



Career and Technical Education Committee
Maine State Board of Education
Minutes of the November 19, 2024 Meeting

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee held a meeting on Tuesday November 19, 2024 virtually via Zoom. The following were present: Committee Chair Edmond Morin, Wendy Ault, Committee Member, Paulette Bonneau, Committee Member, Dwight Littlefield, State CTE Director (Department of Education), and Melissa Sherwood, CTE Perkins Grant Manager (Department of Education).

Guests: Amanda Peterson, Director, United Technology Center, and President of MACTE; Dave Keaton, Executive Director of MACTE; Joan DeCosta, Academic Program Coordinator, Maine Community College System; Jason Judd, Executive Director, Educate Maine; Kate Howell, Director of Workforce Partnerships, Educate Maine; and Bobby Deetjen, Director, Mid-Coast School of Technology

- I. **Call to Order:** Edmond Morin, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:10 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*) No Adjustments to the Agenda.
- IV. **Acceptance of Minutes:** Motion by Wendy Ault to accept minutes, seconded by Paulette Bonneau. Motion to accept minutes passed unanimously.
- V. **Public Comment:** No public comment.
- VI. **Standing Reports/Updates:**
 - A. Financial Reports
 - 1) Perkins Fund Balances YTD (*Dwight Littlefield*): No report
 - 2) Briggs Fund Balances YTD (*Dwight Littlefield*): No report.

B. Updates

1) State Director's Update: (Dwight Littlefield): Dwight reported that \$2.7 million of MJRP funding is available for equipment purchases. Schools are in the process of filling out applications. Dwight and Jason will be meeting with the Southern Maine Regional Advisory group, made up of business leaders and CTE Directors. Dwight said school reviews will begin in a few weeks. Dexter Schools will be first in December.

2) Community College Update: (Joan DeCosta): The Community Colleges are switching to a new student information and financial system. They are optimistic it will better track students and coordinate with advising once implemented.

3) MACTE Director's Update: (Dave Keaton): Dave reported that one of the initiatives they are following is the Ratio Bill. They are seeking State Tax exemption. They are gearing up for the Legislative Session. The Social Security Fairness Act, in Congress currently, has made it through the House and is headed to the Senate. This is the furthest it has ever gotten. If this bill passes, it could provide an incentive to industry professionals to become CTE instructors.

C. Reports from the Field

1) President of MACTE, Director of United Technology Center: (Amanda Peterson): Amanda reported that MACTE recently met at BIW and had a roundtable discussion with their leadership, representatives from the University, and the Maine Defense Alliance, about how to support their needs and be better partners with the schools. Curriculum alignment has taken place in many schools. Recruiting season begins at the end of December.

2) Director of Mid-Coast School of Technology: (Bobby Deetjen): Bobby reported that they hosted the Pen Bay Chamber last week, which included Patrick Woodcock and Amanda Rector. He is interested in having Amanda speak to the larger group about upcoming workforce challenges when it comes to our workforce, and more collaboration between business and education.

3) Educate Maine: (Jason Judd/Kate Howell): Jason reported that they have discussed the Social Security Fairness Act, and they are working with the congressional delegation. They have been in touch with Senator King's staff. Kate reported that she served as moderator on a career panel at Bath CTE for Seniors as a part of a career exploration day. Additional funding was received from Maine DOL to support expansion of pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship for women in construction over the next two years. The Inaugural Apprenticeship Summit with the Maine DOL was held yesterday.

VII. Old Business – Nothing was discussed

VIII. New Business: No new business

This meeting was adjourned at 10:39 AM

DRAFT