



**Career and Technical Education Committee
Maine State Board of Education
Minutes of June 25, 2026 Meeting**

Meeting 10:02 AM – 10:55 AM

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee held a meeting on Thursday, June 25, 2026 virtually via Zoom. The following were present: Committee Chair Edmond Morin, Committee Member Paulette Bonneau, along with Craig Flowers, Office Specialist II.

Committee Member Wendy Ault is absent and unable to attend.

Guests: Dwight Littlefield, State Director for CTE, MDOE; Melissa Sherwood, Perkins Grant Manager, Kevin Lavoie, Director, St. John Valley Technical Center; Amanda Peterson, Director, United Technologies Center, Shawn Lagasse, CTE Data/Program Approval Manager, MDOE.

I. Call to Order: (*Chair Ed Morin*) Ed called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM under the State Board's remote meeting policy (all votes by roll call).

II. Committee Chair Overview (*Edmond Morin*) Ed welcomed everyone to the meeting.

III. Adjustments to the Agenda: (*Edmond Morin*) Ed added under new business consideration of Perkins V Reserve Fund Distribution.

IV. Acceptance of Minutes: Motion made by Paulette Bonneau and seconded by Edmond Morin to accept the minutes of April 30, 2026. Motion made by Paulette Bonneau and seconded by Edmond Morin to accept the minutes of May 28th 2026. Voting was unanimous in favor of accepting the April 30, 2026 and May 28th 2026 minutes.

V. Public Comment: No Public Comment

VI. Standing Reports/Updates:

1) Briggs Update: (*Melissa Sherwood*): Melissa reported the end-of-May Briggs trust account sits at around \$263,328, with the fourth quarter financial report to be available in July and would cover the end of June. She further stated the financial reports for both Briggs and Perkins would be available by the next meeting.

2) Perkins V Update: (*Melissa Sherwood*): Schools have been completing their applications and formalizing their budgets in the midst of Perkins FY27. The CTE team is reviewing the applications and will provide feedback by July 1st while also coordinating with the community college system. Final budget revisions are being processed and are due by June 30th to ensure the schools are locked in with their expected spending. Additionally, the state grant is being prepared at 2 million dollars towards equipment, non-consumable supplies and technology as intended to meet program standards. Melissa emphasized that this is state-budget derived, and that the specific formula for utilization of the state grant as being 50% based on the type of school program, which favors more hard trades.

Dwight Littlefield stated that, in addition to the \$2 million set aside for secondary CTE, the Department of Education's budget also provides \$500,000 for middle school CTE, with \$100,000 for the Early Childhood Education Expansion Program that is not yet implemented. Dwight also outlined plans for a CAST-led Universal Design Learning training initiative, which will use a train-the-trainer model starting in October

B. Updates

1) State Director's Update (*Dwight Littlefield*): Dwight provided updates: 10-12 Perkins applications received so far which are being processed to ensure the directors receive funds in July. Dwight also noted the end-of-year reports as being the main focus for him and his team. There was further discussion about CAST training implementation for universal design learning, and the \$2 million industry standards equipment grant distributed to 27 CTE programs based on enrollment and program type.

2) MACTE President's Update: Sitting in for MACTE President Bill Tracy, Kevin Lavoie provided a reminder of the **MACTE** summit on July 19th, 20th and 21st. He says business stakeholders are being invited in an effort to create and strengthen a regional and state-wide relationship. Amanda Peterson concurred.

3). Reports from the Field:

Amanda Peterson, UTC: Amanda stated that the Maine Citizen Assembly was held the previous week and was both conducted and hosted through MEPRI. She reports that the delegates are working on education initiatives and related items deemed important with an eye towards providing information to the incoming Governor

this January. Amanda noted ongoing construction, noting floor construction within the medical wing, as well as exterior construction. Amanda cited the construction as a welcome upgrade.

Kevin Lavoie, SJVTC: Kevin noted pre-engineering being introduced in the fall. Kevin also spoke of collaborations with the Maine BOT-loft. He says he has an instructor participating, and his instructor participating in the middle-school BOT-loft this summer to be prepared for the middle school population and high school pre-engineering component. Kevin reported that they are looking for new staff in the areas of business, academics and welding and that interviews should soon begin. CDL and electrical will be returning in the fall. Alternative learning from three sending schools would be housed in SJVTC with renovations undertaken for that purpose.

VII. New Business: Consideration of distribution of secondary Perkins review funds

Paulette Bonneau made the motion; seconded by Ed Morin to recommend that the State Board of Education approve dividing the \$400,806 in Perkins Reserve Secondary Funds, equally among the CTEs in Maine for new equipment, supplies and professional development.

VIII. Old Business: None

This meeting was adjourned at 10:55 AM