

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, March 27, 2023, in the CTE Conference Room and via Microsoft Teams. It began at 10:03 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, Dan Spellerberg, Eric Ripley, Ann Dietchman and Lorie Ruff.

Meeting chat information for this meeting does not exist.

Consideration of February 27, 2023, Minutes:

It was moved by Dr. Hagerott and seconded by Mr. McHugh to approve the minutes as presented. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Financial Reports:

Ms. Gwen Ferderer reviewed the Appropriation Status Report informing members that we have spent about \$9.8 million on the Capital Project Grants and another \$1.5 million so far in March. The CTE Administrative Budget Report reflects that our percent of budget expended is 85.84% compared to time elapsed of 83.33%. We are slowly gaining where we should be to align to our budget.

Dr. Martin reviewed the CDE Administrative Budget Report stating that they have spent 71.18% of their budget with 83.33% of the biennium elapsed. They have updated their operational budget to reflect what they believe they will collect for the remainder of the biennium in tuition and anticipate they will have carryover. Dr. Martin informed members that they are looking into purchasing Google Workspace for instructors to connect with students instead of using cell phones which they anticipate will be a major cost savings in the new biennium.

Mr. Burdell Johnson moved to approve the financial reports as presented and it was seconded by Ms. Engstrom. With no further discussion the motion passed unanimously.

Legislative Update:

Mr. Sick reported that of the 125 bills that the agency was tracking, 37 have been defeated and 11 passed both chambers. Those of significance to CTE include:

HB 1019 – NDCTE Appropriations Bill 1019 has first hearing in Senate Appropriations on March 15. To recap, the following is what passed the House.

- 2 additional FTEs (We asked for 4) – Senate is discussing removing the FTEs
- \$4M for cost to continue (This was our ask)
- \$8M for new and expanding programs (We asked for \$20M, Governor included \$10M) – Senate is discussing increasing this to \$12M
- \$500,000 to fund Career Advisors (We asked for \$3M) – Senate is discussing removing this
- \$1.5M to fund Work-based Learning Coordinators (We asked for \$3M) – Senate is discussing increasing this by \$500,000
- \$200,000 added to Emerging Technology (We didn't ask for it, the bill carrier added it)
- CDE budget was zeroed out because if SB2269 passes, it will move to DPI
- \$40M for overage/inflationary costs was zeroed out. But I was informed this will come back on the Senate side, once the March revenue forecast comes out. Still being discussed. Considering a 20%-30% increase, based on grants awarded.
- \$20M for additional CTE Center Capital projects was zeroed out. This will be discussed after crossover.
- \$2M increase to TrainND was not included – Senate is discussing increasing this by \$500,000

HB 1178 – This bill would allow Higher Education, Private/Parochial School and/or Private Sector to be represented on a CTE Center Board. This passed the House on February 6. This was amended by the Senate to include up to three industry representatives. It passed the Senate and was returned to the House for consideration.

HB 1232 – Bill that would appropriate \$500,000 to NDCTE to add a virtual reality career exploration resource to our RUMReadyND platform. This was amended to include an Emergency Clause and passed on the House Floor on January 30. This passed out of the Senate committee on March 17 and will be rereferred to Senate Appropriations. Senate Appropriations is hearing on March 27.

HB 1348 – A bill that amends CTE Center Governance, to address large CTE Center Boards and allow for a representative Board structure. This passed the House on February 3 and the Senate on March 15. This will now go to Governor for signature.

HB 1398 – A bill that requires computer science and cyber security to be taught in our public schools. Hearing was with House Education on February 14. This was amended to clarify the integration plan can serve as the high school graduation requirement. It passed the House on February 16 and passed the Senate on March 7. This was signed by the Governor on March 24.

HB 1519 – A bill that would appropriate \$1,000,000 to NDCTE, to grant out for UAS workforce training to a workforce training center serving NW North Dakota. House Appropriations amended this down to \$250,000 and passed it out on February 16. It passed on the House Floor, as amended on February 21. A hearing with Senate Transportation was held on March 23, where it passed with a Do Pass. It will now move to Appropriations.

SB 2269 – A bill that would move the authority over the Center for Distance Education from NDCTE to NDDPI. This was amended to ensure governance was adequate. This passed the Senate on January 31. House Education heard the bill on March 14.

Discussion was held regarding the number of FTE's our agency has. During the 2015 biennium we had 26.5 and due to required cuts to our operating budgets we currently only have 21.5 FTEs with the same workload. It was requested to see a report of FTE numbers over the years that could be shared with legislators.

Dr. Martin referenced HB 1398 which requires computer science and cyber security and informed members that CDE has formed an internal committee to look at curriculum and to work on how this will progress forward.

They are also working on HB 1156 which is the bill they had introduced that allows CDE to offer dual credit to out-of-state students and offering kindergarten as a virtual option to school districts that currently do not have a kindergarten option available. CDE is currently working on streamlining their dual credit enrollment.

Dr. Martin reported that they testified on SB 2269, the bill that would move the authority over CDE from NDCTE to NDDPI, on March 14 and anxiously waiting to hear when it moves out of committee. Latest they were informed was that it is still stuck in committee.

Virtual CTE Enrollment:

Mr. Sick presented the enrollment numbers for online programs and ITV for 2022-23 second semester. Mr. Sick reminded members that in November he presented the enrollment numbers for first semester. For online there are 8 transmitting and 92 receiving schools with 54 types of classes taken by 1,326 students. ITV has 7 transmitting and 51 receiving schools with 21 types of classes taken by 320 students.

The process to collect these is to ask centers for their spring enrollment numbers so that the agency can determine their allocation for reimbursement. Since these numbers are very similar and the report is a snapshot of current time, Mr. Sick will change the reporting calendar for the Board to only be the second semester and report trend data.

Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment and Local Application:

Mr. Sick educated Board members on the history of the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act, also known as Perkins V, and the requirements of the Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment. The Assessment contains four required elements which are evaluation of student performance, evaluation of program quality, progress the eligible recipient is taking to implement CTE programs and programs of study and assess the eligible recipient's progress in recruiting, retaining and training CTE educators. Once data is collected and analyzed, it is the responsibility of the eligible recipient to discuss the findings with stakeholders to determine spending priorities. Mr. Sick presented examples of a worksheet that schools would receive and the application that is completed by the consortium. Mr. Sick informed members that the agency is currently looking at how to streamline the application process.

Due to other commitments, Dr. Hagerott left meeting at 11:02 am.

Family & Consumer Sciences Education Program Area Update:

Ms. Ann Dietchman informed members that there are approximately 111 funded FACS programs in the state that serve over 16,000 students. As with all program areas, an area of concern is teacher shortage. Of the 160 teachers in this area, one-third of them are alternatively certified. One way they are assisting instructors is with their TIP – Teachers Induction Program, which is a one to three-year mentoring program. This year Ms. Dietchman had 24 new teachers and it is looking like about 7 openings for next year with only 2 or 3 graduating from the NDSU Teacher Education Program this spring.

Program standards for this area are written and copyrighted by the American Association for Family and Consumer Sciences.

FCCLA is their student organization and currently there are 75 chapters with 1,729 members. The state conference will be held April 16-18 at the Bismarck Hotel & Conference Center and an invitation was included in the meeting material packet.

Center for Distance Education Update:

Dr. Martin reported that Ms. Tonya Greywind's last day was March 10 and they have hired Jessica Enderson as the Assistant Superintendent. They have restructured the job description to reflect more focus on curricular improvements, evaluation of quality and learning and professional development with some LMS oversight. CDE is also extending an offer today for their Technology Director. Other positions include a new assistant principal for the elementary program and later this summer they will be hiring two LMF positions due to retirements.

Enrollment numbers are currently at 7,500 students, which is up 34% from pre-pandemic levels but down about 24% from last year. Core courses remain the most popular.

State Director's Report:

Mr. Sick reviewed his goals and the progress he has made including identifying a CTE funding model committee, meeting to strategies our opportunity gap analysis, assisting in developing a potential PDF course catalog and continue to testify at the Legislative Session. Other updates include continuing to monitor and adjust board training calendar and gathering reports from consortiums as to their allocation priorities.

NDCTE staff and Job Service ND have met to plan summer work-based learning trainings focusing on employers, to engage with education to support work-based learning experiences and develop workforce pipelines.

The US Treasury has contacted us with a second clarification questionnaire which was submitted on March 22. The first clarification questionnaire was submitted on February 14 and a follow-up meeting with US Treasury and NDO MB was held on March 13.

Mr. Sick announced that NDDPI has agreed to pledge \$150,000 each year of Title IV to financially support the RUMReadyND platform for the 2023-25 biennium.

Due to other commitments, Mr. Burdell Johnson left meeting at 12:15 pm.

Ms. Meehl asked that members reflect on the various trainings that the Board has been receiving over the last few months. Discussion was held on the new funding model, timelines and phase goals. Phase 1 is Efficiency, and the new committee will start meeting in May. It was agreed that 1 or 2 Board members should also be on the funding committee. This will be an April meeting agenda item to give everyone 30 days to consider volunteering. Other topics discussed were Gap Analysis, RUMReady, training opportunities for Board members and what legislative support members could give.

Due to other commitments, Ms. Baesler left meeting at 12:20 pm.

Ms. Meehl reminded members that evaluation forms for State Director are due March 31. If you need to have the link again, contact Lorie Ruff. After compiling this evaluation, which will be discussed at the April Board meeting, the procedure guide says each spring, a survey created by the CTE Board, with assistance from HRMS, will be distributed to local CTE Directors and CTE agency employees as part of the annual process to provide feedback. This survey will be anonymous, compiled by the Board Chair and used at the strategic planning session to establish annual goals for the agency and State Director. After some discussion, it was agreed that the subcommittee be reactivated to meet with HRMS and put a survey together for the May meeting for approval. Members on that subcommittee were Ms. Engstrom, Ms. Baesler, Ms. Meehl and Mr. Sick.

Career and Technical Student Organization 2023 State Conferences:

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, April 24, 2023, Monday, May 22, 2023, and Monday, June 26, 2023.

Ms. Meehl mentioned that the State Board of Public School Education will meet in the afternoon on April 24 and asked that this Board meeting start at 9:00 am to ensure we have time to complete agenda.

There being no other business brought before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 12:28 pm.