

**Minutes for State Board for Career and Technical Education
March 23, 2026 Meeting**

Call to Order:

The regular meeting of the State Board for Career and Technical Education was held on Monday, March 23, 2026, in the Pioneer Room at the North Dakota State Capitol and via Microsoft Teams. It was called to order by Chair Sonia Meehl at 10:00 am CT. Voting members present include:

Board Member Patrick Bertagnolli
Board Member Lyndsi Engstrom
Board Member Morgan Forness
Vice-Chair Mike McHugh
Chair Sonia Meehl
Board Member Eric Nelson
Board Member Jason Rohr
Commissioner Brent Sanford

Also present: Wayde Sick, John Gruenberg, Gwen Ferderer, Mark Openshaw, Adam Gehlher, Marcia McMahon, Becky Ulberg, Laurie Elliott, Scott Wisness, Mike Hanson, Dan Spellerberg, Wayne Heckamen, Eric Ripley, Dawn Ulmer and Lorie Ruff.

Meeting chat information for this meeting does not exist.

Be Legendary Governance – Input from Local CTE Director

Adam Gehlher, CTE Director at the James Valley Career & Technology Center, was asked by Director Sick to present how the Board's goals support what is happening in Jamestown. Adam indicated that, after reviewing the goals, he interpreted the key focus areas to be increasing student engagement, clarifying the intended student outcomes and ensuring equitable access for all students. He went on to describe how the Center and its member schools are aligning their objectives to support the Board in achieving its goals.

Revised Goal 3 Progress Measures – CTE Student Enrollment

Director Sick referred to the updated Goal 3 Progress Measures that were included in the material packet. He explained that the data used for the measures has been fully received and analyzed but current figures are believed to be inaccurate. However, they do provide a baseline and initial targets. Data accuracy issues stem primarily from inconsistent course section categorization at the district level, which can prevent enrollments from being properly attributed to CTE Centers. The transition to Infinite Campus is expected to improve data accuracy and revised targets may be requested this Fall when more reliable data is available. Director Sick requested that the Board accept these proposed progress measures with the understanding they may be adjusted when more accurate data is available.

Morgan Forness moved to accept the Goal Progress Measurers 3.1 through 3.5 as presented with the understanding that they will be revisited in the Fall of 2026 as better data is available and it was seconded by Commissioner Brent Sanford.

With no further discussion a roll call vote was administered:

Board Member Pat Bertagnolli – Yes
Board Member Lyndsi Engstrom - Yes
Board Member Morgan Forness - Yes
Vice-Chair Mike McHugh – Yes
Board Member Eric Nelson – Yes
Board Member Jason Rohr - Yes
Commissioner Brent Sanford - Yes
Chair Sonia Meehl - Yes
8-0-1 Absent

Board Guardrail 1 Review

Chair Meehl reviewed Board Self-Guardrail 1 and Objective 1 and reminded members that to move from “proficient” to “advanced” all Board Members and the Director need to memorize the Vision and Student Outcome Goals and know the status of each. By the April meeting, all Members should have memorized our Vision and Student Outcome Goals.

Ad hoc Committee Updates:

Community Engagement Subcommittee: Chair Meehl reported that the Subcommittee has made additional progress with the presentation and that the latest version can be found in the Teams channel. She requested for Members to review and provide any feedback.

Procedural Manual: Lyndsi Engstrom referred to the most recent version of the manual that was included in the material packet along with a variety of questions from other Members. Answers were provided and where appropriate, an inquiry was submitted to Mr. Openshaw to report on during this meeting. Mr. Openshaw then addressed any questions that were directed at him during the discussion.

Consent Agenda:

Mike McHugh moved to approve and accept the items listed on the consent agenda and it was seconded by Commissioner Brent Sanford. With no further discussion a roll call vote was administered:

Board Member Lyndsi Engstrom - Yes
Board Member Morgan Forness - Yes
Vice-Chair Mike McHugh – Yes
Board Member Eric Nelson – Yes
Board Member Jason Rohr - Yes
Commissioner Brent Sanford – Yes
Board Member Pat Bertagnolli – Yes
Chair Sonia Meehl - Yes
8-0-1 Absent

Items for Discussion and Possible Action:

Preliminary Approval of Board Procedural Manual: Lyndsi Engstrom reported that the Subcommittee requests preliminary approval of the procedural manual with the intent of continuing to revise the document. They propose to meet again in six months as well as including the manual on the monitoring calendar to review on a yearly basis. Mike McHugh moved for preliminary approval of the Procedural Manual as presented and it was seconded by Jason Rohr. With no further discussion a roll call vote was administered:

Board Member Morgan Forness - Yes
Vice-Chair Mike McHugh – Yes
Board Member Eric Nelson – Yes
Board Member Jason Rohr - Yes
Commissioner Brent Sanford – Yes
Board Member Pat Bertagnolli – Yes
Board Member Lyndsi Engstrom - Yes
Chair Sonia Meehl - Yes
8-0-1 Absent

Information Only:

Chair Meehl reported that the revised Time Trackers for January and February were included in the material packet.

There being no other business brought before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:24 am.