

**MINUTES  
STATE BOARD OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION**

333 Market Street | 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17126

March 14, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chairman Larry Wittig.

**Attending:**

|                         |                                 |                             |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Erin Agnew              | Connie Davis (via phone)        | Colleen Sheehan (via phone) |
| James Agras (via phone) | Sandra Dungee Glenn             | Edward Sheehan              |
| James Barker            | Paul Ferrera                    | Karen Farmer White          |
| Kevin Bates             | Maureen Lally-Green (via phone) | A. Lee Williams             |
| Wendy Beetlestone       | Jonathan Peri                   | Larry Wittig                |
| Emily Clark             | Mollie Phillips (via phone)     |                             |

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the January 10, 2013, meeting of the State Board for Vocational Education were approved on a Davis/Beetlestone motion.

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF  
CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

Dr. Lee Burket, Bureau Director, highlighted the following items from the written report prepared by the Bureau of Career and Technical Education (BCTE):

**Career Pathways Plan**

The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) has initiated the opportunity for districts and career and technical centers (CTC) to develop Career Pathways. As defined in Pa. Code 22, Chapter 339.22(a)(1)(ii)(B), Career Pathways is a plan designed to provide basic information and skills for a number of closely related occupations and to develop basic competencies in a variety of jobs within an occupational field.

One goal of the Career Pathway is to enhance the communications and alignment of educational programs among the district and career and technical centers, and engage increased numbers of students in developing career experiences and objectives as well as educational plans.

A Career Pathway approval is an option in the Career and Technical Education Information System. Career Pathways include Program of Study that fall within the same cluster. An example of a potential Career Pathway would be a pathway that includes 46.0201, Carpentry; 46.0399, Electrical Power and Transmission Installers and 47.0201, HVAC. Once

approved, the Career Pathway offers the same foundational curriculum during the first year with students selecting a specialized area to pursue for the remainder of high school.

### **Consolidated Annual Report (CAR) Data**

Annually, PDE collects, prepares, analyzes and submits data to the U.S. Department of Education (USDE), Office of Vocational and Adult Education as part of the contractual obligations association with the federal Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006. The USDE requires states to annually report on 8 secondary and 6 postsecondary performances indicators. The performance indicators are:

#### Secondary Performance Indicators –

- 1S1 Academic Attainment – Reading/PSSA
- 1S2 Academic Attainment – Math/PSSA
- 2S1 Technical Skill Attainment – NOCTI/NIMS
- 3S1 Secondary Student Achievement of High School Diploma
- 4S1 Student Graduation Rate – AYP/NCLB
- 5S1 Secondary Placement
- 6S1 Nontraditional Participation
- 6S2 Nontraditional Completion

#### Postsecondary Performance Indicators

- 1P1 Technical Skill Attainment
- 2P1 Credential, Certification or Degree
- 3 P1 Student Retention or Transfer
- 4P1 Student Placement
- 5P1 Nontraditional Participation
- 5P2 Nontraditional Completion

Data show that for 2012, there was a 3.6% increase in the proportion of career and technical education concentrators proficient or advanced on the 11<sup>th</sup> grade PSSA reading test; a 0.1% increase in the proportion of career and technical education concentrators proficient or advanced on the 11<sup>th</sup> grade PSSA math test; and an 8.9% increase in the proportion of Career and Technical Education concentrators competent or advanced on the NOCTI tests over 2011 Consolidated Annual Report data.

### **Industry Certifications Earned by CTE Secondary Students**

The number of industry certifications earned by career and technical education students increased from 15,767 in 2009-10 to 18,381 certifications earned in 2010-11 to 18,571 certifications earned in 2011-12. Dr. Burket provided a table with data showing that 30% of seniors enrolled in CTE obtained certifications. Dr. Burket provided additional information on the total number of secondary programs that offering certifications. There are a total of 1,230 certifications offered with 10,829 students obtaining certifications in those programs (16.9% of the total secondary career and technical education student enrollment).

Dr. Burket reported that there are a total of 1,917 approved career and technical education programs with 62% of the programs aligned to industry certifications. The total CTE student enrollment is 64,110 and, of those students, 44,360 students are enrolled in CTE programs aligned to and offering industry certifications. Further, Dr. Burket reported that there are 19,750 students enrolled in CTE programs that are not aligned to industry certifications.

Sandra Dungee Glenn asked if Dr. Burket had assumptions as to why, with so many programs aligned for certifications, that there are so few students earning them. Dr. Burket answered no and said that schools are only required to report data to PDE, not ancillary information about the reason for enrollment in certain programs. Dr. Burket remarked that cost of the certification could be a factor since schools typically do not cover the cost of certifications and the student's family would need to pay for the associated certification exam.

### **Accreditation Guidelines**

Dr. Burket distributed a draft copy of the Accreditation Guidelines for Pennsylvania Public Postsecondary Vocational Education. CTEs have been operating under these guidelines since the State Board for Vocational Education has been approved as an accrediting authority by the U.S. Department of Education (USDE). The USDE Advisory Committee involved in the accreditation process has requested that the appeals process in the guidelines be further refined. Dr. Burket reviewed substantive changes to the draft guidelines on pages 6 and 7, a clarification on page 8 to distinguish between the report brought to an institution and the report to the Board, and further clarity on page 9 related to institutions retaining accreditation throughout the process. Dr. Burket sought input from Board members on the draft guidelines and announced that her Bureau would hold a 30-day public comment period on the draft guidelines. She further stated that she plans to bring final guidelines to the State Board for Vocational Education in May 2013 meeting as an action item.

Kevin Bates asked if there were ramifications for schools that lose their accreditation and, if so, were those ramifications outlined in the document. Dr. Burket said that information may be in a companion document to the guidelines and that she would look into whether it should be incorporated into the guidelines.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

There were no action items.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items of business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

*Stephanie Jones*

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Stephanie Jones  
Administrative Assistant