



Career and Technical Education Committee

Maine State Board of Education
Minutes of the July 22, 2021 Meeting

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee held a virtual meeting on Thursday, July 22, 2021. The following were present: Committee Chair Wilson Hess; Wendy Ault; Paulette Bonneau; and Fern Desjardins (Board Members). Dwight Littlefield, CTE Director; Donna Tiner, Perkins Grant Manager (Department of Education); and Mary Becker, Secretary Specialist, State Board of Education.

Guests: Julie Kenny, Director, Bath Regional Technical Center; Bobby Deetjen, Director of Mid-Coast School of Technology; Joan DeCosta, Perkins Grant Coordinator, Maine Community College System; and Jason Judd, Executive Director, Educate Maine.

I. Call to Order:

Wilson Hess called the meeting to order at 10:06 AM.

II. Committee Chair Overview: *Wilson Hess*

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

Wilson reminded members and guests that the meeting is being held remotely. At the end of July, the Board's ability to conduct meetings remotely under statute expires. The State Board has not yet adopted a remote meeting policy. In August the Committee will be meeting in-person at the Cross State Office Building in Augusta.

III. Acceptance of Minutes:

MOTION by Wendy Ault, seconded by Paulette Bonneau, and unanimously voted by those present to accept the May 27, 2021 minutes as written.

MOTION by Paulette Bonneau, seconded by Wendy Ault, and unanimously voted by those present to accept the June 24, 2021 minutes as written.

IV. Public Comment:

No public comment.

V. Standing Reports/Updates:

A. Financial Reports

1) Perkins Fund Balances YTD

- Donna Tiner shared a screen shot of the Perkins fourth quarter report for Perkins FY21 which covers the period of April 1 through June 30. It includes all expenditures for FY21 through the grant year up until June 30. Schools will have until the end of September to spend out the remaining funds they have available. Schools will have until the end of October to submit for all invoices for FY21. Donna will not have the final remaining totals until the end of November for the FY21. This will increase what is available for the Board to decide how to expend out to the field from the reserve funds. The COVID reserve grant expenditures are slowly coming in. There is just over \$180,000.00 left.
- Donna Tiner reported that she has been working with Jason Judd on the Educate Maine Contract. She has submitted the contract into the State of Maine Fiscal system. The process needs to be approved by members of DOE, then goes to the Controllers Office, then on to the Financial Office for approval. The contract is a sole source. The contract is posted so people can appeal. The justification for the contract with Educate Maine is the continuation of work that they have been providing to the SBE over the last several years. Donna does not expect to receive any appeals. The process requirement is to give them six weeks to approve. Once the contract is approved by the DOE, it will go to Jason Judd for his signature before going to the controller's office. The contract states it is to begin September 1, 2021.

2) Briggs Fund Balances YTD

- The grant year runs from July 1 to June 30. Donna reported that a check for \$2,517.94 was received in July. Disbursements are usually received in July and January. An additional check might be received in August. There were no grants for FY21 due to COVID. A balance of a little over \$180,000.00 is in the account. Donna briefed members and guests on the Briggs Funds. Wilson Hess reported that Dave Keaton has reached out to him regarding a Briggs Grant for MACTE. The Committee will receive a proposal from MACTE in September.

B. Updates

1) State CTE Director's Update (*Dwight Littlefield*)

- His team is implementing a new grant system with the Perkins Applications. Donna Tiner has been leading that charge and doing an outstanding job rolling that out. The Directors have also embraced it and it has turned around quickly.
- His team will be participating in the MACTE conclave next week. Focusing on updates on LD 313, Perkins update, comprehensive needs assessment, and new program updates
- LD 313 – Dwight has pulled together a stakeholder group that has been talking and brainstorming. 80% there on commitments from people. The

Commissioner's Office is looking into bringing in a facilitator to help with the group.

- LD 1733 – ARP twenty million dollars – the Governor signed but it was not a two-thirds vote so funds will not be available until the first of November. Dwight has pulled together a DOE group to figure out how to allocate the funds. A survey will be going out to Directors for input.
- The Portland Press Herald will be putting out a story on middle schools. They visited Brunswick schools.
- There are a couple of new directors – one in Houlton with the transition of Dave Keaton to MACTE. Amy London is the new director in Houlton, and one in Bangor as Greg Miller has retired. Amanda Peterson is the new director in Bangor. Amanda is a former CTE Teacher of the Year. There is an interim director at Waldo, Bonnie Kein.
- There are 27 CTE Schools with 26 directors as Caribou and Presque Isle share a director. Of the 26, 10 have three years and under of experience.

2) Educate Maine Update (*Jason Judd*)

- Jason Judd reported that he has been working with Dave Keaton and the planning committee for a Fall Conference in October.
- He has been working with Donna Tiner on the Educate Maine/State Board of Education contract. As soon as the contract is official, he will get started with programs.
- He will be attending the MACTE Conclave on Monday in Bangor.

3) MACTE Update – Conclave (*Julie Kenny*)

- Julie Kenny reported that MACTE's conclave has a focus on new innovations and to look at the economy and business aspects. To address changes over the past few years with business and industry. The conclave on Monday will be a session of learning from other people. Senators and other Legislative people will be in attendance. Greg Miller, Amanda Peterson and Dave Keaton have worked hard on this event.

4) Feedback from the Field

- APR ESSER Funding
- Summer Programming
- Start-Up Status
 - Paulette Bonneau reported that they are still waiting for recommendations from the CDC and DOE on fall start-up with COVID still lingering. There is no direction yet. There is a meeting next week with CDC and Superintendents and hopefully some guidance will come from that meeting.
 - Julie Kenny reported that her school board has approved recommending masks for unvaccinated students but not mandating them. Her school district will be doing pool testing. There will be no social distancing. The CDC still requires masks on school buses (public transportation). There will be full classrooms allowed.

5) Community College Update (*Joan DeCosta*)

- As Dwight Littlefield mentioned, Governor Mills signed LD 1733 that allocated 35 million dollars for Maine's Community Colleges. It is a one-time federal funding and is being used to support workforce development to meet Maine's needs in targeted industries. It is aligned with the State's ten-year economic

development strategy. It is being used for short term training for about 8500 Mainers. Of that amount almost half will be for additional healthcare workers, which this State needs. The other fields that will also benefit is the green economy which will include heat pump installation technicians, manufacturing, education computer techs, and the trades.

- Another update is are around progress to better align and support secondary and post-secondary CTE programs. The model that they are trying to move towards is two years in CTE will equal a one-year certificate. UTC has three to four certificates with EMCC. They are hoping to develop more certificates.
- Working on increasing implementing pathways at their level. Always a focus on pathways. Trying to look at from the student's perspective. Part of the work is to introduce students to programs early – like middle school.

6) Other Updates

- No additional updates

VI. Workshop:

A. Strategic Plan Review and Retreat Prep

- The State Board of Education is in the process of developing a new five-year strategic plan.
- Wilson Hess distributed Goal #1: Strengthen Career and Technical Education three-page handout from the 2016-2021 SBE Strategic Plan.
- The four strategic priorities will remain.
 1. Direct a greater portion of CTE funds towards instruction and instructionally related services
 2. Increase experiences in grades 9-12 CTE program areas by 2023, with special emphasis on grades 9-10 concentrators
 3. Support the continued development of middle school CTE programming
 4. Better align secondary and post-secondary CTE offerings and programs
- Milestones – The Maine State Board of Education shall pursue this goal through the following milestones:
 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
 - examination of past work on an “EPS for CTE” model,
 - better targeting of Board administered endowment funds,
 - and redevelopment of the State’s Perkins grant program.
 - By 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 (a.k.a, Briggs Endowment) on:

- How a competitive, open-award process in future years can best achieve the donor's intent and the Board's CTE strategic priorities.
- How these funds can be leveraged, consistent with the Board's CTE strategic priorities and consistent with the donor's intent.
- How the award process can demonstrate the Board's advocacy role for CTE.
- What a reasonable award schedule might look like over a five-year period to achieve an appropriate balance between funds disbursed & 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 redeployment of Perkins funds FY 2019 extension to determine how to better achieve the Strategic Priorities and,
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.
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 being limited to):
 - doubling enrollment in CTE secondary programs by 2020
 - introducing CTE instruction into Maine's middle schools
8. In 2019, monitor implementation of ongoing reforms and emerging issues affecting the effectiveness of Maine's career and technical education programs.
 - a) Continue Emphasis on CTE Strategic Priorities
 - b) Develop Transition Plan for Strengthening Career & Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V)
 - c) Study Workforce Needs Data
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.
 - a) Develop a Statewide CTE Plan
10. In 2020, File Transition Plan for Strengthening Career & Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V) including SBE priorities.
11. 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.
12. By the Dec. 2020, submit legislative and policy recommendations to the Department of Education and Maine Legislature for consideration during the 130th Legislature's 1st legislative session. **[Monitored only]**
13. During 130th Legislature support increased bond funding for CTE equipment.

14. By Dec. 2021 Acquire and study workforce needs data.

VII. Old Business:

No Old Business to consider.

VIII. New Business:

Fourth Quarter Report for Perkins FY21

MOTION by Paulette Bonneau, seconded by Wendy Ault, and unanimously voted by those present to recommend the State Board of Education approve the Quarterly report for the period of April 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021, of the State of Maine Plan for the Strengthening Career and Technical Education For The 21st Century Act (P. L. 115-224) at the August 11, 2021 meeting.

Handouts at Meeting: (copies in file)

- Agenda
- Draft Minutes of the May 27 and the June 24, 2021 Committee Meetings
- Exhibit – Approval of the Quarterly Report of the Maine Carl D. Perkins Grant
- Perkins report for period ending June 30, 2021
- Report for the George Briggs funds – Grant cycle is July 1 to June 30
- Information on George Briggs Funds
- Copy of George Millett Briggs Last Will and Testament
- State Board of Education Strategic Plan – Goal #1: Strengthen Career and Technical Education
- Perkins Grant Award Notification – Approved State Plan

The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 26, 2021 at 10:00 AM.

Adjournment:

The July 22, 2021, CTE Committee meeting adjourned at 11:47 AM.

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