

**MINUTES  
STATE BOARD FOR VOCATIONAL EDUCATION**

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

**July 11, 2019**

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Karen Farmer White.

**Attending:**

James Agras	Pamela Gunter-Smith ( <i>via phone</i> )	Jonathan Peri
Carol Aichele	Kirk Hallett ( <i>via phone</i> )	Ashley Svec
James Barker	Jeffrey Keeling	Jillian Sweigard
Jamie Bracey-Green	Maureen Lally-Green	A Lee Williams
Sandra Dungee Glenn	Hon. Wayne Langerholc ( <i>via phone</i> )	Karen Farmer White
Anne Griffin		

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the May 8, 2019, meeting of the State Board for Vocational Education were approved on a **Peri/Agras** motion.

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
**VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

James Agras, Committee Chair, reported that the Committee met on July 10, 2019, to review two final draft reports from the Department of Education on applications for accreditation of postsecondary programs at Indiana County Technology Center and Clearfield County Career and Technology Center. Dr. Lee Burket, Director of the Bureau of Career and Technical Education (BCTE), reviewed the contents of each report and noted that preliminary reports for both institutions were provided to the Institutional Accreditation Advisory Group (IAAG) for comment and recommendation on accreditation status. Mr. Agras said the Committee concurred with the recommendations of the IAAG and took action to recommend accreditation status for both institutions. He noted that the applications would be presented to the Board for action later in the meeting and reiterated the Committee's recommendation to support both applications for accreditation.

Honorable Maureen Lally-Green asked if Career and Technology Centers congregate to exchange ideas and share thoughts on their successes. Dr. Burket shared that the Pennsylvania Association of Career and Technical Administrators holds regional meetings and conferences twice a year to share best practices. She said the Department of Education also supports career and technical distinguished school leaders. Deputy Secretary Mathew Stem shared that the Department is looking to expand knowledge and awareness about Career and Technical Education (CTE) down to the elementary level.

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

Dr. Lee Burket provided updates to the Board on the following topics.

### **Technical Assistance Program**

Dr. Burket reported that this is the 12<sup>th</sup> year of the Technical Assistance Program (TAP) and said the focus remains on student academic and technical achievement. TAP continues to serve as a statewide initiative to increase the quality and impact of career and technical education in secondary public schools. She noted that the BCTE has received many requests for the service of integrating mathematics into CTE content. In working with the Southern Regional Education Board, the BCTE is working to increase the number of schools it can serve. Of the 30 schools that requested mathematics support, BCTE can accommodate 25, while also accommodating 18 schools integrating reading and writing.

### **Perkins Update**

Dr. Burket shared that Perkins IV concluded with the 2018-19 fiscal year. Under Perkins V, local recipients must indicate whether they would like to continue to receive federal funds. This year, Pittsburgh Technical College, a private college, is a new Perkins applicant.

### **Civil Right Activities**

The U.S. Office for Civil Rights mandates that each state develop a review process to measure the compliance of publicly funded programs under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended in 1990. Additionally, BCTE must conduct a minimum of five on-site reviews per year.

Dr. Burket said that Local Education Agencies are targeted for review based on high IEP enrollments, low nontraditional enrollments, number of programs, date of last review, and disparity in enrollment per race/sex. Annually, a minimum of 2.5% of the 180 secondary subrecipients and 30 postsecondary subrecipients must be reviewed.

### **Career and Technical Education Program Approval**

The process for accepting new electronic program approval submissions for the 2019-20 school year closed in May 2019. During this period, Dr. Burket said 51 school districts and CTCs requested 80 new program approvals. The requests for new programs fall in the following clusters: Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics; Health Science; Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources; Trade and Industry; Information and Technology; Business Management and Administration; and Human Services.

## **Programs of Study Update**

Dr. Burket reported that the revision process for the Phase III Program of Study task grids is complete and the finalized task grids are posted on the Department's website. The revised task grids will be in effect for the 2019-20 academic year.

## **2017-18 Approved Career and Technical Education Program Updates**

Dr. Burket reported that, for the 2017-18 school year, there were 1,722 approved career and technical education secondary programs enrolling 67,248 students. Of these, 191 students were in 14 programs with Occupational deliveries, which do not require a postsecondary articulation. There were 13,817 students in 276 programs with a Tech Prep delivery and 53,240 students in 1,432 programs with a Programs of Study delivery. Sixty-four secondary students were reported in Registered Apprenticeships.

## **Adult Accreditation**

In June, the BCTE made a re-accreditation site visit to Greater Johnstown Career and Technology Center.

Schuylkill Technology Center (STC) continues to operate under probationary accreditation status with stipulations for one year, as determined by the Board. Dr. Burket said that PDE has held monthly communications with STC and has scheduled a mid-year review for July 17. BCTE will provide the Board with a mid-year report on STC in September.

Finally, Dr. Burket reported that the Board's petition to be recognized as a state accreditation authority for postsecondary career and technical education offered at career and technical centers was submitted to the U.S. Department of Education (USDE). She said Pennsylvania is only one of four states to receive this recognition.

Sandra Dungee Glenn asked for more detail about the petition. Dr. Burket explained that the Board is recognized by USDE as an accrediting authority. Through this authority, the can BCTE conduct accreditation visits of career and technical centers that have adult CTE programs of 300 or more hours and work with the IAAG to bring recommendations on accreditation applications to the Board for consideration.

Dr. Jamie Bracey-Green shared that disaggregated data included in Dr. Burket's report indicate that more than 80% of CTE students graduate high school and that there is a gap in transitioning to a secondary 2 or 4-year placement. Dr. Bracey-Green asked if the Department is trying make Pennsylvania more competitive and whether are there strategies in place to look at the five largest LEAs and figure out if there is a way to move more students into high-growth enterprises. Dr. Bracey-Green also asked if the Commonwealth has advanced technical education centers that are funded by the National Science Foundation.

Dr. James Barker stated that Pennsylvania cannot compete economically with other states due to higher salaries for highly technical teachers. He said raising salaries will help all those in public education.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **APPLICATION FOR ACCREDITATION OF INDIANA COUNTY TECHNOLOGY CENTER**

A motion to approve the application for reaccreditation of Indiana County Technology Center (ICTC) and to grant accreditation to ICTC for a five-year period was made by James Agras and seconded by Sandra Dungee Glenn.

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

### **APPLICATION FOR ACCREDITATION OF CLEARFIELD COUNTY CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER**

A motion to approve the application for reaccreditation of Clearfield County Career and Technology Center (CCCTC) and to grant accreditation to CCCTC for a five-year period was made by James Agras and seconded by Maureen Lally-Green.

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

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further items of business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 a.m. on a **Peri/Agras** motion.



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Stephanie Jones  
Administrative Assistant