



**Career and Technical Education Committee**  
Maine State Board of Education  
Minutes of May 5, 2025, Meeting

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee held a meeting on May 5, 2025, virtually via Zoom. The following were present: Committee Chair Edmond Morin, Wendy Ault, Committee Member, Paulette Bonneau, Committee Member, Melissa Sherwood, CTE Perkins Grant Manager (Department of Education), Shawn Legasse, CTE Data/Program Approval 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), Mercedes Pour, Director of College Access and Secondary Partnerships (Maine Community College System), Bobby Deetjen, Director, Mid-Coast School of Technology, Kate Howell, Director of Workforce Partnerships (Educate Maine), Kevin Lavoie, Director, St. John Valley Technology Center

**I. Call to Order:** Edmond Morin, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:02 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. Committee Member Paulette Bonneau talked about the success of the CTE Student of the Year celebration and noted that all recipients received \$1000.00 Scholarships courtesy of Moody's Collision Centers and Sean Moody.

**III. Adjustment to the Agenda:** (*Edmond Morin*) No Adjustments to the Agenda.

**IV. Acceptance of Minutes:** Motion by Wendy and seconded by Paulette to accept the minutes of 03/27/2025. The motion was passed unanimously,

**V. Public Comment:** No public comment.

**VI. Standing Reports/Updates:**

A. Financial Reports

- 1) **Briggs Trust/Perkins V** (*Melissa Sherwood*): The CTE Committee approved and sent on to the full board for consideration the Third Quarter Perkins report for FY '25. The report shows allocations and expenditures for FY 25, FY 24, and FY 23, with FY 23 closed out. This year DOE will get its Perkins estimate from the Federal government later than usual, which means the application deadline for schools will be adjusted to align with post-secondary timelines. This could also have an impact on

the Community College System. Following some questions from Joan DeCosta, she and Melissa said they'd work together to try and deal with some of these concerns. Melissa says the Briggs Trust usable balance is around \$252,000.

Sean Legasse from DOE heard about the executive order signed by the President focusing on reviewing federal workforce development programs, expanding apprenticeship opportunities, and integrating AI-related activities. This could have some impact on CTE's

**2) Community College Update:** (Mercedes Pour and Joan DeCosta): Mercedes reports that The Community College System is in the final process of signing a memorandum of understanding with the Maine Department of Education and the University of Maine System concerning the state funded aspirations program, which supports the bulk of dual and concurrent enrollment activity in the state of Maine. The MOU sets up a calendar expectation for reporting outcomes and supports student eligibility for dual and concurrent enrollment.

**3)MACTE Director's Update:** (*Dave Keaton*): Dave reported on the success of the Student of the Year Gala was. He noted it was the first time it had been held at EMCC in Bangor and how wonderful the staff at EMCC was. He also commented on the generosity of Sean Moody and Moody Collision Centers in providing \$1000.00 scholarships to each Student of the Year recipient. Dave said that three new CTE Directors were coming on board: Galen Dalrymple in Farmington, Joe Greaves in Presque Isle, and Gloria Noyes in Westbrook. Dave also said CTE Directors were also testifying on the 2 CTE bills: LD972: An Act to Change the Entity Responsible for Operating the Career and Technical Education Center in Machias to Regional School Unit 37 and LD 1764, which would allow smaller schools to hire teachers fulltime with fewer students in each program.

**4)Reports from the Field:** UTC Director Amanda Peterson announced that they recently inducted 118 students into the National Technical Honor Society. They also had 30 students participating in Eastern Maine Community College's graduation. 15 receiving their associates degrees, and the other 15 receiving a Certificate in Business.

Mid-Coast Center of Technology Director Bobby Deetjen says they are going through end of the year testing, in which individuals go from being a student to a professional. Their Café season is wrapping up during which they have served about 75 people a day for lunch four days a week for six weeks

St John Valley Tech Director Keven Lavoie says CNA exams had been taken, he thought successfully, and that CDL road tests were being taken, again with success and that Adult Ed CDL was also going well.

**5) Kate Howell (Educate Maine):** The committee agreed that, due to the complexity of an upcoming agenda item, Kate would postpone her discussion of Pre-

Apprenticeship/Apprenticeship until the next meeting. She reported that Educate Maine had closed applications for their Education Leaders Experience for this year, earlier than usual, with more than 30 applications for this year's cohort. She says there are a lot of teachers, including many CTE folks who have applied.

## **VII. Old Business – No Old Business**

**VIII. New Business:** MACTE Statewide Career and Technical Education Professional Development Proposal (2025) (Amanda Peterson) Amanda reported that during the past 18 months she has been looking at the work CTE Directors have been doing and coming up with recurring topics of concern. They are looking ahead the next three to five years as enrollments increase and capacity is stretched while at the same time seeing the overall student population declines. They see data collection as very important and want to create a unified data collection protocol with possible collaborations with entities such as DOE and MELMAC. The MACTE Team has agreed to develop a data collection plan and potential costs for a data management system.

Other concerns revolve around AI, legal responsibilities and long term strategic planning. MACTE and CTE Maine presented a multifaceted proposal including areas such as Year-Round Professional Development, Strategic Planning Instructor Recruitment, Retention and Development. They are seeking \$60,000 from the Briggs Trust which would be requested in chunks rather than a lump sum. They may make similar requests in the future. MACTE sees their CTE Director's Conclave in July as an important kick off point, one which would require some funding.

Committee members saw the presentation as a great first step but want to see more context for and more detail about MACTE and Maine CTE's plans to utilize this funding including how actions will be different from past ones.

The Committee requested a proposal about what Conclave training would look like including information such as who would be doing the training. The Committee also would like to see periodic updates during the upcoming year about how proposal areas have been put into practice.

Amanda noted that she'll be stepping out of her MACTE President's role soon and picking up this proposal as her next project. She also says she'll prepare a detailed proposal regarding the July Conclave and October conference, including specific costs, objectives, and timelines, by May 29th. Wendy says she'll send her notes and questions about the proposal to Kevin, Bobby, Paulette, and Ed. The MACTE team has agreed to respond to Wendy's questions and incorporate feedback into the revised proposal. Amanda will work with Paulette on preparing the proposal for the State Board agenda review by June 2nd.

The Committee would like to receive a formal proposal at their June meeting so that an Exhibit can be presented to the full state board at its meeting July 11<sup>th</sup>.

This meeting was adjourned at 11:46 AM