MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

333 Market Street | 1st Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17126

November 16, 2011

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

Attending:

Erin Agnew	Sandra Dungee Glenn	Ivory Nelson
Jim Agras (via phone)	Paul Ferrera	Jonathan Peri
Jim Barker (via phone)	Kirk Hallett	Karen Farmer White
Wendy Beetlestone	Francine McNairy	A. Lee Williams (via phone)
David Collins	Francis Michelini	Larry Wittig
Connie Davis (via phone)		

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the September 21, 2011, meeting of the State Board of Vocational Education were approved on a **Peri/Michelini** motion.

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

Dr. Lee Burket reported that she has followed-up with the 11 CTCs that did not respond to the Board's survey to collect data to inform the School Library Study and that she received a 100% response rate to her request for additional information. In September, Board members expressed concern that only two comprehensive CTCs responded to the survey. Dr. Burket is in the process of compiling the additional data collected and will prepare a report for the Board in January.

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

Approved Program Evaluation

- Reapproval/Approval regional workshops for school districts with approved career and technical education programs were held in October.
- BCTE staff reviewed the modified sections in the Career and Technical Education Information System (CATS), the difference between the re-approval and approval process, local and statewide articulation agreements and Programs of Study.
- The workshop provided districts with a better understanding of the re-approval process in CATS, which should reduce the amount of time required to submit programs for re-approval.

Perkins IV Update

- As outlined in its annual report, BCTE's improvement plan efforts include Technical Assistance Program implementation; Pennsylvania Inspired Leadership programs focused on use of data for instructional decisions, special education and school leadership; and Approved Program Evaluation reviews.
- The U.S. Department of Education also notified BCTE that Perkins IV allocations for 2011-2012 were reduced by an additional 1.5%, resulting in an additional $551,000 to Pennsylvania's allocation. Perkins recipients have been notified and are in the process of revising their budgets and action plans. Three secondary schools notified BCTE that they would not apply for the Perkins IV grant, bringing the total number of Perkins secondary funded fiscal agents to 95.
- BCTE has formed a select committee to work in cooperation with the Bureau of Special Education and PaTTAN to develop and maintain ongoing professional development, technical assistance and the dissemination of strategies to improve student academic achievement. Focus groups will continue to meet to discuss the process that is followed to place a special education student in a career and technical education program and the development of an Individual Education Plan (IEP).

Pennsylvania Association of Plumbing, Heating, Cooling Contractors (PA PHCC)

At the May 2011 State Board meeting held at Thaddeus Stevens College in Lancaster, Mr. Mike Bergin addressed the State Board of Vocation Educational regarding apprenticeship requirements for HVAC programs. Since that time, BCTE has followed-up with Mr. Bergin regarding his comments and Dr. Burket provided the following update:

- BCTE staff met with representatives of the PA PHCC to discuss the Students Occupationally and Academically Ready (SOAR) program(s) of study in Heating, Air Conditioning, Ventilation and Refrigeration Maintenance Technology/Technician and Plumbing Technology/Plumber. The discussion centered on possible articulation of equivalent academic training clock hours into the PHCC Apprenticeship Training Program.
- The PA PHCC Apprenticeship Training Program requires 576 academic hours of coursework and 8,000 hours of on-the-job training over a four year period.
- Bureau staff are currently developing an articulation agreement which will allow qualifying students from SOAR Heating, Air Conditioning, Ventilation and Refrigeration Maintenance Technology/Technician and Plumbing Technology/Plumber to be awarded PA PHCC Apprenticeship Training clock hours of time calculated in the academic portion of the training curriculum.
- BCTE and PA PHCC developed an action plan to proceed with the SOAR/Apprenticeship Training Articulation Agreement language within the Department and identified areas for further discussion by the PA PHCC State Board.

Finally, Dr. Burket drew members' attention to technical skill attainment data on the NOCTI that was shared at the November 15 meeting of the Board's Vocational-Technical Education Committee. Data shows a steady rise in the number of students competent or advanced on the NOCTI from 2009 through 2011 across career and technical education programs in all settings – comprehensive CTCs, occupational CTCs and high school programs.

Ms. Glenn asked whether the NOCTI results demonstrated academic or occupational attainment. Dr. Burket responded that the NOCTI assesses both written and occupational achievement. Ms. Glenn then asked if there are areas identified for improvement based on the NOCTI results. Dr. Burket said that many high schools did not take the NOCTI as seriously as CTCs and were not given the same program supports, and that the department will extend better technical program support soon.

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 9:15 a.m. on a Michelini/Nelson motion.

Stephanie L. Jones

Stephanie Jones
Administrative Assistant