



Career and Technical Education Committee
Maine State Board of Education
Minutes of the June 27, 2024 Meeting

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee held a meeting on Thursday, June 27, 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), Melissa Sherwood, CTE Perkins Grant Manager (Department of Education) and Shawn Legasse, Office of Workforce Development & Innovative Pathways (Department of Education)

Guests: Amanda Peterson, Director, United Technology Center, and President of MACTE; Bobby Deetjen, Director, Mid-Coast School of Technology, and Kevin Lavoie, Director of St. John Valley Technology Center; Dave Keaton, Executive Director of MACTE; Tim Gagnon, CTE Director in Bath; Adam Provost, Consultant and Web Designer; Ida Batista, Public School Finance Manager Department of Education); Mercedes Pour, Director of College Access and Secondary Partnerships Maine's Community College Foundation

I. Call to Order: Edmond Morin, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:03 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, as amended; 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): He hasn't gotten anything new since the last meeting when they presented the quarterly reports.

2) Briggs Fund Balances YTD (Dwight Littlefield): There have been no changes with Briggs since the last meeting. There is about \$180,000 sitting in there. One thing to note with Briggs is that MACTE did not utilize all their grant, that piece may actually go up. They will report back at the next meeting.

B. Updates

1) State Director's Update: (Dwight Littlefield): They have been sending out Perkins applications. The directors are in the process of filling those out. They will go through an approval process, and then they can start utilizing those funds. They are wrapping up the year and looking at where their numbers are in overall enrollment. This year was their highest enrollment ever at 10,164 students overall.

2) Community College Update: (Mercedes Pour): There will be a major announcement about short-term workforce training to see if there are any students that they can help. They have a grant funded by the Davis Foundation. The kids in CTE are often coming out with certifications that are beyond what you would earn in a short-term workforce offering. They embedded advisors into four CTE's that were very urban. Of these four colleges, two were around Southern Maine Community College and two were around Central Maine Community College. They are working on finalizing Perkins. Colleges have been trying to get all the grants squared away for both this past year, and then getting ready for the coming year.

3) MACTE Director's Update: (Dave Keaton): Assisted in hosting the NCLA, the National Directors of CTE retreat that was in Portland. Dave and Bobby visited Back Cove Yachts in Rockland Industrial Park and Hudson Yachts. They have several students that will go and work for Back Cove in several different departments. The summer conclave will be up in Caribou. The conclave will give other directors a chance, especially those that are south of Bangor, that have never been up to Aroostook County to see some of the other centers and see where some of their counterparts work and operate out of. They are also planning for the Fall Maine Statewide CTE conference, which will be Friday October 11, 2024. There have already been four planning meetings for the conference, and they are encouraged by the involvement that they have. There were over 450 people who attended the conference last year, and they are expecting more this year.

4) Reports from the Field: (Amanda Peterson): MACTE President Amanda Peterson, who is also the Director of The United Technology Center, the CTE in Bangor, said they are wrapping end of the year things up. They are supporting students in Skills USA down in Atlanta, GA this week. The students did not place in the top 10 but it is always interesting to see them go through the process. They are still moving ahead with CTE exploratory programs in this region. They will have all seven of their sending schools on board by this next fall. They are hiring a big group this fall with nine current new instructors. They are having issues with certification, and it might be good to bring in Tom Keller and let him know how difficult it is.

CTE schools are being asked to be innovative and progressive to respond to what the community and industry needs are.

Bobby Deetjen – They have just about everything wrapped up with Perkins and everything is looking good for next year. They just hired a special education teacher that is specific for CTE. Unfortunately, they had to pull her from her program, which means they will now need to hire for that position.

Kevin LaVoie – Wrapping up the school year. Bringing in five new instructors for this next year and adding two new programs. Enrollment and preliminary look good for next year, a 16% increase from last year, which brings the total to 128 being a small CTE center. They are finishing up the Perkins grant. It was a good year, and they are looking forward to next year.

6) Other Updates: No Updates.

VII. Workshop – Presentation on State Funding (Ida Batista): Ida Batista presented on the new funding formula which is a cost-based model, meaning that it looks at the cost of the number and types of programs that are offered, and the enrollment counts within the CTE. The change in the model was to address certain challenges like the prior model being expenditure driven so there was a two-year lag. This model is used to distribute funds based on adequate resources to achieve learning standards.

VIII. Old Business – Amanda Peterson presented the survey results from Maine CTE Directors on how best to use Perkins reserve funds. The survey was conducted to get some ideas on what the biggest need is and there were a few identified areas:

1. The purchase of new equipment. Technology was tied in with program supplies. Directors had voted those as some of their biggest needs.
2. Professional development and curriculum development for instructors. Several of our schools are seeing a lot of new CTE instructors.
3. Marketing and recruitment efforts to maintain. There are smaller schools struggling with enrollments in some of their program areas. Other schools may not struggle with the enrollment side of things, but just sort of maintaining that. Directors unanimously voted 2 program areas, equipment, and supplies.

IX. New Business – No new business.

This meeting was adjourned at 12:32 PM