

Minutes for State Board for Career and Technical Education
November 24, 2025 Meeting

Call to Order:

The regular meeting of the State Board for Career and Technical Education was held on Monday, November 24, 2025, via Microsoft Teams. It was called to order by Chair Sonia Meehl at 10:00 am CT.

Voting members present include:

Superintendent Levi Bachmeier
Board Member Patrick Bertagnoli
Board Member Lyndsi Engstrom
Vice-Chair Mike McHugh
Chair Sonia Meehl
Board Member Eric Nelson
Board Member Jason Rohr
Commissioner Brent Sanford

Also present: Wayde Sick, John Gruenberg, Laurie Elliott, Marcia McMahon, Mark Openshaw, Paul Zettler, Myah Robertson, Pam Stroklund, Kenzie Brown, Lyle Krueger, Dan Driessen, Mike Hanson, Dawn Ulmer and Lorie Ruff.

Meeting chat information for this meeting does not exist.

Student Perspective Presentation – Work-based Learning:

As outlined in the Progress Monitoring Calendar and given the emphasis in November on work-based learning, we have invited a student to share their personal experience with WBL for the student perspective. Director Sick introduced Paul Zettler, Work-based Learning Coordinator at Grand Forks Career Impact Academy and Myah Robertson, a Senior at Red River High School, to report their experience to the Board.

Paul gave an overview of the process they use to select students and aligning them with employers as well as the benefits and challenges of engaging real-world learning environments. Myah shared the skills she has developed and how this experience has influenced her career interests and goals.

The presentation reinforced the value of WBL in preparing students for success after high school. Director Sick was asked to send Board members Career Ready Practices information as a refresher.

Student Outcome Goal:

Director Sick presented Student Outcome Goal 2, Goal Progress Measure 2.2 – Work-Based Learning Completion. Our annual target for 2024-25 was set at 45%. We achieved 44.46%, however; this is 2023-24 data which is the most recent reported. The 2024-25 data will not be available until January 2026. Next steps include the Department continuing to train educators on the WBL Module, Compass and creating/tracking WBL experiences. The Department is developing a shorter version of training for educators who will not manage a WBL program and exploring state standards for high-quality simulated experiences. Discussion was held on moving this item to May on the Monitoring Calendar due to the timing of available data.

Director Sick then reported Director Guardrail Progress Measures 3.1 – Individuals Completing WBL Training and 3.2 – Employed WBL Coordinators. Our annual target for 3.1 was 85 for 2025-26 and to date we have trained 108 individuals. New training sessions began in November and we anticipate 10-20 participants completing this training. The Department is also in the process of developing a WBL Coordinator mentorship program. Our target for 3.2 for 2025-26 was 20 and we currently have 20 employed across the state. Our next steps are to review and approve new WBL Coordinator Grant Applications, launch the mentorship program and determine requests for additional funding from the Legislature.

Eric Nelson moved to accept the Director's report on Student Outcome Goal 2 – GMP 2.2 and Director Guardrails 3.1 and 3.2 as presented and it was seconded by Mike McHugh. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Sick presented Student Outcome Goal 3 and revised Goal Progress Measures. This was revised after receiving feedback from CTE Directors. It was felt that looking at CTE enrollment numbers in general rather than concentrating on CTE Center enrollments is the data we should focus on. Director Sick will meet with SLDS to determine our numerators and denominators and bring proposed baseline numbers hopefully to the December meeting for acceptance.

Ad hoc Committee Updates:

Community Engagement Subcommittee is comprised of Chair Meehl, Jason Rohr, Mike McHugh, Former Superintendent Baesler along with trainer Laurie Elliott. Chair Meehl referenced the PowerPoint presentation developed by the Subcommittee that was included in the material packet and asked members for content feedback. After Subcommittee meets to discuss feedback, the presentation will go to the Department's PR Team for logo's, CTE colors and pictures depicting ND CTE students.

Lyndsi Engstrom reported that the Procedural Manual Subcommittee is made up of Mike McHugh, Jason Rohr and herself along with the assistance of Laurie Elliott. Sections 1.0 and 2.0 were included with the material packet for member's feedback. Following discussion, it was agreed that the subcommittee will incorporate feedback and continue its work.

Consent Agenda:

Mike McHugh moved to approve and accept the items listed on the consent agenda and it was seconded by Superintendent Bachmeier. The motion passed unanimously.

Items for Discussion and Possible Action:

Board Vision and Mission Discussion: After incorporating the responses received at the October meeting, Chair Meehl and Director Sick have included suggested changes in the material packet. If members have any alternative ideas, please submit them to Director Sick.

Information Only:

The October Board meeting time tracker was included in material packet for Member' records.

Board Comments:

Superintendent Bachmeier was congratulated on his new role and Members expressed gratitude for his dedicated service. Director Sick reported that applications close November 28 for the vacant position on our Board. Superintendent Bachmeier encouraged members to reach out within their networks and encourage qualified individuals to submit applications.

Chair Meehl anticipates that the December 22 meeting will be virtual only.

There being no other business brought before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:44 am.