

Minutes for State Board for Career and Technical Education

Call to Order:

The regular meeting of the State Board for Career and Technical Education was held on Monday, January 23, 2022, in the CTE Conference Room and via Microsoft Teams. It began at 10:00 am CT and was presided over by Chairperson Ms. Sonia Meehl.

Voting Members Present:

Ms. Kirsten Baesler
Mr. Pat Bertagnolli
Ms. Lyndsi Engstrom
Dr. Mark Hagerott
Mr. Burdell Johnson
Mr. Josh Johnson
Mr. Mike McHugh
Mr. Eric Nelson

Also present: Wayde Sick, Mark Wagner, Gwen Ferderer, Alyssa Martin, Tonya Greywind, Allison Hicks, Dan Spellerberg, Reva Kautz, Eric Ripley, Michael Hanson and Lorie Ruff.

Meeting chat information for this meeting does not exist.

Consideration of December 19, 2022, Minutes:

After discussion of the Computer Science and Cybersecurity bill, it was moved by Mr. McHugh and seconded by Mr. Burdell Johnson to amend the minutes by changing the word bill to concept. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously. With no other proposed amendments, it was moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. McHugh to approve the minutes as amended. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Financial Reports:

Ms. Gwen Ferderer reviewed the Appropriation Status Report referencing that in the Grants line under Current Appropriation that amount includes the \$640,000 Emergency Commission increase that Mr. Sick requested so that we have enough spending authority for our carryover funds. Ms. Ferderer also mentioned that in the CRF Initiative Grant we have now started spending those funds. On the CTE Administrative Budget, we have gained approximately 1% of budget expended and will continue gaining each month and be around 100% at the end of June.

Dr. Alyssa Martin reviewed the CDE Administrative Budget informing the Board that they continue to be well within their budget at 64% with 75% of the biennium elapsing. CDE is currently adjusting their department budget to reflect the requested special spending authority of \$4.5 million to \$4 million as the projected tuition revenue was not as much as anticipated. As they move into the next biennium, tuition fees will need to be evaluated to ensure that revenue is closer to their spending authority.

Ms. Ferderer wanted to make a correction on the CTE and CDE Administrative Budget Reports the date on left side of header should be December 22 not 23.

Dr. Hagerott moved to approve the financial reports as presented and Mr. Burdell Johnson seconded. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Consolidated Annual Report:

Mr. Mark Wagner reviewed the 2022 enrollment accountability report that will be submitted by CTE in compliance with the Perkins Act. This report is a reflection from July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022, and includes secondary and postsecondary enrollment data, performance data, financial status reports and state improvement plans if applicable. The CAR is due January 31, 2023, in the Perkins online portal. Mr. McHugh requested that his city be changed from Watford City to Mandan on page 2 of the report. It was moved by Ms. Baesler and seconded by Mr. Josh Johnson to approve the consolidated annual report. With no further discussion a roll call vote was administered:

Mr. McHugh – Aye
Mr. Nelson – Aye
Ms. Baesler - Aye
Mr. Bertagnolli – Aye
Ms. Engstrom – Aye
Dr. Hagerott - Aye
Mr. Burdell Johnson – Aye
Mr. Josh Johnson - Aye
Ms. Meehl – Aye
9-0-0 Absent

Legislative Update:

Mr. Sick reported that the department is tracking 124 bills and closely watching the following:

HB 1019 – NDCTE Appropriations Bill – Today at 2:00 we have been called back to House Appropriations to answer some questions. So far, discussion has been very positive in support for CTE.

HB 1030 – Amends and modernizes the various scholarships. Passed the House on 1/20.

HB 1032 – Creates a high-demand certificate scholarship focusing on CDL and CNA training programs. Passed House Education Committee and has been referred House Appropriations.

HB 1132 – Allows a military student, students with a medical condition or students moving out of state to receive virtual education by their home school and counts towards the school's average daily membership. This may impact CDE enrollment. Passed House Education and moved to House floor. Passed the House on 1/20.

HB 1156 – The bill would allow CDE to provide dual credit to out-of-state students and virtual kindergarten. Dr. Martin testified on this bill. Came out of House Education with a do pass recommendation. Passed the House Chamber on 1/19/2023.

HB 1163 – Bill would create a Career and Technical Education graduation pathway. Local CTE Directors feel this should be an interim study, to better determine an appropriate CTE pathway. This can already be accomplished either through an Innovation Waiver or utilizing the Learning Continuum. A hearing is scheduled for 1/24.

HB 1178 – Bill would allow Higher Education, Private/Parochial School and/or Private Sector to be represented on a CTE Center Board. A hearing was held on 1/18 and Mr. Sick testified in support.

HB 1199 – Bill would provide NDCTE with loan authority to carry out the CTE Capital Projects Program. An amendment was introduced that would allow NDCTE to grant to a foundation, which would address the Cass County CTC issues. Passed both the House Appropriations (1/18) and House Floor (1/20) unanimously.

HB 1201 – Bill would prohibit a state agency from employing an individual under contract with a school district. Dr. Martin and Mr. Sick testified in opposition on 1/18.

HB 1232 – Bill would appropriate \$500,000 to NDCTE to add a virtual reality career exploration resource to our RUMReadyND platform. Hearing is scheduled for 1/25. This was amended to include an Emergency Clause and passed out of House Appropriations.

HB 1305 – Bill amends the State Scholarship to align with changes to Choice Ready. Hearing is scheduled for 1/24.

HB 1348 – Bill amends CTE Center Governance to address large CTE Center Boards and allow for a representative Board structure.

HB 1376 – Allows for open enrollment and virtual education. NDCDE may see an increase in enrollment if this would pass. Capacity may be a concern.

HB 1382 – Allows the State Scholarship to be used for Registered Apprenticeship expenses.

HB 1383 – Provides an apprenticeship tax credit, replicating the internship tax credit. Hearing is scheduled for 1/23.

HB 1398 – Bill requires computer science and cybersecurity to be taught in public schools.

HB 1451 – Bill would increase the state scholarship to \$10,000 starting with the 2023 graduates.

HB 1519 – Bill would appropriate \$1,000,000 to NDCTE to grant out for UAS workforce training to a workforce training center serving NW North Dakota.

SB 2070 – Bill will allow for teacher permits to be extended for an additional three years if an individual enrolls in a teacher preparation program. A hearing was held, with no opposition. Mr. Sick has been assured if this passes, ESPB will consult with NDCTE on the rule writing process. This has been amended to add four years (total of seven).

SB 2122 – Would codify how TrainND funds are allocated to the four regions. Hearing is scheduled for 1/26.

SB 2145 – Would allow the Emerging Digital Academy to operate without national accreditation. CTE worked with the prime sponsor and have provided amendments to the bill. First the exemption from national accreditation would sunset on January 1, 2026. Secondly, a study would be conducted in the interim to determine if changes to century code are necessary for the approval of Postsecondary Career Schools. Hearing was held 1/16 - Passed out of Senate Education as amended and will be on the Senate floor on 1/23. It passed the Senate Floor.

SB 2170 – Bill would allow a minor under the age of 18 to be on a construction site with parental approval. This can already happen through a registered apprenticeship or student learner agreement.

SB 2269 – Would move authority over Center for Distance Education from NDCTE to NDDPI. Hearing is scheduled for 1/23. Dr. Martin and Mr. Sick plan to testify in support, with several amendments for the Senate to consider.

SB 2284 – The portion of this bill to be aware of addresses the State Board for Public Education. It would align appointments to Legislative Districts, not counties. It would also require at least two members of the Board are employed by school districts and are active members of the North Dakota Association of School Administrators.

SB 2340 – This bill addresses the Counselor ratio, defines a career advisor in relation to the ratio and allows school districts to count contracted services of other professionals that can be counted towards the ratio.

Discussion was held on supporting HB 1398 – Computer Science and Cybersecurity Course Bill. It was moved by Ms. Baesler and seconded by Mr. Josh Johnson that this Board supports House Bill 1398. With no further discussion a roll call vote was administered:

Mr. Nelson – Aye
Ms. Baesler - Aye
Mr. Bertagnolli – Aye
Ms. Engstrom – Aye
Dr. Hagerott - Aye
Mr. Burdell Johnson – Aye
Mr. Josh Johnson - Aye
Mr. McHugh – Aye
Ms. Meehl – Aye
9-0-0 Absent

At 10:55 am Ms. Meehl relinquished her duties as Chair of the meeting to Vice Chair Mr. Josh Johnson as Mr. Sick and Ms. Meehl left meeting to testify at SB 2269. Ms. Baesler also left meeting to attend hearing. At that time Mr. McHugh moved and Ms. Engstrom seconded to recess until the others have returned. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Those remaining in room watched Senate Education Committee Hearing for SB 2269 on the ND Legislative website.

At 11:40 am Vice Chair Mr. Josh Johnson reconvened meeting. Mr. Burdell Johnson moved and Mr. Bertagnolli seconded to transfer authority back to Chair Meehl. The motion passed unanimously. Ms. Baesler and Dr. Hagerott did not return to the meeting.

Due to time restraint, Items #5 PK12 Strategic Vision Framework and #6 Career Resource Network Training was tabled until next month's meeting.

State Director's Report:

Mr. Sick gave progress report regarding his goals. He continues to work on funding model, course catalog and agency gap analysis but priority at the current time is his legislative session duties. Mr. Sick briefed members on the meetings he has attended the last month and how they support his goals. Discussion was held on the CTE funding model goal and how likely it would be ready to launch in the 2023-24 school year. It was agreed that Mr. Sick is prioritizing his focus in the correct places and rather than rushing to complete a goal set by this Board, that it should be put on hold at the present time.

Center for Distance Education Update:

Dr. Martin reported that enrollment currently stands at 6,452 up 29% from pre-pandemic levels but down about 25% from last year. The additional spike is due to elementary and out-of-state enrollment.

CDE is currently tracking 145 bills and those watching closely are:

HB 1019 – NDCTE Appropriations Bill

HB 1156 – Allow CDE to provide dual credit to out-of-state students and virtual kindergarten

HB 1201 – Bill on state agencies and ability to hire a contracted teacher

HB 1374 – Bill that prevents a state agency from competing with private enterprise

HB 1376 – Allows for open enrollment and virtual education

SB 2269 – Moving CDE from CTE to DPI

CDE is working with Bismarck State College to offer a new dual credit program that allows students to earn a college certificate. Cybersecurity will be the first program that will be launched and hoping this expands into other areas. Other projects for CDE include working with Emerging Digital Academy to allow students to participate in programming courses, developing new rubrics to measure student proficiency in online learning and auditing our agriculture courses.

Dr. Martin reported that they will be having two retirements this spring, the Technology Director and the Learning Management System Director. They are reviewing their duties and working on filling these positions.

Career and Technical Student Organization 2023 State Conferences:

Collegiate DECA – February 9-10, Fargo

DECA – March 5-7, Bismarck

TSA – March 19-21, Mandan

FBLA Collegiate – March 26-27, Mandan

SkillsUSA ND – March 26-28, Wahpeton

FBLA – April 2-4, Bismarck

FCCLA – April 16-18, Bismarck

FFA – June 5-8, Fargo

Future Meetings:

The next regular meetings will be held Monday, February 27, 2023, Monday, March 27, 2023, and Monday, April 24, 2023. It was suggested that we schedule meetings at 9:00 am to accommodate for our expanding agenda items.

There being no other business brought before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 12:06 pm.