

MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

333 Market Street | 1st Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17126

January 8, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chair Karen Farmer White

Attending:

James Agras (<i>via phone</i>)	Nicole Carnicella (<i>via phone</i>)	Jeffrey Keeling
Carol Aichele	Sandra Dungee Glenn (<i>via phone</i>)	Maureen Lally-Green
James Barker (<i>via phone</i>)	Anne Griffin	Jonathan Peri
Nathan Barrett	Kirk Hallett	Arynn Pratt
Jamie Bracey-Green		Karen Farmer White

CHAIRPERSON’S REMARKS

Chair Karen Farmer White convened the first meeting of the State Board of Career and Technical Education. In October 2019, Governor Wolf signed Act 76 into law which updated references to “vocational-technical education” that remained in the Public School Code and replaced that terminology with “career and technical education”. Chair Farmer White explained that those changes included updating the name of the Board, and said that Board made a parallel change to update the name of its Vocational-Technical Education Committee.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the November 14, 2019, meeting of the State Board of Vocational Education were approved on a **Peri/Bracey-Green** motion.

COMMITTEE REPORT
CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Carole Aichele reported that the Career and Technical Education Committee met earlier in the day to consider two items: 1) the accreditation status of Schuylkill Technology Center (STC) and 2) a request to form a new Career and Technical Center in Adams County.

Hon. Aichele said that, in January 2019, the State Board granted STC one year of probationary accreditation and directed the institution to take action to address areas of non-compliance with the state’s accreditation guidelines. The Board required the Department of Education to conduct monthly check-ins with STC throughout the probationary period and to provide a mid-year report on STC’s progress toward compliance.

Hon. Aichele announced that the Department found that STC had taken the necessary actions to correct its deficiencies in the areas of leadership related to discussing and reviewing

adult education goals and discussing and reviewing adult education performance. The Committee heard directly from the Director of STC about its efforts to improve the administration's focus on adult education.

Hon. Aichele said the Committee agreed with the Department's assessment and adopted a recommendation that the Board grant STC full accreditation for another four years.

The Committee also reviewed a request from five districts in Adams County (Bermudian Springs, Conewago Valley, Fairfield Area, Gettysburg Area, and Littlestown Area) to form a new Career and Technical Center (CTC). Hon. Aichele noted that the districts already are part of a Board-approved attendance area for career and technical education (CTE), and have been engaged in joint efforts to make CTE opportunities available to their students through programming delivered by the Gettysburg Area School District. She said the districts contend that forming a CTC will allow them to maintain current CTE opportunities for their students and, in the future, expand CTE offerings to meet the county's workforce needs under the governance of a Joint Operating Committee. The governing boards of all five participating districts approved Articles of Agreement that would govern the new CTC. Hon. Aichele said the Committee adopted a motion to recommend that the Board approve the formation of the new CTC in Adams County.

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

Dr. Lee Burket, Director of the Bureau of Career and Technical Education, provided updates to the Board on the following topics from her written report.

Perkins V Update

Dr. Burket presented the preliminary four-year draft Perkins V Plan and provided an opportunity for input on the Plan by members of the Board. She then discussed the timeframe for next steps on producing a final draft of the Perkins V Plan that the Board will be asked to approve in March. Dr. Burket said the preliminary four-year draft Perkins V Plan was disseminated for public comment in January 2020 and comments will be accepted through February 3, 2020. Refinements to the Plan will occur based on public comment and input from the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Elizabeth Bolden, President and CEO of the Pennsylvania Commission for Community Colleges, shared that that each community college receives a Perkins allocation that helps them to deliver high-quality, in-demand programming to thousands of Pennsylvanians. She said the state's community colleges feel that some components of the draft Perkins V State Plan are restrictive and would prohibit the use of Perkins to fund workforce training programs at community colleges that support high-demand occupations across the Commonwealth. Specifically, Ms. Bolden said the draft plan eliminates eligibility for programs that are not able to provide required secondary to postsecondary content alignment and credit transfer articulation agreements for many programs, including nursing, radiologic technology, medical assistant,

respiratory technology, stenography, dental hygiene, and others. Ms. Bolden noted that the affected programs include those accredited by third parties and that the graduates from these programs are in high demand by Pennsylvania employers. She said the colleges have made the Department aware of these concerns. Ms. Bolden concluded by discussing several options the colleges have identified to address their concerns while maintaining compliance with federal law.

John Pulver, Associate Director of the Pennsylvania Association of Career and Technical Administrators commended the Department on the process that was developed for developing the state's new Perkins Plan that facilitated input from various stakeholders. Mr. Pulver also thanked Department staff for their support of career and technical education.

ACTION ITEMS

ACCREDITATION STATUS OF SCHUYLKILL TECHNOLOGY CENTER

A motion to grant full accreditation to Schuylkill Technology Center for a four-year period was made by Carol Aichele and seconded by James Agras.

VOTE: All were in favor as indicated by a unanimous voice vote.

FORMATION OF ADAMS TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

A motion to approve the establishment of the Adams Technical Institute as a Career and Technical Center in the existing attendance area for Adams County comprised of the Bermudian Springs, Conewago Valley, Fairfield Area, Gettysburg Area, and Littlestown Area school districts was made by Carol Aichele and seconded by James Agras.

VOTE: All were in favor as indicated by a unanimous voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items of business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:26 p.m. on an **Aichele/Barker** motion.

Stephanie Jones
Administrative Assistant