



Career and Technical Education Committee
Maine State Board of Education
Minutes of the February 25, 2021 Meeting

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee held a virtual meeting on Thursday, February 25, 2021. The following were present: Committee Chair John Bird; Wendy Ault; Jana Lapoint; and Wilson Hess (Board Members). Dwight Littlefield, CTE Director; Donna Tiner, Perkins Grant Manager (Department of Education); and Mary Becker, Secretary Specialist, State Board of Education.

Guests: Peter Hallen, Director, Mid-Maine Technical Center; Rob Callahan, Director, Lewiston Regional Technical Center; Dave Keaton, Director, Region Two School of Applied Technology; Julie Kenny, Director, Bath Regional Technical Center; Joan DeCosta, Perkins Grant Coordinator, Maine Community College System; and Kate Leveille, Project Manager, Hart Consulting.

I. Call to Order:

John Bird called the meeting to order at 10:04 AM.

II. Committee Chair Overview: *John Bird*

Chair Bird welcomed all members and guests to the meeting and reviewed the agenda.

Jana Lapoint and Jane Sexton's terms on the Board have expired and new members have been appointed by Governor Mills. Wilson Hess is now a member of the CTE Committee.

III. Acceptance of Minutes:

MOTION by Wendy Ault, seconded by Wilson Hess, and unanimously voted by those present to accept the January 28, 2021 minutes as written.

IV. Standing Reports/Updates:

A. Financial Reports

1) *Perkins*

- i. No new report – regular order of business.
- ii. Donna Tiner presented the Perkins FY21 COVID Assistance Reserve Fund Grants Report.

2) *Briggs*

- i. No changes since the last Committee meeting.

B. Strategic Priorities

B. Board Approved Strategic Plan (2019) and Milestones:

Strategic Priorities

1. Direct a greater portion of CTE funds towards instruction and instructionally-related services
2. Increase experiences in grade 9-12 CTE program areas by 2023 with special emphasis on grade 9-10 concentrators.
3. Introduce and support CTE exploration programs to Maine's middle level students.
4. Better align and support secondary and post-secondary CTE offerings and programs.

Revision of plan details for 2020: Continue efforts to build a robust, high quality, and comprehensive educational offerings that lead towards careers:

- Greater percentage of funds to instruction
 - Increase experiences in Grade 9-12 CTE program areas as space and other constraints permit
 - Align secondary/post-secondary CTE credit awards
 - Develop MDOE/MCCS Memorandum of Understanding by November 2018 to coordinate with Perkins V transition review process
 - Continue Perkins redeployment to support Strategic Priorities
 - Through use of carry-over funds (December 2018)
 - As part of Perkins 2020 state funding plan (April 2019)
 - Continue to re-deploy Briggs Funds to support Strategic Priorities (January 2019)
 - Continue support for Middle School Implementation and funding (September 2019 Perkins carry-over funding)
 - Streamline CTE program approval process
1. In 2019, monitor implementation of ongoing reforms and emerging issues affecting the effectiveness of Maine's career and technical education programs.
 2. In 2019, with a new administration in the Blaine House convene a career and technical education summit(s), with a diverse group of stakeholders to include higher education to evaluate improvements to the delivery of programs in light of the emerging economic and educational environment of 2020.
 3. In 2020, work with the Maine Department of Education and other stakeholders to develop further policy and legislative recommendations to enhance the delivery of career and technical education programs in Maine.
 4. By the end of 2020, submit legislative and policy recommendations to the Department of Education and Maine Legislature for consideration during the legislative session.

Milestones Completed:

1. By August 2017, with the Maine Department of Education and other stakeholders to develop a position and recommendations, if any, regarding changes to the state funding of career and technical education programs, including:
 - a. Examination of past work on an “EPS for CTE” model,
 - b. Better targeting of Board administered endowment funds,
 - c. And redevelopment of the State’s Perkins grant program.
 - d. At the end of 2017, submit any legislation and policy recommendations to the Department of Education and Maine Legislature for consideration during the legislative session.
2. By September 2017 the Board will receive from its CTE Committee its vision for the Strategic Plan, its Strategic Priorities for its implementation, and its recommendations for action on CTE Funding.
3. By January 2018, the Board will receive recommendations from a review by its CTE Committee regarding the better targeting of Board-administered endowment funds (a.k.a. Briggs Endowment) on:
 - a. How a competitive, open-award process in future years can best achieve the donor’s intent and the Board’s CRE strategic priorities.
 - b. How these funds can be leveraged, consistent with the Board’s CTE strategic priorities and consistent with the donor’s intent.
 - c. How the award process can demonstrate the Board’s advocacy role for CTE.
 - d. What a reasonable award schedule might look like over a five-year period to achieve an appropriate balance between funds disbursed and funds retained.

This review should be completed by the end of the February 2018 with recommendations before the Board no later than the March 2018 meeting.

4. By January 2018, the Board will receive recommendations from a review by its CTE Committee on the redevelopment of Perkins funds FY 2019 extension to determine how to better achieve the Strategic Priorities.
5. By March 2018, the Board will receive recommendations from a review by its CTE Committee to determine if under the FY 2019 extension of the Perkins Grant program the distribution of Perkins funds between secondary and post-secondary (currently 50/50) is consistent with national trends, can be leveraged to achieve better alignment between secondary and post-secondary CTE programs, or can better achieve any of the strategic priorities.
6. By April 2018, the Board will receive the FY 2019 Perkins Grant application. ***Moved forward to full State Board***
7. In 2018, monitor implementation of any reforms, legislation, and emerging issues affecting the effectiveness of Maine’s Career and Technical Education programs, including (but not limited to): EPS Funding Level has been Endorsed by the Legislature
 - a. Double enrollment in CTE secondary programs by 2020
 - b. Introducing CTE instruction into Maine’s middle schools

Future Milestones:

8. In 2019, monitor implementation of ongoing reforms and emerging issues affecting the effectiveness of Maine’s Career and Technical Education programs.
9. In 2019, with a new administration in the Blaine House, convene a Career and Technical Education summit(s), with a diverse group of stakeholders to include higher education to evaluate improvements to the delivery of programs, in light of the emerging economic and educational environment of 2020.
10. In 2020, work with the Maine Department of Education and other stakeholders to develop further policy and legislative recommendations to enhance the delivery of Career and Technical Education programs in Maine.
11. By the end of 2020, submit legislative and policy recommendations to the Department of Education and Maine Legislature for consideration during the legislative session.

V. Featured Updates:

- 1) *Educate Maine/Hart Consulting evaluation of Perkins-funded CTE grants for Grades 9-10 pilot projects: final report – Kate Leveille*

Kate Leveille presented the final report on the evaluation of Perkins-funded CTE grants for Grades 9-10 grant recipients. In preparation, a final report was provided to the Committee prior to the meeting which included input provided to Pat Hart by the Committee.

One of the State Board of Education’s Strategic Plan goals is to increase experiences in grade 9 thru 12 CTE programs, with special emphasis on grades 9 and 10. A pilot program was developed, and funding was awarded in the fall of 2019 to nine schools. The report concluded that the pilot program had been a success overall. When the opportunity presents itself, the CTE schools would like to continue with this initiative. The initiative was halted for this year as there were other, more urgent financial needs related to COVID-related equipment and supplies.

- 2) *Maine Administrators of Career and Technical Education (MACTE) year-end report for the 2019-20 grant – Rob Callahan and Dave Keaton*

MACTE was awarded a Briggs Grant for the 2019-2020 school year (July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020). Due to COVID-19, the grant was extended through December 31, 2020.

Rob Callahan presented the year-end report. About \$20,000.00 of the \$30,000.00 Briggs Grant has been spent. Rob highlighted details of the final written report.

Programs had to be done a little differently due to COVID-19. The report noted that the Fall Conclave was one of the best. The Committee wants the funds that MACTE expends from the Briggs money to help advance the four priorities of the Board’s CTE Strategic Plan. This report reflected important progress in each of those areas.

The Committee had much discussion on the details of the report and agreed to extend the granted amount through June 30.

The Committee posed several questions to Rob Callahan about the MACTE Year End Briggs Grant Report. In particular more details are requested about the Director's Summer Conclave and its expenses; an agenda from the National ACTE Conference; a better understanding of the increase in numbers of middle school, 9th and 10th graders being exposed to CTE programs.

Rob stated that he will provide an addendum to the report to John Bird with answers to the questions.

VI. Workshop:

Potential CTE-related legislative initiatives pending in the current legislative session: what are the CTE community's priorities?

Wilson Hess gave a brief summary of seven CTE-related bills that have titles but have not been assigned an LD. There are four bills that have been assigned an LD. There have been no public hearings scheduled for the following LDs:

- LD 144 - An Act To Fund Capital Improvements to Career and Technical Education Centers and Regions To Bolster Maine's Future Workforce
- LD 298 - An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund Capital Improvements and Equipment for Career and Technical Education Centers and Regions To Prepare Students To Join Maine's Workforce
- LD 313 - An Act To Advance Career and Technical Education Opportunities in Maine
- LD 516 - Resolve, Directing the Department of Education to Review Career and Technical Education Courses and Provide Guidance on High School Credit Equivalencies

The Committee held a discussion on the eleven bills and received input from CTE Directors.

Chapter 115 Update – Wendy Ault

Wendy Ault, Chair of the Certification and Higher Education Committee updated the Committee on the proposed Chapter 115 revisions. At the February 24 Certification and Higher Education Committee meeting, there was conversation on the language of the CTE section of Chapter 115. There was also discussion of CTE programs (endorsements) listed in the rule.

VII. Other Updates

John Bird spoke about his many years working with Jana Lapoint on the State Board of Education and the Charter School Commission. Jana Lapoint's term is ending on the State Board and the Charter School Commission. John has much love and admiration for Jana Lapoint and expressed the joy of working with her, noting that she will be greatly missed.

Handouts at Meeting (copies in file)

- Agenda
- Draft minutes of the January 28, 2021 committee meeting
- Perkins FY21 COVID Assistance Reserve Fund Grants
- Evaluation of the 9th and 10th Grade Career and Technical Education Pilot Program Draft for Client Review – January 12, 2021 – Prepared by Hart Consulting
- Maine Administrators of Career and Technical Education (MACTE) Year End Briggs Grant report

The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 25, 2021 at 10:00 AM, by Zoom again. More details to follow.

The February 25, 2021 CTE Committee meeting adjourned at 11:59 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Johnson Becker
Secretary Specialist,
Maine State Board of Education