

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the

STATE BOARD OF CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION HELD AT THE OLIVER HODGE EDUCATION BUILDING, 2500 NORTH LINCOLN BOULEVARD, OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

March 28, 2024

The State Board of Career and Technology Education began its regular meeting at 9:02 a.m. Thursday, March 28, 2024, at the Oliver Hodge Education Building, Room 1-20, Oklahoma City, OK, and the meeting was also streamed on YouTube. Notice was properly given, and the final agenda was posted at 10:47 a.m. on March 26, 2024, in accordance with 25 O.S. 2011, § 311(9).

Members of the State Board of Career and Technology Education present and all appeared in person:

Mr. Ryan Walters, State Superintendent of Public Instruction and Chair of the Board
Mr. Brent Haken, State Director, ex-officio nonvoting member
Mr. Peter Dillingham, Enid
Mr. Michael Brown, Lawton
Mr. Randy Gilbert, Tecumseh
Mr. Edward Hilliary, Elgin
Mr. Rob Seeman, Morris
Ms. Kendra Wesson, Norman

Members of the State Board of Career and Technology Education not present:

Ms. Shaelynn Haning, Tulsa

Attendees from the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education and other guests:

See Attachment A.

1.01 CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

Superintendent Walters called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Ms. Ashley Rink called the roll and ascertained there was a quorum.

1.02 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, SALUTE TO THE OKLAHOMA STATE FLAG AND A MOMENT OF SILENCE

Led by Superintendent Walters

1.03 SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

- Superintendent Walters acknowledged the director's work with various entities: State Department of Education, Higher Ed Regents, OQA and the legislature.
- Mentioned progress in addressing workforce issues.

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- Acknowledged positive reviews for the director's work at the Capital.
- Mentioned ongoing improvements to ensure alignment with CareerTech.
- Emphasized the importance of K12 education being aware of CareerTech options.
- Highlighted the director's success in working with stakeholders statewide.
- Mentioned the positive legislative session and expressed caution optimism about the ongoing session.
- Acknowledged the director's advocacy for the agency with legislators and other education agencies.
- Concluded by handing over to the director.

1.04 DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS –MR. BRENT HAKEN, STATE DIRECTOR

- Mr. Brent Haken mentioned the importance of setting an agenda item for discussing goals for the agency.
- Noted that invites for career and technical student organizations events should be received, ensuring participation.
- Provided updates on legislation, including a certification bill for workplace specialists and a graduation requirement bill.
- Mentioned collaboration with SDE and the State Chamber on the graduation requirement bill.
- Discussed a bill for adult education to create fairer assessment methods for obtaining a high school diploma.
- Noted positive progress of these bills in the legislature.
- Encouraged by the legislature's excitement to increase funding for CareerTech.
- Mentioned the approval process for new programs; CareerTech is likely to approve more than 40 new programs, enhancing opportunities for students in K-12 education.
- Highlighted the importance of these programs in building essential skills and showcasing available careers.
- Expressed excitement about the growth of CareerTech and thanked the team for their service.

1.05 MINUTES OF THE February 15, 2024, REGULAR MEETING

Mr. Randy Gilbert moved to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2024, regular meeting. Mr. Peter Dillingham seconded the motion. The motion had the following votes:

Mr. Rob Secman, yes
Mr. Edward Hilliary, yes
Mr. Randy Gilbert, yes
Ms. Kendra Wesson, yes
Mr. Michael Brown, yes
Mr. Peter Dillingham, yes
Superintendent Walters, yes

Motion Carried. A copy of the minutes is on file at the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education.

2. RECOGNITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

2.01 Presentation on the National DECA Conference with Possible Discussion -- Ms. Paxton Cavin, Oklahoma BPA State Adviser; Sabaha Kibria, 2024-2025 Oklahoma DECA State President; Maryam Amin, 2023-2024 Collegiate DECA Executive Vice President; and Peighton Harak, 2023-2024 Oklahoma DECA VP of Career Development and Current Candidate for 2024-2025 DECA Executive President

- Ms. Paxton Cavin, Oklahoma DECA Chartered Association Adviser, thanked the judges for their participation in the February event.
- Introduced Oklahoma DECA and its focus on high school and collegiate levels, highlighting membership numbers and growth.
- Discussed the marketing of Oklahoma DECA, emphasizing its evolution beyond traditional job work programs to offer broader opportunities.
- Provided an overview of the meeting agenda, including updates on past events, upcoming initiatives, and a Q&A session.
- Three members of the Oklahoma DECA team introduced themselves: Ms. Sabaha Kibria, Ms. Peighton Harak, and Ms. Maryam Amin.
- Reviewed past events, including the successful Fall Leadership Conference, the Aim for Glass Initiative, and the Career Development Conference in Midwest City.
- Shared plans for future growth, including promoting chapter growth, preparing for the International Career Development Conference, and expanding the Aim for Glass Initiative through summer camp programs.

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- Ms. Maryam Amin highlighted the impact of Collegiate DECA, emphasizing its inclusivity, real-world experience, and resume-building opportunities.
- Each member shared personal reasons for joining DECA and the impact it has had on their personal and professional development.
- Opened the floor for questions, including inquiries about international participation and an elevator pitch demonstration.
- Board members praised the DECA team for their articulate communication skills and leadership.
- They expressed pride in being a charter member of a collegiate chapter and commended the team for their work.
- Questions were asked about chartered associations in surrounding states, with the team noting that all 50 states have chartered associations for High School DECA, while only Kansas and Texas have chartered associations for Collegiate DECA. New Mexico and Arkansas do not have Collegiate DECA programs.
- The judges thanked the team for their leadership, especially in transitioning the program from high school to college and acknowledged the benefits of DECA for students after college.
- The team mentioned its participation in BMITE Day at the Capitol to advocate for DECA.

3. MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

3.01 Discussion and Review of Agency Goals – Mr. Brent Haken, State Director of Career and Technology Education

- Mr. Brent Haken introduced an agenda item for discussing thoughts, vision, and plans, emphasizing the importance of the board's diverse perspectives.
- He stated that many goals are on track, particularly in K12 program growth, but highlighted the challenge of recruiting enough teachers to fill spots.
- Examples of initiatives were discussed, such as the certification for a workplace specialist and planning for apprenticeships with the Department of Commerce.
- The importance of program approvals tied to funding, accreditation, and program success was highlighted, mentioning the addition of a performance auditor to ensure consistency in data and funding.
- There was an emphasis on the need for improved professional development and curriculum standards to support teachers and programs effectively.

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- Board members praised the agency for its work and staff but noted that competitiveness in the salary range is a challenge, leading some personnel to return to the classroom for better pay.
- Emphasis was placed on the need for a great support group and recognition of constant change in life and education.
- There was a discussion on the need for updating the curriculum, especially moving away from traditional books, and the importance of staff to handle these updates.
- Advocacy was made for increased programs, especially in comprehensive high schools, with recent positive steps taken in this direction.
- Concern was expressed about competitiveness in salaries, particularly compared to K-12 school administrators, making recruitment difficult.
- There was a discussion on defining and reducing waitlists, with an urgency to address any waiting students.
- Consideration was given to implementing a tax deduction plan to attract business professionals as instructors.
- Recognition was given to CareerTech's effective use of videos and social media for outreach and recruitment.
- There was a focus on targeted growth in programs aligned with workforce needs, with an emphasis on local input and flexibility.
- Challenges with apprenticeships were discussed, including defining them, meeting requirements for small businesses, and the need for more education and awareness.
- Recognition was given to the need to better educate the public about CareerTech's scope, including its student organizations and programs in comprehensive high schools.

4. MANAGEMENT ACTION ITEMS

4.01 Discussion and Possible Action Full Postsecondary Accreditation for Pontotoc Technology Center School District No. 14 – Ms. Jessica Ventris, Director of Academic Affairs

- Ms. Jessica Ventris introduced Mr. Joey Vanek as the new accreditation manager.
- Overview of the accreditation visit to Ponca Technology Center in Ada on November 7th through 9th, 2023.
- The examiner team comprised 27 examiners and agency staff, with 18 examiners from other technology centers.

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- Interviews with 22 stakeholders in various settings.
- Evaluation of all aspects of the technology center's operations, including approved standards by the board.
- Mention of the accreditation staff's technical visits for financial aid and safety before the main visit.
- The technology center will have 90 days to submit an action plan if approved, which includes one opportunity for improvement from each of the first six standards.
- No areas of noncompliance were found, and full accreditation is recommended for Pontotoc Technology Center.
- Superintendent Travis Graham gave his remarks on the accreditation process, highlighting the opportunity to tell their story and the proactive approach of the technology center.
- Partnership with institutions like Murray State College and East Central University to create pathways for students, including earning college credits through collaborative events.
- Recognition and praise were given for the technology center's work and positive impact on students and communities.
- Approval of the accreditation was recommended.

Mr. Michael Brown moved to approve the full postsecondary accreditation for Pontotoc Technology Center school district No. 14. Mr. Edward Hillary seconded the motion. The motion had the following votes:

Mr. Peter Dillingham, yes
Mr. Michael Brown, yes
Ms. Kendra Wesson, yes
Mr. Randy Gilbert, yes
Mr. Edward Hillary, yes
Mr. Rob Seeman, yes
Superintendent Walters, yes

Motion Carried. A copy of the minutes is on file at the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education.

4.02 Discussion and Possible Action for a Contract with Oklahoma Department of Human Services – Ms. Letha Bauter, Federal Programs Manager

- Mr. Brent Haken expresses excitement about the contracts and emphasizes that the board should not be a holdup in the process.

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- Ms. Letha Baiter presents the contracts, which aim to serve TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) populations and expand statewide.
- The TANF program will start with 10 existing programs, each having a TANF navigator to assist participants enroll, to monitor attendance and to coordinate services.
- The goal is to expand to more than 20 technology centers in year two and eventually to all 29 technology centers over a three years period.
- Mr. Brent Haken summarized the contract, highlighting its goal to help individuals move up a career ladder and become independent of government services.
- The contract allows technology centers to draw down dollars and employ a navigator to assist TANF clients.
- The technology centers would employ the navigator, and the contract would pay for it.
- The contract also includes a TANF coordinator statewide and an HSE (high school equivalency) coordinator statewide to work with adult education services and expand access.
- The contract is a grant, so as long as the grant is active, the program will continue.

Mr. Randy Gilbert moved to approve the contract with Oklahoma Department of Human Services, as presented. Mr. Michael Brown seconded the motion. The motion had the following votes:

Mr. Rob Seeman, yes
Mr. Edward Hilliary, yes
Mr. Randy Gilbert, yes
Ms. Kendra Wesson, yes
Mr. Michael Brown, yes
Mr. Peter Dillingham, yes
Superintendent Walters, yes

Motion Carried. A copy of the minutes is on file at the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education.

**4.03 Discussion and Possible Action for a Contract with Jobs for America's Graduates
– Ms. Letha Baiter, Federal Programs Manager**

- This contract with Oklahoma Human Services is for developing and implementing Jobs for American Graduates (JAG), a program working with at-risk youth in high schools to prevent future unemployment and increase graduation rates.
- The first year will be a one-year pilot program with 10 schools, with funding written as a one-year pilot.

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- After the pilot, the goal is to show success and continue funding for JAG.
- Two of the 10 schools are already participating, and the program will be opened up to other school districts.
- Oklahoma CareerTech is known for producing engaging programs, and JAG is leaning toward CareerTech to lead it.
- The funding for JAG comes from a federal grant, so it will not affect the budget or plans for growth in other areas.
- The program specialist employed for JAG will pinpoint areas of need in the 10 schools without taking away from existing programs.

Mr. Michael Brown moved to approve the contract with Jobs for America's Graduates, as presented. Mr. Peter Dillingham seconded the motion. The motion had the following votes:

Mr. Peter Dillingham, yes
Mr. Michael Brown, yes
Ms. Kendra Wesson, yes
Mr. Randy Gilbert, yes
Ms. Shaelynn Haning, yes
Mr. Edward Hilliary, yes
Mr. Rob Seeman, yes
Superintendent Walters, yes

Motion Carried. A copy of the minutes is on file at the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education.

**4.04 Discussion and Possible Action for the Perkins State Plan – Mr. Steve Robison,
Federal Grant Compliance Manager**

- Mr. Steve Robison oversees the Perkins grant for the state agency.
- Updates to the Perkins state plan were discussed.
- The comprehensive local needs assessment and local application template had no material changes since four years ago.
- The local needs assessment is a tool for schools to engage with stakeholders, considering student performance data, workforce information, programs of study, professional development, etc.
- Stakeholder consultation included surveys and feedback meetings with schools in January.

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- Trainings were conducted statewide in February for the upcoming grant cycle.
- The accountability for results section reviewed performance measures compared to goals set four years ago, showing struggles with academic measures due to COVID-19 shutdowns.
- A portion of reserve funds will be used for an Innovative Grant for academic proficiency to address struggles with academic measures.
- Low work-based learning metrics were attributed to a reporting issue, and efforts are being made to improve reporting and promote work-based learning opportunities.
- There will be support for CTE special populations and nontraditional students, including a grant funded by reserve funds.
- The FY 24 budget breakdown shows how Perkins funds are spent.
- Consultation with stakeholders, feedback surveys, and meetings were key in developing the plan.
- Efforts are being made to accurately track work-based learning and address issues with academic rigor and growth.
- Director Haken emphasized the importance of work-based learning and the need to support academic rigor and growth.

Mr. Randy Gilbert moved to approve the Perkins State Plan, as presented. Mr. Edward Hilliary seconded the motion. The motion had the following votes:

Mr. Rob Seeman, yes
Mr. Edward Hilliary, yes
Mr. Randy Gilbert, yes
Ms. Kendra Wesson, yes
Mr. Michael Brown, yes
Mr. Peter Dillingham, yes
Superintendent Walters, yes

Motion Carried. A copy of the minutes is on file at the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education.

ADJOURNMENT

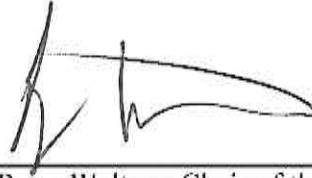
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

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The next regular meeting of the State Board of Career and Technology Education will be held on Thursday, April 18, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will convene at the Oliver Hodge Education Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.



Ashley Rink, Executive Assistant
to the Career Tech State Director and
Secretary of the Career Tech Board



Ryan Walters, Chair of the Board-