



## **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUMMARY**

**MAY 31, 2022**

**ATTENDANCE:** Sen. Jimmy Higdon, Charlene Baxter, Karen Dodd, Beth Hargis, Jeff Harper, David Horseman, Steve Johnson, Jeff Jones, Stefanie Kingsley, Robin Linton, Harmony Little, Mike Miller, John Sanders, Regan Satterwhite, Leslie Slaughter, Mike Stone, Mary Taylor, Tom Thompson, Karla Tipton, Scott U’Sellis, Matthew Whitaker, Darlene Zibart

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Rep. Steve Riley, Mary Pat Regan, Shelly Goodwin, Paul Mullins

**Agenda Item:** Welcome and Introductions

**Presenter:** Harmony Little, Committee Chair and Executive Director of Credentialing Strategies, Kentucky Community and Technical College System

**Summary of Discussion:**

Little called the meeting to order at 1 p.m. ET and welcomed the committee.

**Agenda Item:** Approval of Minutes from Nov. 19, 2021, Meeting

**Presenter:** Harmony Little, Committee Chair and Executive Director of Credentialing Strategies, Kentucky Community and Technical College System

**Summary of Discussion:**

John Sanders moved to approve the minutes as submitted and Jeff Jones seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Agenda Item:** Greetings from the Commissioner

**Presenter:** Jason E. Glass, Ed.D., Commissioner and Chief Learner, Kentucky Department of Education

**Summary of Discussion:**

Glass welcomed the committee and said he appreciated the input received from all the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) advisory committees. Glass said he was thrilled with what the

legislature was able to do with CTE funding and the opportunities that it will provide for students. He also thanked the committee and said he is looking forward to their feedback and thoughts on how to best use the funds.

**Agenda Item:** Legislative Updates

**Presenter:** Leslie Slaughter, Executive Advisor, Office of Career and Technical Education, Kentucky Department of Education

**Summary of Discussion:**

Slaughter said local area vocational education centers (LAVECs) received over \$70 million from the state budget bill, House Bill (HB) 1 (2022), to be used for all local programs. Area technology center (ATC) requests are also included in the budget for additional operational funds, as well as step and rank increases for ATC employees. The School Facilities Construction Commission (SFCC) for facility upgrades within 23 districts was allocated one hundred fifty-five million dollars. Additionally, \$14 million was allocated for a new Millard ATC building in Pike County.

Slaughter discussed other items in HB 1, which included Dual Credit Scholarships, 8% pay raises for state employees in year one of the biennium (to start July 1, 2022) and an additional increment in year two of the biennium (23-34). She explained that the additional increment won't be determined until after a salary study is conducted by the Personnel Cabinet. The increment could vary by job classification, etc. Slaughter explained that this means not every position could see the same level of pay raise.

Sen. Higdon stated that the salary study had a lot to review across state government/cabinets. He said the pay is not competitive and mentioned that 37.5-hour employees could possibly be changed to a 40-hour work week.

Slaughter also indicated that HB 1 (2022) requires the Education and Labor Cabinet to conduct a Workforce Development Program Analysis in collaboration with the University of Kentucky's (UK's) Center for Business and Economic Research to study the effectiveness of state-sponsored workforce development programs. A report is due to the Interim Joint Committee on Economic Development and Workforce Investment by Dec. 1, 2023.

Slaughter also discussed Senate Bill (SB) 59 (2022), which relates to assessment and accountability. She said SB 59 amends KRS 158.6453 to delete the 10th grade college admissions exam and amends KRS 158.6455 to add postsecondary readiness indicators to the statewide accountability system. As a result of SB 59, amendments to the postsecondary readiness measures listed in 703 KAR 5:270, Kentucky's accountability system will be needed. Slaughter shared that postsecondary readiness for each high school student shall be included as an academic indicator and shall be measured by one of the following:

- Meeting or exceeding a college readiness benchmark score on the college admissions examination or a college placement examination approved by the Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE);
- Achieving three hours of college credit or postsecondary articulated credit by completing a course approved by the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE);

- Achieving a benchmark score on an Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), Cambridge or other nationally recognized exam approved by the KBE that generally qualifies the student for three or more hours of college credit;
- Completing a required number of hours or achieving a benchmark within an apprenticeship, cooperative or internship that is aligned with a credential or associate degree and approved by the KBE after receiving input from the Local Superintendents Advisory Council (LSAC) or
- Achieving any industry-recognized certifications, licensures or credentials, with more weight in accountability for industry-recognized certifications, licensures or credentials identified as high demand.

**Agenda Item:** Future CTE Funding Models

**Presenter:** Leslie Slaughter, Executive Advisor, Office of Career and Technical Education, Kentucky Department of Education

**Summary of Discussion:**

Slaughter shared a framework from the Association of Career and Technical Education (ACTE) that may help inform discussions regarding future funding models for secondary CTE. The framework consists of the 12 Elements of a High-Quality CTE Programs of Study, including the following:

- Standards-aligned and integrated curriculum;
- Sequencing and articulation;
- Student assessment;
- Prepared and effective program staff;
- Engaging instruction;
- Access and equity;
- Facilities, equipment, technology and materials;
- Business and community partnerships;
- Student career development;
- Career and technical student organizations;
- Work-based learning; and
- Data and program improvement

Slaughter expressed the importance of focusing on these indicators as discussions move forward regarding a more unified funding model.

**Agenda Item:** Kentucky Tech Updates

**Presenter:** Beth Hargis, Ed.D., Division Director, Office of Career and Technical Education, Kentucky Department of Education

**Summary of Discussion:**

Hargis shared updates on Kentucky Tech and what is happening in the state operated ATCs. She said with many ATCs transitioning to local district operation, there are now 50 state-operated

centers. Most recently, she indicated that Knox County ATC transitioned to local operation in July 2021 and Madison County ATC will be transitioning to local operation on July 1, 2022.

Hargis indicated that the Logan County Career and Technical Center will be hosting the KBE meeting on Oct. 12. She informed the committee that Logan County has a beautiful school building, which was completed in 2018. Hargis stated that this will be a great opportunity for the KBE to see not only see a state-of-the-art building, but to see career and technical instruction taking place.

Hargis said that the Greenup County ATC held a grand opening of its ATC Marketplace, a school-based enterprise involving every program in the building. Several local business partners attended the opening. The Marketplace showcase included a mobile concession stand produced by the electricity/welding programs and turkey calls produced by the agriculture program. All program areas offered items for sale and the school's business program assisted in marketing and advertising the event, including t-shirts, cups, material packing and other promotional items.

Hargis indicated that several schools in the eastern region are finishing tiny house projects. Each year, the houses are staged at Pikeville's Annual Fire Summit. This year, the Fire Summit was held virtually, but students were able to explain the work process involved in designing and constructing their projects. The Kentucky Valley Educational Co-op (KVEC) will be working with the ATCs to sell the houses this summer and will donate funds back to the ATCs to start next year's houses. Hargis shared photos of the tiny houses currently being constructed by ATC students. She informed the committee that if an individual is interested in purchasing one of these houses, they can contact KVEC directly.

Other updates from Hargis included that the Office of Career and Technical Education (OCTE) is collaborating with the KDE Office of Special Education and Early Learning (OSEEL) to secure a Special Education liaison who will work to ensure CTE centers are following the Individuals with Disabilities and Education Act. This will assist teachers in providing accommodations for our special education students to be successful in CTE classrooms and narrow the gap for pathway completion between special education and traditional students.

Hargis said that Garrard County ATC is collaborating with Garrard County Schools, Bluegrass Career and Technical College, and UK Healthcare to implement a focused nursing track with increased dual credit opportunities, dual credit financial support, equipment and technology. The initiative will also provide a healthcare advisor to assist students in navigating the required curriculum, testing preparations, tutoring, mentoring and financial needs.

She said that Mason County Career Magnet School and other ATCs across the state are planning their Perkins non-traditional camps this summer and already have more applicants than they can accommodate. The camps are provided through the federal Perkins grant and are an attempt to increase enrollment of non-traditional students in CTE pathways.

Hargis said that Elementary and Secondary Emergency Relief (ESSER) Funds are being used to remediate ATC students after school and will be used this summer to provide remediation and enrichment activities. These funds have been invaluable in helping the Kentucky Tech system to navigate and overcome the loss of learning due to COVID-19.

Hargis stated that several of the ATCs have hosted career signing nights to celebrate students receiving scholarships, industry certifications, military enlistment and job offerings. Trailblazer Academy hosted its first Career Fair and Awards Night. There were over 300 people in attendance including students, parents, educational stakeholders, as well as over 20 partners from

business and postsecondary education. Booths were set up around the school to recruit employees and students in between the various awards ceremonies.

Lastly, Hargis highlighted that students have participated in the state Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) competitions and are preparing for national competitions this summer. She also indicated that students are earning industry credentials and graduating postsecondary ready. For example, she said that at Bullitt County ATC, 92% of active seniors are currently postsecondary ready. Likewise, several industrial maintenance students earned their National Institute for Metalworking Skills (NIMS) certification. Warren County ATC also had three seniors earn all 10 Automotive Service Excellence certifications, which is an outstanding accomplishment.

Hargis said she is already looking forward to next year to continue increasing opportunities for student success.

**Agenda Item:** Kentucky Tech Salary Schedule

**Presenter:** Beth Hargis, Ed.D., Division Director, Office of Career and Technical Education, Kentucky Department of Education

**Summary of Discussion:**

Hargis said the 8% salary increase (effective July 1, 2022) for all state employees will include Kentucky Tech KRS' 156 teachers/administrators, 18A administrative specialists and maintenance workers.

She also indicated that the Kentucky Tech Salary Schedule for KRS 156 teachers/administrators will be updated in the fall of 2022 and will be retroactive to July 1, once signed by Gov. Andy Beshear.

**Agenda Item:** New College and Career Advising Platform

**Presenter:** Leslie Slaughter, Executive Advisor, Office of Career and Technical Education, Kentucky Department of Education

**Summary of Discussion:**

Slaughter shared that this project is a partnership between KDE, the CPE and the Kentucky Center for Statistics (KYSTATS). She explained that the platform is targeted for all learners and intended to be a one-stop-shop for:

- career exploration tools;
- insightful reports;
- secondary/postsecondary/adult education program information;
- postsecondary affordability resources; and
- virtual employer engagement opportunities.

Slaughter said that a project manager and programmer have been hired and that work has begun to prepare for development.

**Agenda Item:** Statewide Articulation Agreements

**Presenter:** Leslie Slaughter, Executive Advisor, Office of Career and Technical Education, Kentucky Department of Education

**Summary of Discussion:**

Slaughter said the SB 101 from the 2020 legislative session required the CPE, in partnership with KDE, to develop statewide articulation agreements. The work has been labor-intensive with over 100 career pathways that exist in Kentucky's program of study for secondary CTE. There are also approximately 120 existing agreements with public and private two and four-year partners for students who transition from secondary to postsecondary education aligned to career pathways. Slaughter stated that the first phase of this work has been going on for about one year with the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS).

Slaughter stated that a Memorandum of Understanding between KDE, CPE and KCTCS is currently going through the approval process. Once completed, work will begin with the four-year institutions.

**Agenda Item:** Industry Certification Approval Process

**Presenter:** Stefanie Ebbens Kingsley, Executive Director, Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (KWIB)

**Summary of Discussion:**

Kingsley informed the committee that the industry certification approval process is being streamlined. The KWIB is formalizing the process to be able to view where a request is in the process and this will create a paper trail in every step. She indicated that they are trying to funnel all requests to the same place to get all the information from the partners and make sure we're communicating effectively at each stage of the process. Local area partners have been trained on how to use it and have been using it for about six months now. She reminded members that the list of certifications can be found on the KDE website. David Horseman clarified that the Business Education Alignment Teams (BEATs) are a group of education and business leaders who evaluate programs and makes recommendations to the KWIB. The BEATs makes recommendations to the subcommittee of KWIB; however, the KWIB makes the final approval. No denial is final until KWIB says otherwise, meaning that applicants may reapply with tweaks made to the application.

**Agenda Item:** Early Postsecondary Opportunities

**Presenter:** Harmony Little, Committee Chair and Executive Director of Credentialing Strategies, Kentucky Community and Technical College System

**Summary of Discussion:**

As part of the CPE Commonwealth Education Continuum, Little explained that three workgroups were established for the upcoming year. The workgroups are 1) 9th grade on track; 2) 1st year success; and 3) early postsecondary opportunities. Little co-chairs the early postsecondary opportunities group.

She shared information about the new KCTCS strategic plan. The plan will be rolled out July 1 and has three broad goals, which are to increase learning success, increase employment success and increase organizational success.

**Agenda Item:** Schedule November 2022 Meeting Date

**Presenter:** Chair Harmony Little, Kentucky Community and Technical College System

**Summary of Discussion:**

It was decided that a doodle poll would be sent out for the November 2022 meeting following this meeting.

**Agenda Item: Reflection and Adjournment**

**Presenter:** Harmony Little, Committee Chair and Executive Director of Credentialing Strategies, Kentucky Community and Technical College System

**Summary of Discussion:**

After some reflection on the meeting's agenda, a motion for adjournment was made by John Sanders and seconded by Mike Miller. Motion passed by unanimous vote and the meeting adjourned at 2:51 p.m.