

**Minutes for State Board for Career and Technical Education  
October 27, 2025 Meeting**

**Call to Order:**

The regular meeting of the State Board for Career and Technical Education was held on Monday, October 27, 2025, in Board Rooms 1 & 2 at the Hughes Educational Center and via Microsoft Teams. It was called to order by Chair Sonia Meehl at 10:00 am CT.

Voting members present include:

Board Member Levi Bachmeier (arrived at 10:45 am)  
Superintendent Kirsten Baesler (arrived at 11:26 am)  
Board Member Patrick Bertagnolli  
Board Member Lyndsi Engstrom  
Commissioner Brent Sanford  
Vice-Chair Mike McHugh  
Board Member Eric Nelson  
Board Member Jason Rohr

Also present: Wayde Sick, John Gruenberg, Gwen Ferderer, Laurie Elliott, Marcia McMahon, Mark Openshaw, Daniel Spellerberg, Pam Strokland, Kenzie Brown, Lyle Krueger, Becky Ulberg, Eric Ripley, Wayne Heckaman, Randal Brockman, Derrick Bopp, Aaron Anderson and Lorie Ruff.

Meeting chat information for this meeting does not exist.

**Outcome Progress Monitoring:**

Director Sick presented Student Outcome Goal 2, Goal Progress Measure 2.1 – Career Ready Practices Proficiency. Our annual target for 2024-25 was set at 35%. According to the reports we received, we achieved 48.91%. Currently Career Ready Practices are captured in PowerSchool and the Department will continue to work with DPI as they transition to Infinite Campus to ensure that data will continue to be captured. Also, due to the rewrite of Career Ready Practices, the Department will continue to train educators on the changes and how to further implement them into classroom instruction and Work-Based Learning. Due to the change in data collection and standards, Director Sick is hesitant to change the target number even though we have surpassed our goal.

Goal Progress Measure 2.3 – Technical Assessment/Industry Credential was presented next with Director Sick reporting that the target was 35% with us achieving 29.10%. We did not meet this measure. The Department is developing a process to approve industry credentials as it is currently educationally driven, not industry driven. With the new process in place, the department can then include additional credentials to our list. Discussion was held on reasons for the percentage drop such as covid, funding available and number of eligible students.

Eric Nelson moved to accept the reports as presented and it was seconded by Lyndsi Engstrom. The motion passed unanimously.

**Student Outcome Goal 3 Discussion:**

Director Sick reminded members that this goal previously referred to rural students. After the last Board meeting and discussions with Chair Meehl, Director Sick believes this is more of an access issue than a rural versus non-rural issue. Discussion was held on the changes that Director Sick is recommending. Director Sick will also review this with CTE Administrators during their meeting this week for their feedback and report back to the Board.

**Board Self Evaluation:**

Chair Meehl along with the assistance from our Trainers Laurie Elliott and Marcia McMahon, led the members through completing their Progress Tracker for the current quarter. This report totaled 57 for the current period with a projected 59 for next quarter.

Lyndsi Engstrom moved to approve the Progress Tracker as completed by Board Members and it was seconded by Mike McHugh. The motion passed unanimously.

**Ad hoc Committee Updates:**

Community Engagement Subcommittee consists of Chair Meehl, Jason Rohr, Superintendent Baesler and Mike McHugh along with Laurie Elliott. Chair Meehl reported that the subcommittee met in September and reviewed the powerpoint. Chair Meehl will meet with Laurie Elliott to review slides and get back to the members for their final feedback.

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. They have met a few times and have worked through three of the four sections within the manual. The Subcommittee will reconvene this Friday and anticipate having the procedural manual drafted for the full Board to review at their November meeting.

**Consent Agenda:**

Eric Nelson moved to approve and accept the items listed on the consent agenda and it was seconded by Levi Bachmeier. The motion passed unanimously.

**Items for Discussion and Possible Action:**

Chair Meehl requested that agenda items be moved around since Superintendent Baesler will not be present until after 11:00 and wanting her to be included on the Program Funding Policy discussion and vote.

Board Vision and Mission Discussion: Chair Meehl reported that one of the long-term goals of the Board was to rewrite the vision and mission statements. She has collaborated with Director Sick and developed a draft which was presented on page 37 of the revised material packet. Discussion was held on the information provided. Chair Meehl and Director Sick will take the feedback and revise this information for future review by this Board.

Local CTE Director Presentation: Lyle Krueger, Assistant Director of Central Regional Area Career & Technical Center (CRCTC) presented the virtual and hybrid programming overview of the center. His report included the background and early operations as well as the current statewide impact and future plans.

CTE Secondary Program Funding Policy: Chair Meehl reminded Members that during last month's meeting this item was tabled since Director Sick was informed that the Governor's office requested a meeting regarding the policy and we are bringing it back for final approval. Director Sick reported that the Governor supports the move towards an outcome-based funding policy and his agency is looking into other funding sources for our department. Director Sick then reviewed his recommendation that was included in the material packet.

Eric Nelson moved to approve the CTE Secondary Program Funding Policy as presented recognizing that there will be additional work by Director Sick on the program tiering system and it was seconded by Mike McHugh. Discussion was held on the program tiering system and aligning with our goals.

With no further discussion a roll call vote was administered:

Commissioner Sanford - Yes  
Vice-Chair Mike McHugh – Yes  
Board Member Eric Nelson – Yes  
Board Member Jason Rohr - Yes  
Board Member Levi Bachmeier – No  
Superintendent Baesler – Yes  
Board Member Pat Bertagnolli – Yes  
Board Member Lyndsi Engstrom - Yes  
Chair Sonia Meehl - Yes  
8-1-0 Absent

Elliott and McMahon Contract Extension: Chair Meehl referred to the items in the material packet and after discussion was held, consensus was for Board to defer this duty to Director Sick.

**Information Only:**

No items for discussion

**Board Comments Agenda:**

Lyndsi Engstrom stated that she submitted a report to the ND School Boards Association on our behalf.

Superintendent Baesler reported that this will be her last meeting with the Board as things are moving in DC. She expressed her gratitude for serving 13 years with this Board and the great work we have done for the students of North Dakota.

There being no other business brought before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:54 am.