk-Bearing. Also and as great potentially is the field of Services, i.e., assistants to Engineers, Medical Doctors, Dentists, Lawyers, Teachers and the like; not to mention the development of new types of jobs and occupations unheard of just a few short years ago, i.e., space technology with its needs for new medical delivery systems and the personnel to support them, etc...

Professor David Pinsky, University of Connecticut, noted:¹

"A table showing population and employment changes by major activity group, from 1957 to 1969, is shown below. The year 1957 is used as a base since it occupies a peak period in the economic cycle about the same as 1969. Misleading trends might be developed if differing parts of the cycle were used.

Connecticut

Population and Employment Trends
1957-1969

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Population	3,016,000	2,393,000	+26
Employment - Total	1,147,000	909,000	+26
Manufacturing	474,000	440,000	+ 8
Trade	209,000	149,000	+40
Service	158,000	98,000	+61
Government	143,000	83,000	+72
Construction	44,000	45,000	- 2

It is interesting to note that population and employment have increased at the same percentage rate. However, within the population totals there are marked shifts by age groupings, and within the employment totals there are marked shifts by activity groups.

Connecticut is basically a manufacturing state. It has the highest proportion, 41%, of manufacturing to total employment, and the highest per capita defense production of any state in the nation."

Meriden²

Population and Employment Trends
1957-1969

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Population	121,400	100,200	+21
Employment - Total	42,200	34,760	+21
Manufacturing	21,920	20,880	+ 5
Trade	6,960	4,320	+61
Service	4,680	2,640	+77
Government	4,310	2,230	+93
Construction	1,930	2,920	-34

¹ Jobs & Youth in The Decade Ahead, Talk by Professor David Pinsky, May 9, 1969

² Meriden Labor Market Area

Employment Category	In The Town	Number Year: 1960
<hr/>		
CHESHIRE		
Manufacturing		334
Retail		NA
Services		NA
Other Non-manufacturing		602
	Total =	<u>936</u>
<hr/>		
MERIDEN		
Manufacturing		8,060
Retail		NA
Services		NA
Other Non-manufacturing		8,820
	Total =	<u>16,880</u>
<hr/>		
SOUTHINGTON		
Manufacturing		5,470
Retail		NA
Services		NA
Other Non-manufacturing		2,190
	Total =	<u>7,660</u>
<hr/>		
WALLINGFORD		
Manufacturing		6,716
Retail		NA
Services		NA
Non-manufacturing		2,641
	Total =	<u>9,357</u>
<hr/>		
ALL TOWNS		
Manufacturing		20,580
Retail		NA
Services		NA
Other Non-manufacturing		14,253
		<u>34,833</u>

EMPLOYMENT - NON-AGRICULTURAL
June of Each Year

of Employees By Noted Categories					Per Cent Change Base Year = 1960 (%)
1963	1965	1967	1968	1969	
1,460	1,475	1,710	1,690	1,640	+391.0
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
<u>1,640</u>	<u>1,043</u>	<u>2,310</u>	<u>2,360</u>	<u>2,510</u>	+315.9
<u>3,100</u>	<u>2,518</u>	<u>4,020</u>	<u>4,050</u>	<u>4,150</u>	+332.7
7,400	7,920	8,830	8,480	8,510	+5.6
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
<u>8,730</u>	<u>9,850</u>	<u>10,820</u>	<u>11,960</u>	<u>12,180</u>	+38.1
<u>15,130</u>	<u>17,770</u>	<u>19,650</u>	<u>20,440</u>	<u>20,690</u>	+22.6
5,470	6,540	7,390	7,060	6,750	+23.4
835	1,100	1,290	1,280	NA	
490	650	580	770	NA	
<u>1,080</u>	<u>1,340</u>	<u>1,220</u>	<u>1,610</u>	<u>3,820</u>	+74.4
<u>7,875</u>	<u>9,630</u>	<u>10,480</u>	<u>10,720</u>	<u>10,570</u>	+40.0
6,881	7,465	8,110	8,070	7,480	+11.4
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
<u>3,082</u>	<u>3,076</u>	<u>5,710</u>	<u>5,860</u>	<u>6,230</u>	+135.9
<u>9,963</u>	<u>10,541</u>	<u>13,820</u>	<u>13,930</u>	<u>13,710</u>	+46.5
21,211	23,400	26,040	25,300	24,380	+18.5
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
<u>15,858</u>	<u>17,059</u>	<u>21,930</u>	<u>23,840</u>	<u>24,740</u>	+73.5
<u>37,069</u>	<u>40,459</u>	<u>47,970</u>	<u>49,140</u>	<u>49,120</u>	+0.0

-14-

Sales Management recently carried an article on a significant trend in retailing, the central theme being the recently discovered shift in retail sales growth from previously metropolitan areas into non-metropolitan areas. Bureau of Business and Economic Research at Michigan State University, marketing professors Eli P. Cox and Leo G. Erickson report that retail sales in non-metropolitan areas are increasing faster, relative to population and income, than are sales in metropolitan areas. Thus, the new opportunity land is the city with a population of Meriden's size traditionally avoided by "big city retailers" as unprofitable.

Meriden Mall and the G. Fox Regional Shopping Center are confirmation of this developing trend and augur well for the future development of the area's trade potential and the growth opportunities inherent in this new development.

It follows then that the economic conditions given the proper mix of diversification and an educated and well-trained population should fulfill the conservative expectation for employment projected within the Meriden Trade Market Area by the firm of Fleussig, Candub and Associates (See tables 5 and 6, pages 19 and 20). This expectation also indicates the availability of employment opportunities to those students of the proposed community college regardless of its location within the Greater Meriden Area. (Please note that the tables referred to understate the employment potential in this area.)

RETAIL SALES (\$MILLIONS)
and
PER CAPITA RETAIL SALES (\$DOLLARS)

YEAR:	TOWN:	RETAIL SALES CHESHIRE	PER CAPITA CHESHIRE	RETAIL SALES MERIDEN	PER CAPITA MERIDEN	RETAIL SALES SOUTHINGTON	PER CAPITA SOUTHINGTON	RETAIL SALES WALLINGFORD	PER CAPITA WALLINGFORD	RETAIL SALES CONNECTICUT	PER CAPITA RETAIL SALES
1960		9.8	752	62.2	1,205	20.4	895	37.7	1,260	3,516.8	1,382
1964		17.2	1,208	76.2	1,393	34.9	1,443	47.7	1,501	4,163.7	1,500
1965		19.8	1,326	91.0	1,677	39.9	1,596	53.1	1,619	4,535.0	1,605
1966		22.5	1,475	88.5	1,605	45.8	1,745	57.1	1,758	4,886.2	1,700
1967		23.3	1,473	86.3	1,526	46.5	1,768	56.8	1,711	5,126.9	1,750
1968		24.2	1,531	96.5	1,677	47.8	1,839	63.0	1,802	5,412.4	1,811

Source: Connecticut Market Data, 1968 - Connecticut Development Commission; and, Sales Management, June 1968.

AREA RETAIL TRADE
Income; And Projection
Estimated

Town	1967		1980	
	Per Capita	Household (\$000)	Per Capita	Household (\$000)
Cheshire	\$2,850	\$ 45,030	\$4,635	\$ 99,680
Meriden	2,850	170,929	4,635	292,000
Southington	3,100	71,634	5,042	124,000
Wallingford	3,015	102,057	4,830	168,295

Source: See above, Also Projections by Raymond & May Associates - Planning Consultants to Town of Southington, in Phase One Report "Preliminary Plan of Development"

SELECTED STATISTICAL DATA - CONNECTICUT

For: 1966, 1967, 1968

Totals: Population	Race:		All Male	AGE GROUPS:								(000) Households	
	White	Non White		0 - 5	6 - 11	12 - 17	18 - 24	25 - 34	35 - 49	50 - 64	65 - Over		
State:													
(Per Cent:)													
68	2,989,200	92.8	17.2	48.9	11.4	12.1	11.0	10.7	10.8	18.5	15.7	9.8	903.7
67	2,942,500	93.1	16.9	49.0	11.6	12.2	10.9	10.6	10.4	19.0	15.5	9.8	879.3
66	2,899,700												863.6
County:													
New Haven													
68	736,700	91.9	8.1	48.8	10.9	11.9	10.9	10.4	11.3	18.5	15.9	10.2	226.9
67	736,500	92.2	7.8	48.9	11.2	11.8	10.8	10.4	10.9	19.1	15.7	10.1	224.2
66	727,800												221.1

General:

The Negro population in Connecticut has grown from 107,400 in 1960, to 201,300 in 1969, as a result of in-migration and higher birth levels. This represents an increase of +87% over 1960.

The youth market in New England as a per cent of total population is a significantly large part of it as witness the following:

		0 - 5	6 - 11	12 - 17	18 - 24
New England	11,466,400	11.1%	12.1%	11.0%	10.7%

Source: Sales Management, Survey Issue, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969 inclusive.

Comparison of Selected Statistical Data - Connecticut: (continued)

Effective Buying Income:			Per Cent Households (Hslds) By Cash Income Group:														
(million \$)			\$ 0 - 2,999		3 - 4,999		5 - 7,999		8 - 9,999		10-15,000		15-25,000		25,000++		
United States	Per Capita	Per Hslds	A		B		C		D		E		F		G		
68	585,313.1	2,906	9,592	18.9	3.1	13.2	6.1	24.7	18.5	15.0	15.2	17.3	23.5	8.0	17.1	2.9	16.5
67	537,225.4	2,597	9,012	20.2	3.5	14.3	7.0	26.7	21.2	14.3	15.6	15.1	21.9	6.9	15.7	2.5	15.1
66	501,527.2	2,543	8,532	21.5	na	15.4	na	28.1	na	13.5	na	21.5	Includes "F & G" Groups				
(thousand \$)																	
State	Per Capita	Per Hslds	A		B		C		D		E		F		G		
68	10,621,296	3,553	11,753	9.9	1.3	8.9	3.4	26.1	16.1	18.1	14.9	21.5	23.7	10.9	19.0	4.6	21.6
67	9,687,487	3,292	11,017	10.6	1.5	10.0	4.1	28.9	18.8	17.6	15.4	19.4	22.7	9.5	17.6	4.0	19.9
66	9,122,000	3,146	10,563	11.2	na	11.1	na	30.9	na	16.8	na	30.0	Includes "F & G" Groups				

New Haven County; And Then Meriden Labor Market By Component Towns
(Cheshire is shown separately)

New Haven County																	
68	2,320,283	3,150	10,226	12.1	1.9	10.4	4.6	29.0	20.4	18.2	17.2	18.9	23.9	8.6	17.1	2.8	14.9
67	2,269,396	3,081	10,122	12.3	1.9	10.5	4.6	29.4	20.9	18.0	17.1	18.7	23.8	8.4	16.9	2.7	14.8
66	2,066,712	2,840	9,347	13.5	na	12.6	na	32.7	na	16.2	na	25.0	Includes "F & G" Groups				
Meriden																	
68	177,304	3,150	9,584	12.2	na	10.3	na	31.3	na	18.5	na	27.7	Includes "F & G" Groups				
67	170,929	3,042	9,496	12.3	na	10.4	na	31.7	na	18.3	na	27.3	"	"	"		
66	154,942	2,777	8,804	13.3	na	12.6	na	35.1	na	14.4	na	22.6	"	"	"		
Southington																	
68	79,727	3,066	10,774	6.4	na	7.8	na	26.0	na	23.7	na	36.1	(see above)				
67	71,634	2,843	10,089	7.0	na	8.8	na	30.8	na	22.9	na	30.5	"	"			
66	68,934	2,672	9,574	7.6	na	10.3	na	35.0	na	20.6	na	26.5	"	"			
Wallingford																	
68	102,057	3,015	10,461	8.9	na	8.8	na	29.8	na	21.5	na	31.0	(see above)				
67	96,807	2,881	10,084	9.0	na	8.9	na	30.4	na	21.2	na	30.5	"	"			
66	88,272	2,667	9,391	9.7	na	11.0	na	35.0	na	18.9	na	25.4	"	"			

Comparison of Selected Statistical Data - Connecticut: (continued)

Retail Sales:

(million \$)	Total	Food	Eating & Drinking	General Merch.	Apparel	Furniture & Hsld Appl	Automotive	Gas Station	Lumber & Bldg Hdwe	Drug	Buying Power
United States											
68	337,262,954	73,049,706	27,154,901	57,089,885	18,938,372	15,805,534	62,914,322	23,748,113	18,813,594	12,104,630	100.0
67	311,550,888	68,908,341	25,208,807	52,194,098	17,851,986	14,588,846	55,178,539	22,017,561	16,818,892	11,325,447	100.0
66	301,526,015	67,975,766	23,768,488	49,257,882	16,989,383	13,917,111	56,012,789	21,099,772	16,233,089	10,557,685	100.0

State

68	5,412,425	1,285,459	410,276	838,140	344,935	270,307	933,161	331,237	246,890	187,969	1.6857
67	5,050,130	1,222,080	383,930	771,911	326,993	251,591	840,040	309,561	221,145	177,314	1.6833
66	4,821,816	1,188,693	356,856	718,257	307,613	236,633	825,781	292,493	211,294	163,020	1.4955

New Haven County: And Then Meriden Labor Market By Component Towns
(Cheshire is shown separately)

New Haven County

68	1,346,076	317,988	110,280	193,097	106,102	78,303	219,719	80,823	57,309	45,726	.8911
67	1,267,135	304,205	104,264	177,785	101,057	73,730	200,281	76,784	52,062	44,238	.4072
66	1,225,216	300,152	97,875	167,923	95,234	70,074	199,841	73,199	49,889	41,161	.4018

Meriden

68	96,545	20,290	na	13,108	na	7,151	17,905	na	na	2,987	.0295
67	95,968	20,689	na	12,753	na	7,035	17,173	na	na	3,008	.0308
66	87,631	19,243	6,598	11,336	6,318	6,299	16,212	7,652	2,916	2,642	.0298

Southington

68	47,752	10,848	na	12,889	na	970	6,783	na	na	876	.0136
67	47,819	11,149	na	12,640	na	963	6,558	na	na	890	.0138
66	45,023	10,711	2,897	11,605	1,621	890	6,396	3,176	1,713	807	.0139

Wallingford

68	62,546	15,310	na	6,481	na	1,797	17,542	na	na	1,594	.0177
67	59,079	14,851	na	6,006	na	1,683	16,027	na	na	1,529	.0181
66	56,777	14,456	5,111	5,607	3,534	1,577	15,835	3,219	1,145	1,406	.0178

na - Not Available

Table 5
EMPLOYMENT TRENDS
MERIDEN TRADE AREA
1967-1980

Type of Employment	1967 ¹		1970 ²		1975		1980	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Manufacturing	23,920	54.3	23,100	50.4	24,500	49.5	26,000	49.5
Construction	2,540	5.8	2,880	6.3	3,600	7.3	3,900	7.4
Transportation & Communication	1,420	3.2	1,320	2.9	1,410	2.8	1,560	3.0
Wholesale and Retail Trade	6,650	15.1	5,770	12.6	6,430	13.0	6,860	13.0
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	900	2.0	800	1.7	870	1.8	930	1.8
Service	4,660	10.6	4,350	9.5	4,860	9.8	5,360	10.2
Government	3,970	9.0	3,550	7.7	3,920	7.9	4,370	8.3
Other ³	--	--	4,100	8.9	3,900	7.9	3,600	6.8
Total Nonagricultural Employment	44,060	100.0	45,870	100.0	49,490	100.0	52,580	100.0

1. As of September, 1967.

2. The 1970-1980 CRP projections for most sectors are somewhat understated in light of recent events such as the proposed G. Fox Shopping Center and the expansion of International Silver.

3. Other includes self-employed persons.

Source: 1967-Connecticut Labor Department.

1970, 1975, 1980 - Candeub, Fleissig and Associates. Economic and Marketability Study, Community Renewal Program, Meriden, Connecticut (1964).

Table 6

EMPLOYMENT TRENDS
CITY OF MERIDEN
1967-1980

	1967 ¹		1970 ²		1975		1980	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Manufacturing	8,830	44.9	9,240	39.3	9,800	40.5	10,400	40.1
Construction	1,540	7.8	1,760	7.5	2,020	8.3	2,270	8.8
Transportation & Communication	880	4.5	860	3.7	920	3.8	970	3.7
Wholesale and Retail	3,330	16.9	3,360	14.3	3,880	16.0	4,470	17.2
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	580	2.9	530	2.3	570	2.4	620	2.4
Service	2,420	12.3	2,600	11.1	2,900	12.0	3,200	12.3
Government	1,090	10.6	1,260	5.4	1,400	5.8	1,550	6.0
Other ³	--	--	3,910	16.6	2,730	11.3	2,450	9.4
Total Nonagricultural Employment	19,670	100.0	23,520	100.0	24,220	100.0	25,930	100.0

* Other includes firms in the food, tobacco, textiles, wood, furniture, paper, rubber, stone, clay, glass and self-employed.

** - includes government and other.

Source: 1967 - Connecticut Labor Department.

1970, 1975, 1980 - Candeub, Fleissig and Associates, Economic and Marketability Study, Community Renewal Program, Meriden, Connecticut (1964).

1. As of September, 1967.

2. The 1970-1980 CRP projections for some sectors are somewhat understated in light of recent events such as the proposed G. Fox Shopping Center.

3. Other includes self-employed persons.

Source: 1967-Connecticut Labor Department.

1970, 1975, 1980 - Candeub, Fleissig and Associates. Economic and Marketability Study, Community Renewal Program, Meriden, Connecticut (1964).

HIGHLIGHTS - JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Since, 1967, there were 19 new industries and businesses in the Meriden Labor Market with a range in products, goods and services as follows:

Fiberglass Products, Central Cleaning Systems, Electronics, Pre-Cast Concrete Products, Machine Modification, Plastic Injection Moldings, Commercial & Household Brushes, High-Pile Fabrics, Precision Heli-Arc Welding, Dresses, Handcraft Jewelry, Unground Ball & Roller Bearings, Linear Motion Bearings, Special Carbine Tools & Dies, Materials Handling Equipment, Industrial Diamond Tools & Products, Precision Machining, Carbonated Beverages; and Three Dimensional Electrodes and Electric Discharge Machining

Recently firms with research orientation have begun to investigate the potentials of the Meriden-Wallingford Industrial Park adjacent to I-91; and one (The Space Electronics Company) has petitioned for a variance to locate a research organization to explore the area of space medicine and medical instruments.

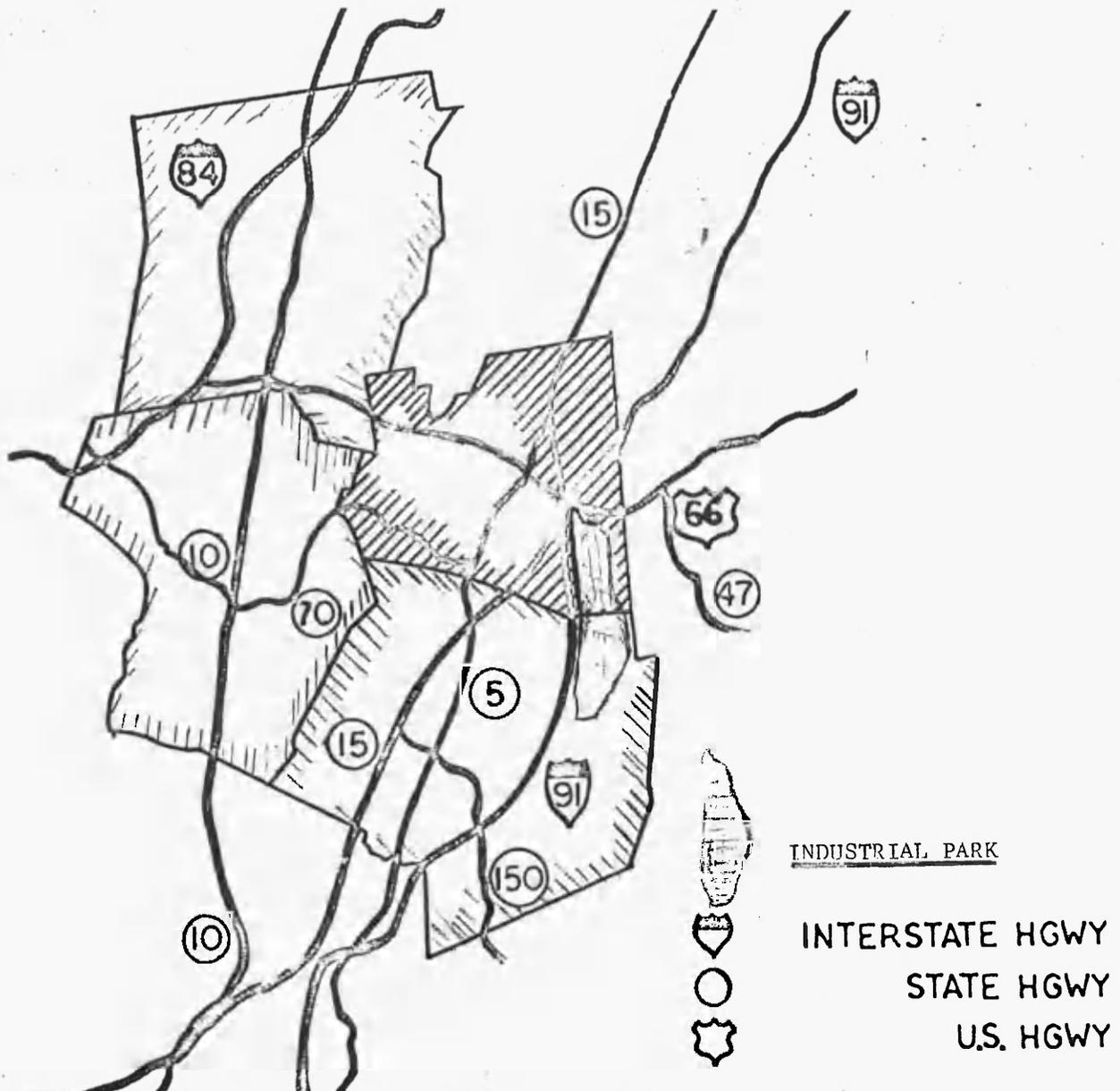
The International Silver Company's Factory C which was built within the past two years now employs over 1,000; and the company has a headquarters building in process of construction with prospects of expanding needs in office staff personnel and adjunct service personnel.

Times Wire and Cable will soon construct a plant of some 50,000 square feet and has plans to expand this building to 250,000 square feet by 1980.

It is expected that the new AMF Cuno Engineering plant in the industrial park will also be expanded within the next few years and will require additional inputs of labor force personnel in the skilled and technician categories to staff this growth. In addition the needs for manpower within this area are indicated on the pages following, and are based upon a local survey recently completed and a state survey (Labor Departments' Division of Research and Information) lately released.

Thus all indicators for expanding manpower needs in skilled to technician categories and with the ability to acquire further skills or re-training to meet changing economic patterns in the world of work are forecast. Again emphasizing need for a post-secondary institution which will provide the area with flexibility.

THE AREA OF STUDY



JOB OPPORTUNITIES
for
MERIDEN LABOR MARKET AREA AND CITY OF MERIDEN
from
1968 thru 1975

GROUP:	Area of Greatest Need...	ESTIMATED TOTAL NEEDS THROUGH 1975:	
		Meriden Labor Market Area	City of Meriden
CLERICAL & KINDRED =	Secretaries, Typists, Stenographers and Office Machine Workers, etc.	3,225	1,484
PROFESSIONAL And TECHNICAL =	Engineers, Natural Scientists, Technicians (ex Medical & Dental) Teachers, Social Scientists, Others	2,504	1,152
SERVICE WORKERS =	Private Household, Cooks, Bartenders, Protective Service, Waiters, Others	1,936	890
MANAGERS & PROPRIETORS =	Managers, Office & Proprietors, Postmasters and Assistants, Purchasing Agents, Creditmen, Conductors, Railroad, etc	1,890	870
OPERATIVES & KINDRED =	Selected Transportation & Utility, Semi-skilled Metalworking, Textile Asbestos & Insulation, Other operatives and kindred	1,347	620
CRAFTSMEN, FOREMEN & KINDRED =	Construction Craftsmen, Foremen, n.e.c. Metalworking Craftsmen, (ex Mechanics) Mechanics & Repairmen, Transportation and Public Utility Craftsmen, Other Craftsmen and Kindred	1,225	564
LABORERS, EXCEPT FARM & MINE		<u>110</u>	<u>51</u>
TOTAL PROJECTED EMPLOYMENT NEEDS		<u>12,237</u>	<u>5,631*</u>

Source: "Occupational Outlook - 1968/1975"
Connecticut Labor Department - Office of Research & Information
Released May 1969.

*Gross Total estimated on line by line basis for all occupations. Net Total for Meriden (City of) = 5,595, or an allowance of -36 positions on a straight-line analysis.

SOME THOUGHTS ON CHANGE

National goals and priorities established in the sixties, by the Eisenhower Commission, and, further added to by the Kennedy Administration's objective of space exploration, are now in the process of re-appraisal. The domestic sector of our economy receiving greater attention through increased priority will create changing patterns of employment demand and imply new planning priorities for current and future vocational-education programs. Expanding areas of employment in electronics, space industries, health occupations, distributive fields, protective services, transportation fields, and other technician developing sectors. (See Annual Report of the Council of Economic Advisors, January 1964, page 104.)

Educational training, including vocational education, will be the major means of creating the necessary credentials for entry-level employment in the emerging occupational opportunities noted above. Post-secondary education geared to local needs on a cooperative basis would provide the vehicle to train, re-train, and upgrade the skills of people required to service our advancing technology and the associated re-structuring of the delivery systems fueling its growth. The need to provide ease of access to post-secondary education and programs of vocational-technical education geared to a communities developing needs for socially-meaningful employment is underscored by the greater than average un-employment rate, see page 27. The following tables indicate opportunities in the field of employment; which trends are underscored within the area of this study. The figure developed indicate the possible affect based upon acceptance of changing national goals and assumption of implications inherent in the nature of re-organizing to meet these emergent needs. (Table #1 and #2)

Source: Table #1 and #2 from American Vocational Journal page 32 and 33, November 1969 Issue.

TABLE 1
Occupational Patterns in the Nation's Employment
1964 and 1975.

Occupational Census Category	Distribution of Total Employment (in percent)		Percent Increase in Number Employed 1964-1975(*)
	1964	1975	
Professional & technical	12.2	14.2	45%
Managers, officials & proprietors	10.6	10.7	26
Clerical	15.2	16.8	38
Sales	6.3	6.0	19
Craftsmen & foremen	12.8	12.2	19
Operatives	18.4	16.6	13
Private household	3.3	3.3	23
Service	9.9	11.3	43
Farm	6.3	4.0	-22
Laborers	5.2	4.9	18
Total	100.0	100.0	25%

Source: Based on Lecht, L., Manpower Needs for National Goals in the 1970's, Praeger, 1969. Appendix Table B-3.

(*) Since overall employment will increase by 25% between 1964-1975, a slight decrease in the percent of total in an occupational category can still be accompanied by an increase in number employed in that category.

TABLE 2
Estimated Annual Job Openings and Training Program
Completions for Vocational/Technical Education
(in thousands)

Vocational Category	Estimated Annual Job Openings 1966 - 1975	Vocational Program Completions 1967	1967 as a Percent of Openings
Agriculture	-23.7	79.7(*)	130%
Distributive	203.2	112.1	55
Office	774.3	441.9	57
Technical	160.8	29.2	18
Trade & Industrial	623.2	108.0	17
Health	249.2	30.2	12
Total	1987.0	801.1(**)	

(*) Agricultural production courses only

(**) Does not include home economics

UNEMPLOYMENT

The paradox of unfilled job vacancies, and an idled and unused labor-force points up the failure of our system to adequately educate, train and retrain these workers who are involuntarily side-lined from the marketplace. It is a problem that our society can no longer afford to ignore, if it ever could, nor can it afford to not capitalize upon this source of potential growth for those fields of present and future growth trends ie, trade, government and services. (See section on Employment.)

Evidence of the unemployment problem is noted below:

CONNECTICUT
ESTIMATED UNEMPLOYMENT*
TOTAL AND YOUTH, 16-21
March 1969

<u>Labor Market Area</u>	<u>Total Unemployed</u>	<u>Youths 16-21</u>	<u>Youth As % of Total</u>
Ansonia	600	140	23%
Bridgeport	7,000	1,500	21
Bristol	1,300	240	18
Danbury	1,800	310	17
Danielson	1,100	210	19
Hartford	10,300	1,680	16
Meriden	2,300	470	20
Middletown	1,800	350	20
New Britain	2,400	420	17
New Haven	5,700	1,120	20
New London	2,000	440	22
Norwalk	1,700	330	20
Stanford	2,600	370	14
Torrington	1,800	380	21
Waterbury	4,700	780	17
Willimantic	840	210	25
State - Total	49,300	9,190	19

Source: Proposed State Plan - Connecticut, Part II, 2.1 (b) Number of Rates etc.
Office of Vocational Education

*Prepared: Connecticut Labor Department
Research and Information
April 18, 1969

Further evidence of the significance of this problem becomes apparent as we examine the age grouping of those unemployed, for example, within the Meriden Labor Market Area (see previous page's table - Estimated Unemployment) we find:

AGE GROUP	MALE & FEMALE		BY SEX:			
	TOTAL	PER CENT	MALE	PER CENT	FEMALE	PER CENT
ALL	<u>2,300</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>1,380</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>920</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
Under 20	290	12.6	200	14.5	90	9.8
20 - 21	160	7.0	90	6.5	70	7.6
22 - 24	240	10.4	150	10.8	90	9.8
25 - 34	430	18.8	270	19.6	160	17.3
35 - 44	350	15.2	180	13.0	170	18.5
45 - 54	380	16.5	200	14.5	180	19.6
55 - 64	240	10.4	130	9.5	110	12.0
65 & Over	210	9.1	160	11.6	50	5.4

Analysis of the above reveals that through age 24 total unemployed is 690 or 30% of all unemployed.

Further, should the age group to 34 be included the number jumps to 1,120 or 49% of all unemployed.

This information is given added weight when we note there was an estimated 830 persons or 36.1% of all unemployed in the unskilled category.

Educators throughout the state and nation now recognize that this factor among others bring out the larger and continuing responsibility of the educational system to the concept of continuing education. This concept recognizes no limitation to educational growth as a result of dropping-out or graduation from school; but recognizes that life, especially under conditions of rapidly changing technology, requires fresh in-puts of relevant education for adult-living within our pluralistic society.

It is also important to note that the Meriden Labor Market Area has been a consistently higher unemployment area than most areas within the state. This dis-quieting trend is quite evident in the comparison shown on page 25, and page 27, of this report.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN CONNECTICUT

Annual Averages 1958-1968

Year	Labor Force	Unemployment	Unemployed Percent of Labor Force
1958	1,093,000	91,100	8.3
1959	1,098,000	70,000	6.4
1960	1,102,800	60,400	5.5
1961	1,124,700	74,300	6.6
1962	1,130,000	56,900	5.0
1963	1,146,700	56,200	4.9
1964	1,168,200	55,400	4.7
1965	1,200,700	47,200	3.9
1966	1,254,900	39,500	3.1
1967	1,280,000	43,100	3.4
1968	1,315,500	49,500	3.8

To train for the jobs of tomorrow will require a basic knowledge of English, mathematics and related skills. Those who do not complete high school soundly-grounded in the basics, and those who do not graduate will lack even the background to enter training courses for many jobs.

Yet, the continuing trend in unemployment substantiates this ever-growing problem and Meriden's in particular, and the labor market area in general point to the need to remedy the situation. (See data on next page)

UNEMPLOYMENT IN MERIDEN*

Annual Averages 1958-1968

Year	Labor Force	Unemployment	(Conn vs MLMA)	
			Unemployed Percent of Labor Force	Unemployed Percent of Change
1958	32,510	4,967	11.8	+ 3.5
1959	34,430	3,167	7.6	+ 1.2
1960	35,120	3,117	7.8	+ 2.3
1961	33,990	3,750	8.9	+ 2.3
1962	34,990	2,809	6.4	+ 1.4
1963	34,920	2,500	6.1	+ 1.2
1964	36,250	2,300	5.5	+ .8
1965	38,950	1,900	4.2	+ .3
1966	42,700	1,600	3.4	+ .3
1967	43,660	1,700	3.4	----
1968	43,570	2,200	4.5	+ .7

* Meriden Labor Market Area

Note: This area has been consistently above the average unemployment percentage for the state in every year except 1967.

PROJECTED COMMUNITY COLLEGE ENROLLMENT

As noted in previous data regarding graduates, post-secondary education cited herein, as well as related socio-economic data indications are that from 300-500 students would be minimum enrollment in first year opening of proposed institution. Some facts to substantiate the above are offered:

1. In the year 1968-69 the four towns studied here had the following students enrolled in a community college within the state:

<u>Town</u>	<u>Fulltime</u>	<u>Part-time</u>	<u>Total Full-time Equivalent</u>
Cheshire	43	14	50
Meriden	95	25	108
Southington	60	7	64
Wallingford	56	8	60
Totals..	<u>254</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>272</u>

(Full-time Equivalent equated to (two part-time equals one full-time) full-time plus full-time students.) Source: Graph - Board of Trustees of Regional Community Colleges, Connecticut.

2. In 1966, when the first study was released concerning a need for such an institution within the area, a survey of Cheshire, Meriden and Wallingford high school seniors indicated 777 were interested in entering such college. Further, the survey noted that 724 were interested in Full-time College and 77 were interested in Part-time (Day/Evening).

3. A survey recently completed (June 1969) by Meriden CDAP - Advisory Committee of the Meriden School System's Junior and Senior students indicated that of 835 students surveyed 211 said they would apply to a Meriden Community College; of this number 142 students stated this would be their first choice. The advisory committee of CDAP also recommended the establishment of such a post-secondary institution to more adequately meet the needs of the greater community.

4. The present-day development of established regional community colleges serving their areas has developed problems of localization, ie, serving needs of select nature rather than the envisioned general areas needs. Traffic problems

in the college area compounded by a variety of factors; and, finally the cost factor (rising trend) of attending a private post-secondary institution is channeling more family attention toward public institutions (2 and 4-yr) to meet the needs of their youngsters for advanced education in a changing technologically-oriented society.

Irving L. Allen and J. David Colfax in a published research on "Urban Problems And Public Opinions In Four Connecticut Cities" noted

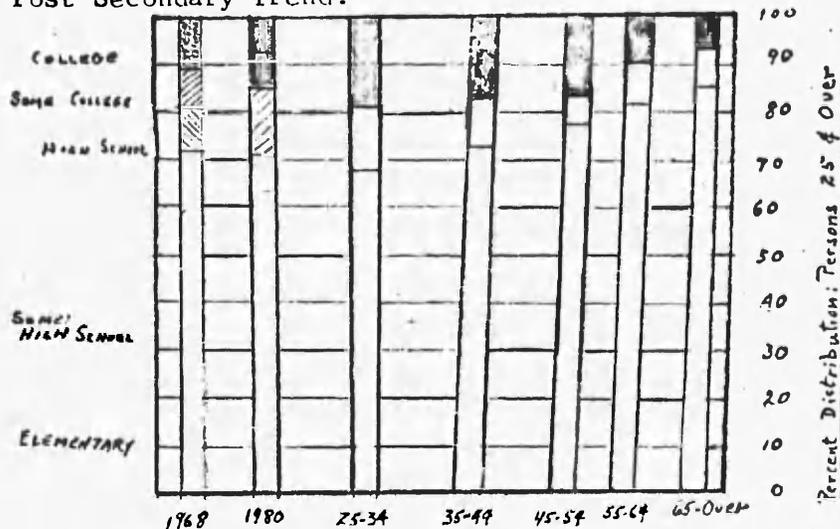
"Most (people) believe that without a college degree it is most difficult to get ahead." p 102 (1.6.2)

"...87.8% of respondents believe (that) without education most persons are dead-ended in terms of life's opportunities." p 104

"...66.1% desired college degrees for their oldest son...and 67.2% for their oldest daughter. p 105 and 106, respectively.

This sample survey of the general population in Bridgeport, Hartford, New Haven, and Waterbury, also reflects the general consensus of persons involved in this four town study. It is also supported by the projected upward trend in education noted herein

Post Secondary Trend:



Source: Report of National Industrial Council, November 14, 1968; and extracted from Sales Management Magazine, page 86, November 1969 issue.

1. Allen & Colfax, "Urban Problems & Public Opinion" released by The University of Connecticut at Storrs, Connecticut, December 1968.

GRADUATES	YEAR:	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	SEVEN--YEAR TOTAL	IN PERCENTAGE POST SECONDARY	
										4-Yr	1-2Yr
Town											
Cheshire		271	325	322	377	413	431	403	2,542	--	75% --
Meriden		554	561	641	680	735	717	784	4,672	40%	20%
Southington		345	360	450	460	470	520	520	3,125	40%	15%
Wallingford		490	468	566	527	558	526	537	3,672	39%	31%

Note:

Assuming the historical trend of increasingly greater school retention; and a growing recognition of advantages accruing to the degree/diploma in employment opportunities, as well as advancement; and, increased stature through community recognition, it becomes reasonably evident that greater number of high-school graduates will tend to pursue a higher (post secondary) education. It seems then that a defensible up-turn to the range of 70-80% of all graduates can be expected to continue some form of higher education. For purposes of this study, however, the actual experiences of the town's educational system will be utilized. This post secondary schooling averages 65% for the four towns

COMPARISON OF POST SECONDARY TREND:

Town	Year: 1960	1969	Percentage Change
Cheshire	74%	75%	+1%
Meriden	50%	60%	+10%
Southington	51%	55%	+4%
Wallingford	62%	70%	+8%
AVERAGE	59.3%	65%	+8.3%

Available information and evolving statistics indicate that it is reasonable to estimate that fifty percent (50%) of the labor force will be working in middle man-power jobs. (Middle man-power job = that portion of the total manpower spectrum which is concerned with jobs having a balanced cognitive to manipulative content.) Thus, it is to the interest of all communities, and, especially urban centers to plan for the best possible educational spectrum of opportunities to capitalize upon this technological trend. To plan otherwise is to step backward into time; and, invite an ever-expanding array of problems to plague its darkening future as a viable community.

Let us now look at current and projected high-school graduates for the towns involved in this study:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Graduates</u>	<u>Further Education</u>	<u>Entering Labor Market</u>
1969	1,660	1,071	589
1970	1,714	1,114	600
1971	1,979	1,292	687
1972	2,073	1,336	737
1973	2,135	1,424	711
1974	2,176	1,433	743
1975	<u>2,244</u>	<u>1,460</u>	<u>784</u>
Totals	<u>13,981</u>	<u>9,130</u>	<u>4,851</u>

Currently, almost thirty percent (30%) of all young people go to college. By 1980, 25% of all adults will have some college, while 15% will have a B.S. degree. (See chart on preceding page.)

(Note: This is a national trend, paragraph above, and is not typical of New England or our state of Connecticut; and, especially is not in line with our actual experiences for these four towns under study.)

ANALYSIS OF SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN

(<u>5 - 17 Years</u>) <u>TOWN:</u>	ACTUAL ENROLLMENT			PROJECTED ENROLLMENT		
	<u>YEAR:</u> 1960	1965	1969	1970	1975	1980
Cheshire	3,438	4,085	4,315	4,431	4,654	4,877
Meriden	10,704	12,150	13,466	13,530	14,400	15,400
Southington	5,947	7,438	8,461	8,789	9,578	11,640
Wallingford	7,755	8,562	8,863	8,735	8,026	7,371
Totals (5-17 By Year)	27,844	<u>32,235</u>	<u>35,105</u>	35,485	<u>36,658</u>	39,288
ADD: (18-20 Years)						
<u>BY DECADE ONLY</u>						
Cheshire	1,970			2,254		3,419
Meriden	1,126			2,942		6,016
Southington	893			3,406		4,901
Wallingford	1,273			3,430		4,879
Totals (5-20 Years)	<u>33,106</u>			<u>47,517</u>		<u>58,502</u>

Source: Town planners, Cheshire, Meriden, Southington and Wallingford; and, Board of Education of each town. Connecticut Development Commission; Connecticut Department of Public Health; and Department of Labor, Division of Research & Information.

Note:

Wallingford projects a decrease in school-age population from the high noted in 1970, above. In the light of its available land area for more than doubling its present population by the year 2000, it would seem that the expectation of a downward trend is, if not questionable, at the least subject to review in the light of state and national trends; as well as the hopes and aspirations of all sectors of our citizenry.

PROPOSED COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROGRAM

890

The study group believes that logically the program offerings of the proposed community college should be based upon the indicated and developing needs as noted through this report. Certainly the basic areas of a sound college program would be the base foundation, and we believe that specific implementation, expansion and delineation of the program would occur subsequent to the establishment of the college. It is also suggested that an on-going evaluation, examination and review of program relevance to the community's needs be very much an establish procedure. Logically then the basic areas would be:

1. Liberal Arts

- This sequence of study leading to an Associate Degree and permitting the student to transfer to a senior (four-year) institution.

2. Business Education

This sequence subdivided into the respective areas of accounting, business administration, marketing and advertising, data processing, secretarial studies also subdivided into executive, legal, medical, and technical.

3. Pre-College Program

- This program is intended to provide "options" to the general secondary high school graduate who may not have the necessary college admission credits. It would seek to eliminate student deficiencies and provide for upgrading the student's general achievement levels.

4. Special Programs

Programs geared to area needs, i.e., law enforcement education and training, health education, trade and industrial, technical and services. The cooperative approach to tie the student, school and community served into a meaningful alliance should be a characteristic of this offering(s).

The foregoing suggestions represent the study group's general ideas. It is hoped that a task force would be designated once the concept of the area college is accepted, to prepare a definitive program limited only by the realities of fiscal support.

PROJECTED SCHOOL ENROLLMENT
1969-70 thru 1974-75

YEAR	GRADE:				TOTAL	GRAND TOTAL	REMARK(S)
	K - 6	7 - 9	10 - 12	(Special)			
1969-70	2,833	1,234	1,001	32	5,100		Cheshire
	5,190	2,033	1,791	--	9,014		Wallingford
	5,982	2,673	2,272	77	11,004		Meriden
	<u>5,006</u>	<u>1,993</u>	<u>1,462</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>8,461</u>		Southington
ACTUAL.....	19,011	7,933	6,526	109	(33,579)	33,579	ACTUAL
1970-71	2,980	1,241	1,104	32	5,357		
	4,833	2,080	1,821	--	8,734		(Same Order)
	5,967	2,673	2,365	80	11,085		
	<u>5,154</u>	<u>2,043</u>	<u>1,592</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>8,789</u>		
	18,934	8,037	6,882	112	(33,965)	33,965	
1971-72	3,044	1,270	1,213	32	5,559		
	4,689	2,107	1,819	--	8,615		
	5,929	2,672	2,441	80	11,122		(See Above)
	<u>5,222</u>	<u>2,049</u>	<u>1,693</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>8,964</u>		
	18,884	8,098	7,166	112	(34,260)	34,260	
1972-73	3,114	1,294	1,240	32	5,680		
	4,568	2,035	1,860	--	8,463		
	5,874	2,668	2,530	80	11,152		(See Above)
	<u>5,271</u>	<u>2,110</u>	<u>1,795</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>9,176</u>		
	18,827	8,107	7,425	112	(34,471)	34,471	
1973-74	3,137	1,347	1,261	32	5,777		
	4,466	1,959	1,903	--	8,328		
	5,780	2,636	2,513	80	11,009		(See Above)
	<u>5,326</u>	<u>2,175</u>	<u>1,842</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>9,343</u>		
	18,709	8,117	7,519	112	(34,457)	34,457	
1974-75	3,154	1,389	1,275	32	5,850		
	4,301	1,983	1,923	--	8,207		
	5,725	2,650	2,503	80	10,958		(See Above)
	<u>5,383</u>	<u>2,220</u>	<u>1,849</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>9,452</u>		
	18,563	8,242	7,550	112	(34,467)	34,467	

Source: Board of Education of Cheshire, Meriden, Southington and Wallingford. January 1970

Note: Does not utilize "Elementary" Special, Pre-Kindergarten or Readiness figures.

FACILITIES AND SITES

In any consideration of available facilities and sites for the proposed community college, the study group deemed it wise not to close off or deny any future discussion in this area, and so decided to focus the attention upon temporary facilities readily available to meet limited enrollment needs. Tentatively, these would be:

1. Francis T. Maloney High School, adjacent to I-91, in Meriden
2. Orville H. Platt High School, in the western sector of Meriden and in close proximity to Horace C. Wilcox Technical School

These facilities are of limited value due to the present daytime use and the projected enrollment (day and evening) potential noted on pages 22-27 inclusive of this report.

The study staff does recommend that a separate study concerning location, site potential, acquisition costs, cost of development and other pertinent information be undertaken. This study would then report in detail upon all factors and allied material evidence supporting its conclusion(s) or recommendation(s) or both.

SOME DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING RATIONALE

All information and data presented in this study represents the best available and valid to date. It all attests to the need for and support of a two-year public college which will assist in the urgent task of providing for educational opportunities which can meet the challenge of the evolving economic life of the times.

The growth and changing character of the area's population, especially in the City of Meriden, indicates the need to bring together a diverse people into a common end ... The American Dream.

The dramatic change from a production-oriented society, most evident since the close of World War II, is tangible evidence of the fact that our advancing technology has mastered the technics of mass production, and now is seeking mastery over the problems of mass consumption. This is borne out by the data regarding income per household and the further documented study concerning national income. These disclose that there has been little change in the distribution of national income going to labor and capital. (See pages 6, 8, 15 and 17-19.)

Retail trade growth is an outcome of the need to meet the demands of changing economic life noted above. These demands provide both a challenge and an opportunity to the enterprising young men and women who have the necessary qualifications to meet them.

Unemployment and the costs of unemployment are not tolerable within our present day society. This becomes further inexcusable when we find that, as too often happens, these costs are borne disproportionately by the disadvantaged members of racial minorities and others who are "last hired, first fired."

It is unquestioned that there is a rapidly developing trend for young high school graduates to seek entrance into a community or junior college and later transfer to a senior (four-year) college. We can expect this trend to grow at a rapid rate, especially as the burden of increasing costs and tuition fees force the lower income groups to pay greater attention to the cost of education, and the relief possible through enrollment in public colleges. The "American Dream" encompasses the hopes and aspirations for the better life ... and higher education is a major portion of this dream. (See pages 21, 22 and 26.)

The communities of Cheshire, Meriden, Southington and Wallingford through their elected officials and the general public vigorously support the location of a community college within the Greater Meriden Area. Numerous statements of public and private support have been elicited, past and present, and local surveys within the several communities have established this support in depth. This support should become even more evident as the contents of the preceding paragraph are taken into fuller account.

Finally, a community college with strong ties to the public secondary system, meshed with the regional technical school and the higher educational (four-year) institution should help to provide for a more flexible and sound approach to education for life. It would also assist in the search for a more relevant approach to the problems in education, i.e., in school drop-out, the push-out, the academically non-motivated, and so forth. Further, by coupling the cooperative approach in education to training for job and career success with the business and industrial community, the college can provide for extending economic opportunities into the mid and upper ranges of administrative and managerial areas.

Thus, a sound, well-structured, and balanced community college program geared to the needs of individuals and the community it serves, can provide the catalytic agent that brings people together and unifies and promotes the full development and life of its society.

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 - (b) Meriden, Board of Education, Office of Superintendent.
 - (c) Southington, Board of Education, Office of Superintendent.
 - (d) Wallingford, Board of Education, Office of Superintendent.
2. "Survey of Meriden Labor Market Area And Occupational Outlook," released locally August 7, 1969; by the Meriden Board of Education, Office of Vocational Education.
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H-115

**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS
1971**

**VOL. 14
PART 8
3377-3877**

Monday, May 24, 1971

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THE CLERK:

The Clerk has a Change of Reference, Favorable from The Environment, H.B. 7929. AN ACT CONCERNING SECOND TAXING DISTRICT OF CITY OF NORWALK. Report of the Committee is that the bill ought to pass and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

THE SPEAKER:

So ordered.

THE CLERK:

Returning to the Calendar. Top of Page 5. Cal. 950 Sub. for H.B. 7728. AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE MERIDEN-WALLINGFORD AREA.

THE SPEAKER:

Representative Klebanoff of the 9th.

MR. KLEBANOFF: (9th)

Mr. Speaker, I move acceptance of the Joint Committee's favorable report and passage of the bill.

THE SPEAKER:

Will you remark.

MR. KLEBANOFF: (9th)

Yes, Mr. Speaker, here we are authorizing the Board of Trustees, as stated here, to establish a community college to service the Meriden-Wallingford area. The site of the Meriden School for Boys is recommended as a possible location. It should be noted that the A. D. Little study recommended a community college in this area and with your permission, Mr.

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Monday, May 24, 1971

21.

Speaker, I'd like to yield to my distinguished colleague from the 80th, Representative Gaffney.

THE SPEAKER:

Representative Gaffney of the 80th.

MR. GAFFNEY: (80th)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As Rep. Klebanoff indicated, a study of the State and the needs for community colleges was done by the Arthur Little Report and it recommended that a Meriden-Wallingford area be an area for a future community college site. Meriden is actually the hub of the State with three major highways, Route 66, Route 91 and Route 15 merging in Meriden. Almost every community college in the State is proposing plans for separate facilities and their development. There are bills which will be coming before this House which will create new locations to serve to rehabilitate youth other than the Conn. School for Boys. I consider this a prime site and one which we should consider as a future community college. I urge consideration, favorable consideration of this bill and I would like to now give the other Representatives from Meriden an opportunity to speak on this, Rep. Papandrea.

THE SPEAKER:

Chair welcomes back the gentleman from the 78th. Welcome back, Representative Papandrea.

MR. PAPPANDREA: (78th)

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise in support of this bill. Actually today, in a sense is the culmination of

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effort that goes back to my freshman session in 1967 when the problem of the Meriden School for Boys was one that was shared really by only those in the greater Meriden area. Today, however, the problems of the School for Boys have become the problems of the people of the State of Connecticut and there is I am sure only handful within this State that is not aware of the agonizing situation for youth presented by this institution. As a matter of fact, just the other day there was another renewed call for an investigation of what's going on in the School for Boys. What has this to do with the community college. This bill recommends that the primary consideration for the site of this community college be the site of the present School for Boys. It is no accident that this bill comes out in this form with this recommendation as to a site because this session will see action taken in the area that has been much neglected by us and that is the area of what we are doing for our youth. We hope that because of the austerity this year we will not be asking for funding but we do hope that within the next few years as the situation regarding the youth in our State at the Meriden facility improves as we successfully replace the outmoded and archaic facilities at Meriden with modern, responsive up-to-date treatment facilities that will Connecticut take its place among leaders in this area nationwide, that this facility will become available for use as a community college and hopefully by that time the fiscal circumstances of this State will be such as will permit this institution to be funded. I think

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it is a step in the right direction in both respects, not only in that it speaks ultimately of the replacement of an outdated facility in Meriden but the introduction of a long-needed community college to serve the one area which has thus far been neglected, the Central Connecticut area.

THE SPEAKER:

Further remarks on the bill. Representative Collins.

MR. COLLINS: (165th)

Mr. Speaker, questions through you to the gentleman from the 78th, if he has the information. In his remarks he indicated that there apparently was no intent to fund this particular college over the next budget year. As a matter of legislative intent, since this item does not carry an appropriation, I would appreciate it if he could make that crystal clear that there are no funds allocated in the next year's budget for this item.

MR. PAPPANDREA: (78th)

I make his words, through you, Mr. Speaker, my own and make that very crystal clear.

THE SPEAKER:

And with that oath would the gentleman from the 165th proceed.

MR. COLLINS: (165th)

Again, Mr. Speaker, a question through you, sir, to the gentleman from the 78th. Does the gentleman know any kind of a projected timetable from the Board of Trustees on community

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colleges if this bill were to pass, when it might require funding.

MR. PAPPANDREA: (78th)

The answer to that is I don't think there is any definite timetable. We certainly don't anticipate anything happening on this until certainly the next session of this legislature, if it should happen even then.

THE SPEAKER:

Representative DeBaise.

MR. DEBAISE: (82nd)

Mr. Speaker, a question, through you, sir, to the gentleman from the 78th. Since Meriden is the prime site for the college, Mr. Speaker, I was wondering if Wallingford would have priority as to being the second site for the college.

MR. PAPPANDREA: (78th)

Undoubtedly, Mr. Speaker.

THE SPEAKER:

Further remarks on this love-in. Representative Iwanicki of the 79th.

MR. IWANICKI: (79th)

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this Sub. Bill 7728 which establishes a community college in the Meriden-Wallingford area and I am sure you all know that the community colleges were established in Connecticut to allow students to remain at home thus saving them the cost of room and board and allow them to keep in contact with their future source of employment.

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Clearly these opportunities are now being provided for the students in the Meriden-Wallingford area. Furthermore, as the costs of college educations are soaring throughout the country the popularity of the community colleges is increasing rapidly. In fact, many educators are now predicting that community colleges will be the mode of education in the future. Connecticut has a responsibility to meet the needs of this growing student population. Connecticut has the responsibility to prepare for the future and I think Meriden has the place to put this community college. I urge all the members of this Assembly to vote for this important bill.

THE SPEAKER:

Further remarks on the bill. If not, all those in favor indicate by saying AYE. Opposed. THE BILL IS PASSED.

THE CLERK:

Cal. 1014, Substitute for H.B. 6127. AN ACT CONCERNING PRACTICE OF DENTISTRY IN CLINICS AND SCHOOLS OF DENTISTRY.

MR. AJELLO: (118th)

Mr. Speaker, I am informed that the amendment will not be ready until tomorrow and therefore I move that this be Passed, Retaining its Place on the Calendar.

THE SPEAKER:

So ordered.

THE CLERK:

Page 6, Cal. 1030, Sub. for H.B. 6484. AN ACT CON-

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THE CHAIR:

Will you remark further? If not all those in favor of the bill signify by saying AYE. AYE. Opposed nay? NAY. The ayes have it. The bill is passed.

Senator Pac.

SENATOR PAC:

I would ask that the vote be taken by a standing vote.

THE CHAIR:

All those in favor please rise? The Lt. Gubernatorial ears have not failed. I almost said Gubernatorial which was a slip of the tongue. Please be seated. Against, please rise? 24 ayes, 8 nays. The bill is passed.

SENATOR GUNTHER:

Mr. President, I move for immediate reconsideration.

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark on the motion?

SENATOR GUNTHER:

I'm moving for immediate reconsideration and I hope that the reconsideration fails.

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark further? If not all those in favor of a reconsideration signify by saying aye. AYE. Opposed nay? The nays have it the bill will not be reconsidered.

THE CLERK:

Page 2 please. Third item. Cal. 972, File 1012 Favorable report joint standing committee on Education Substitute H.B.7728. An Act Concerning the Establishment of a Community College in the Meriden-Wallingford Area.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Mondani.

SENATOR MONDANI:

Mr. President, I move acceptance of the joint committee's favorable report and passage of the bill.

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THE CHAIR:

Senator what town are you from? Moodus?

SENATOR MONDANI:

Yes sir.

THE CHAIR:

Moodus, yes I thought there might be some one watching down there. Senator Mondani from Moodus.

SENATOR MONDANI:

At 11:32 I don't know whether they are watching sir. We all go to bed early down there.

This bill Mr. President,

THE CHAIR:

Did you move acceptance?

SENATOR MONDANI:

Yes sir. This bill provides that the Board of Trustees for the Community College is authorized to establish a community college to serve the Meriden, Wallingford area. In their deliberations the law spells out that they are to consider as a primary site property occupied by the present Connecticut School for Boys. Let me point out Mr. President in reviewing this act, the committee considered the fact that the south central region which is a fairly large and well populated region only has one community college. Versus such an area such as in the Greater Hartford area where there is a community college here in Hartford and one being planned in the Suffield - Enfield area. Because of the large number of students who wish to enroll and further their education. Because of the problem of placing these students in community colleges into the southcentral or the community college in Middlesex area. The committee reported this bill favorably. And I urge its adoption.

THE CHAIR:

The question is on passage of bill. Will you remark further? Senator Zajac.

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SENATOR ZAJAC:

Mr. President I rise to support this bill. The Arthur Little Co. Mr. President, well known for its survey work throughout the United States ran a survey and reported thusly. We recommend the establishment of a community college in the Meriden-Wallingford area. The Meriden-Wallingford area is this states only high density population area without a community college. This bill is also an agreement with another study made by a state agency which recommended Meriden as one of three sites for future community colleges. The other two being in the northeast, northwest rural areas of the state of Connecticut. This proposal is a long time coming, Mr. President. To its fruition. Since it was originally proposed in 1967. Then again in 1969 Legislature. The bill has been endorsed by educational, civic, industrial and business leaders in the Meriden Wallingford area. And I urge its passage.

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark further on passage of the bill. Senator Hammer.

SENATOR HAMMER:

Mr. President, I rise and reluctantly to oppose this bill. I've been in this Legislature as everyone knows for many years. And for many years it was the custom in Connecticut for institutions of higher education to grow up haphazardly. They were established in an area where the representative or the senator happened to have the most political muscle. And a few years ago '65 I think, we established a system of higher education to plan for some sort of intelligent growth of college level institutions in this state. We gave the Commission for Higher Education the power to decide and offer us recommendations as to where these colleges should go. The Commission for Higher Education does not recommend a college in these towns. And we are now back to the old system where the people who have political power in this legislature will decide these matters on the basis of where they

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wish them to go. Now I am not against certainly these two towns having a community college. I would like to see all areas in the state have community colleges. If they want them or need them. Nevertheless there are large areas of our state, I think particularly of the northeastern section of our state which have nothing in the way of institutions of higher education. This particular area, Meriden, Wallingford, is, has three community colleges which are not too far distant. They have Waterbury. The New Haven area and Middletown. And so in all good conscience. As much as I hate to go against my colleagues. And against the people of Meriden-Wallingford. I have to oppose this bill.

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark further? Senator DeNardis.

SENATOR DENARDIS:

Mr. President, I think the choice for the community college in the Meriden-Wallingford area was not based on political muscle. As much as it was based on the objective criterion that one would use to make a decision about the location of a community college. One of the major decisions that should be used. And in fact was used in this case, was the question of population growth over the next ten, twenty, and thirty years. As you know Mr. President, there are, the state is divided into 15 planning regions. For the purposes of making decisions like colleges and universities and so on. And from the projections that we have about population growth. It is significant that seven regions, including the south central region. Which would include the Meriden, Wallingford area will accommodate about 80% of the total state population in the not too distant future.

It is significant that this growth. This urban growth will parallel the major highway networks that are existing and are planned. There will be a mega city that will extend from the southwest corner of the state. Thru Stamford, Bridgeport, New Haven, Waterbury, Meriden, New Britain to Hartford and northward. And this so called mega city will contain almost three-fourths

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of the states 1980 population. Now based on that projection, it is entirely justifiable to place a second community college in the south-central region. Now there is one temporarily located in New Haven which serves the southern tier of that region. And this bill would mandate or call for a college in the northern tier of that region. And not only would it serve the northern tier of that region. But it would also serve the southern tier of the capitol region. And it would also serve part of the Naugatuck Valley region. Senator Zajac has pointed out that the Arthur D. Little Co. has made an extensive survey of the state. In terms of future locations for our community colleges. And has pinpointed the Meriden-Wallingford area based on population growth and a number of other factors. So for that reason I am happy to support this bill. And I think it will be a viable institution once a location within Meriden-Wallingford is decided. And I urge adoption of the bill.

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark further? Senator Crafts then Senator Cutillo.

SENATOR CRAFTS:

Mr. President thru you a question to the proponent, any of the proponents of this bill. The bill states that the Board shall consider as a primary site the present property occupied by the Connecticut School for Boys. My question, Mr. President is what will happen to this Connecticut School for Boys if a college is placed there?

THE CHAIR:

Answer if you wish. Senator Mondani.

SENATOR MONDANI:

Mr. President, through you. It is my understanding that the present site is being phased out. And this would leave buildings there that are already constructed. And a potential campus.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Denardis

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SENATOR DENARDIS:

Mr. President one comment on that. Although the bill calls for an examination of the Connecticut School for Boys. It leaves the location quite open if that is not the proper location. Based on careful consideration of the entire Meriden-Wallingford area. I'm sure that another location will be selected. The whole area is one that has a number of institutions now being. A number of state institutions and educational institutions which could readily be used to support this college on a temporary basis until money for a permanent location is available.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Cutillo, from Waterbury.

SENATOR CUTILLO:

Mr. President, I would like to reflect on some of the comments made by several senators. Initially Senator Hammer's comment that this site is near other sites namely one in Waterbury. I would like to remind the Senator that in the short three four years that the Waterbury Community College has been established it is now already overcrowded. And I would therefore reflect on the comment of Senator DeNardis that we must plan for the future. And therefore this bill is most appropriate. Most needed. And I urge its passage.

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark further? If not all those in favor of passage of the bill signify by saying aye. AYE. Opposed nay? The ayes have it. The bill is passed.

THE CLERK:

Page 3, top of the page, second item. Cal. 1138, File 1344.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Gunther.

SENATOR GUNTHER:

Mr. President, I would like to move for immediate transmittal, suspension of the rules and immediate transmission to the