



Career and Technical Education Committee
Maine State Board of Education
Minutes of the December 21, 2023 Meeting

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee held a meeting on Thursday, December 21, 2023, virtually via Zoom. The following were present: Committee Chair Edmond Morin, and Paulette Bonneau, Committee Member. Dwight Littlefield, State CTE Director (Department of Education); Shawn Lagasse, CTE Educational Specialist (Department of Education); Melissa Sherwood, Perkins Grant Manager; and Sandra Bourget, Office Specialist, State Board of Education.

Guests: Joan De Costa, Academic Program Coordinator, Maine Community College System; Amanda Peterson, Director, United Technology Center, and President of MACTE; Dave Keaton, MACTE Executive Director; Jason Judd, Executive Director of Educate Maine; and Researcher/Author, Rachel Mann.

I. Call to Order:

Edmond Morin, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM under the State Board's remote meeting policy.

II. Committee Chair Overview: (*Edmond Morin*)

Ed welcomed all members and guests to the meeting and reviewed the agenda.

Chair Morin asked regular participants if a 9:00 AM start time for CTE meetings would work with their schedule.

III. Adjustment to the Agenda: (*Edmond Morin*)

No Adjustments to the Agenda.

IV. Acceptance of Minutes:

MOTION by Paulette Bonneau, seconded by Edmond Morin and unanimously voted to accept the November 20, 2023, Meeting Minutes. The motion carried.

V. Public Comment:

No public comment.

VI. Standing Reports/Updates:

- Financial Reports
 - 1) **Perkins Fund Balances YTD (*Dwight Littlefield*)**
 - Dwight introduced Melissa Sherwood, Perkins Grant Manager. Melissa gave her background and stated she was happy to be here. Dwight and Melissa are meeting with folks to bring Melissa up to speed.
 - Focus is getting background and figuring out where things stand with the Reserve funds.
 - Perkins rewrite will begin in January. We will update the data targets and revisit the narratives. There will be some stakeholder outreach. The report is due in May.
 - Will be submitting a Consolidated Annual Report at the end of January. A large portion is the data update and where we are with hitting our targets.
 - 2) **Briggs Fund Balances YTD (*Dwight Littlefield*)**
 - No update
- Updates
 - 1) **State CTE Director's Update (*Dwight Littlefield*)**
 - Highest enrollment in the fall that we've ever seen, which is 10,012. We anticipate enrollment will continue to increase possibly by 100 or 200 by the spring. Largest growth has been in exploratory programs with freshman and sophomores.
 - Working on another round of MJRP equipment grants totaling a little over \$500,000.
 - Will have a \$20 million bond RFA focused on equipment, which allows for some infrastructure related to equipment.
 - Westbrook took great advantage of the Reserve funds, and they are very thankful for all this has allowed them to accomplish.
 - 2) **Community College Update (*Joan DeCosta*)**
 - Spent time in the fall on the data update for the Consolidated Annual Report.
 - Will be working with MDOE on levels of performance due in May.
 - 3) **MACTE Update (*Dave Keaton*)**
 - The CTE task force has concluded. There were four recommendations voted on at the final meeting. First was in support of L.D. 436, which was a unanimous vote. Second was in support of CTE center and regions to increase their capacity, which was unanimous. Third was to create a pilot project for a four-year comprehensive high school, which did not pass. Last was in support of creating opportunity for a third session for CTE centers and regions in the state and have it be part of the application process for new programs, which was also unanimous.
 - Amanda Peterson and Bobby Deetjen presented at the third task force session.
 - Amanda Peterson is doing a trial run of a third sessions now, which is running four days a week.
 - 4) **Reports From the Field Update (*Paulette Bonneau and Amanda Peterson*)**
 - United Technology Center is opening an education program in the fall and has partnered with a sending school in RSU 34 and post-secondary partners in the area. It may be held off campus, due to lack of space.
 - Amanda is getting ready for enrollment season, and she's hoping to add and collect more data. Last year, UTC had approximately 200 students that they didn't have room for, and they currently serve approximately 800 students in their building.
 - Amanda has a new electric vehicle program opening next fall and will be having a school program this year. A Switch car just arrived.
 - Biddeford Regional Center for Technology is gearing up for recruiting season as well.

5) Educate Maine Update (*Jason Judd*)

- Mercedes Pour received the recognition of Higher Education Professional of the Year from the Mitchell Institute.
- The Education Symposium had the largest attendee turn out in history, which was 520.
- St. George presented their K-12 integrated project at the Symposium. They were one of nine finalists of the YASS prize nationally, and they received an award of \$500,000.
- Launched a Teach Maine Center this year and are holding county forums with educators about teacher recruitment and retention. Policy implications have come up in those conversations. Information will be sent out on upcoming dates.
- A team will be going to the National Teacher Apprenticeship Conference.

Other Updates

- No additional updates

VII. Workshop:

No Workshop Session

VIII. Old Business:

No Old Business

IX. New Business:

Rachel Mann, Researcher and Author of the Report: *Innovation and Future Readiness, Career and Technical Education in the State of Maine, June 12, 2023*, presented her report of findings to the CTE Committee.

Handouts at Meeting: (copies in file)

- Agenda

Adjournment:

The December 21, 2023, CTE Committee meeting adjourned at 11:22 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Bourget
Office Specialist
Maine State Board of Education