



Career and Technical Education Committee

Maine State Board of Education

Meeting Minutes for July 24, 2025

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee held a meeting on July 24, 2025, virtually via Zoom. The following were present: Committee Chair Edmond Morin, Wendy Ault Committee Member, Paulette Bonneau Committee Member, Erica Tompkins State Board Office Specialist, Dwight Littlefield, State CTE Director (Department of Education), Shawn Legasse, CTE Data/Program Approval Manager (Department of Education)

Guests: Mercedes Pour, Director of College Access and Secondary Partnerships (Maine Community College System), Bill Tracy, President of MACTE; Bobby Deetjen, Director, Mid-Coast School of Technology

I. Call to Order: Edmond Morin, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:08 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.

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

IV. Acceptance of Minutes: Motion by Wendy Ault and seconded by Ed Morin to accept the minutes of 6/26/2025 with discussion. With minor adjustments, Erica took roll call vote, and it was unanimous to accept the minutes as amended.

V. Public Comment: No public comment.

VI. Standing Reports/Updates:

A: Financial Reports

Briggs Trust/Perkins V: CTE Director Dwight Littlefield reported that the CTE Committee received the 4th quarter report along with the draft exhibits for the Perkins Funds prepared for the State Board of Education after the vote by the CTE Committee. There are no updates to the Briggs fund. No impact from the federal funding distributions is noted at this time.

B: Updates

1) State Director's Update: CTE Director Dwight Littlefield informed the committee that there has been a shift in funds distribution from the DOE to the DOL. He stated that Perkins funds through the DOE as it is Career and Technical Education not just work force development. Most states flow their funds through DOE not DOL. There are concerns with this change.

Mercedes reported that this is now with the council. They have concerns about the impact this will have on the schools and students.

Dwight reported that the Perkins applications are being reviewed behind schedule. Directors have been great and stepped up at turning them around, so internal deadlines are being met. Dwight stated that he participated in a successful MACTE conclave. A new director's training in cooperation with Safety Works will be held August 7th. In the past, a few schools participated in the Shape Program. After a hiatus, due to COVID, it will begin again.

2) Community College Update: (Mercedes Pour): Mercedes reported that Joan will be retiring soon. She stated that they don't collect that information on high school students because they're high school students.

3) MACTE Director's Update: (Bill Tracy): MACTE President Bill Tracy reported that HCTC just concluded up their middle school summer camp, which ran from 9 to 3 for 5 days and was a huge success. This wouldn't be possible without MELMAC and CTE Middle School Grant funds. HCTC hosted 3 days of leadership team meetings here within our entire district and began planning for next year.

4) Reports from the Field:

- a) Bobby Deetjen, Director at Mid-Coast School of Technology, reported that their summer camp, focused on design, was held in July, they are also really excited about the Conclave next week and he is looking forward to attending.
- b) Paulette Bonneau, Director at Biddeford Center of Technology, reported that she is in the middle of filling positions and there is one that if she doesn't have someone by September, then the program will have to close for this year.

VII. Old Business – Ed brought up the discussion about the Perkins Reserve Funds and what they might be used for that was talked about in the last meeting. He stated that the Reference guide covering secondary title 1 grants local funds indicates Perkins money may not cover courses, fees, or materials required for Maine DOE teaching endorsements and certification. Amanda polled Maine CTE directors to see how many used funds in this way and 5 responded in the affirmative. With dollar amounts ranging from 1,500 to \$9,000. Dwight and Melissa were looking to see if the Perkins Reserve funds could be used and it could be done in a way to reach

out to those specific schools or to do what the Committee has done before and divide it up amongst all 27 CTE's and add in the language about equipment and supplies.

Ed moved that the State Board of Education Career and Technical Education Committee approve and send on to the full State Board of Education for its approval. Dividing fiscal year 2026 Maine, Carl D. Perkins targeted Secondary Reserve Grant funds equally between the 27 eligible secondary CTE's in Maine to be used for new equipment technology program supplies and or professional development. Paulette seconded the motion. Erica took a roll call vote and the motion was approved unanimously.

VIII. New Business:

Ed stated that the CTE Committee is being asked to approve and send on to the Full Board State Board of Education for its approval. The Quarterly report of the main. Carl D. Perkins grant, for the period of April 1st 2025, through June 30th, 2025, as authorized under the strengthening career and technical education for the 21st century Act Pl. 115224. Paulette seconded the motion. Erica took a roll call vote 2 members (Ed and Paulette) voted yes and 1 member (Wendy) abstained as she did not have the report, the motion was adopted.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:59 A.M.

The next meeting will be held August 28, 2025.