



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

NOVEMBER 20, 2023

ATTENDANCE: Sen. Jimmy Higdon, Beth Brinly, Beth Engle, Larry Garrity, Beth Hargis, Hope Harp, Mike Hesketh, Robin Fields Kinney, Lea Lewis, Robin Linton, Harmony Little, Sarah Marth, Mark Martin, Sue Neace, Brian Perry, Marcus Rodgers, Regan Satterwhite, Mike Stone, Mary Taylor, Stacey Thompson, Tom Thompson, Pamela Todd, Holly Tracy, Ashley Vanhoose

ABSENT: Sen. Max Wise, Rep. Bobby McCool, Heather Elder, Alisher Burikhanov, Ana Muse, Janae Allen

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: Greetings from Interim Commissioner Robin Field Kinney

Interim Commissioner Kinney shared her background and why she felt career and technical education is so important and the opportunities it provides for students in the Commonwealth. She started her career in the Economic Development Cabinet, where she first learned that the best thing to provide business and industry is a qualified and educated workforce. She said she had the pleasure of working with career and technical education (CTE) at the department for the last eight years. In this role, she helped support CTE in a variety of capacities, from personnel, capital construction at the FFA Leadership Training Center and the budget which the general assembly increased CTE funding. She hopes CTE can continue that momentum on behalf of the students and staff. Kinney said for the new members that may not know, Beth Hargis and her team are extraordinarily strong advocates of CTE and assured the group that the Kentucky of Education staff works extremely hard to make sure the CTE students and staff get all they deserve.

Agenda Item: Approval of Minutes from May 11, 2023, Meeting

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

Summary of Discussion:

Mike Stone moved to approve the minutes as submitted and Beth Brinly seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item: Office of Career and Technical Education (OCTE) Staffing Updates

Presenter: Beth Hargis, Ed.D., Associate Commissioner, Office of Career and Technical Education (OCTE), Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion:

Hargis shared OCTE new hires with the committee and they are as follows:

- Larry Garrity, Director, Division of Technical Schools and Continuous Improvement, is retiring.
- Beth Engle, Director, Division of Technical Schools and Continuous Improvement
- Sharon Collins, Middle School/Career Studies
- Joyce Parker, Health Sciences Consultant
- Nathan Lyttle, Computer Science Consultant
- Sarah Robbins, Assistant Data Manager
- Mary Lou DeHarte, Perkins Consultant

Hargis also shared positions that are open within OCTE, and they are as follows:

- Career Advising Consultant

Agenda Item: Division of Student Transition and Career Readiness Updates

Presenter: Tom Thompson, Division Director, Office of Career and Technical Education, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion:

Thompson shared updates for the Division of Student Transition and Career Readiness. He first discussed that the federal requirement regarding Career and Technical Education programs must have paid members with their corresponding National Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) by Dec. 1, 2023, deadline. This date must be met to receive Perkins federal funding.

Thompson next discussed the Supply Chain Management (SCM) Pathway Updates. A futuring panel was held in May 2023 which included SMC and logistics executives and professionals across Kentucky. The SCM Advisory is developing the pathway including four courses and certifications. The SCM includes trends and issues that impact workforce needs today and, in the years to come. The pathway is included in the 2024-2025 Programs of Studies and is currently in the developmental process of the occupation-based standards.

Next, Thompson discussed the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) uses. The following are planned uses of the funds in 2024, summer leadership camps, marketing for CTE Month, mini grants for local advisors to judge state competitions, mini grants for the CTE Showcase and travel to national conferences.

Lastly, Thompson updated the advisory committee on the FFA Leadership Training Camp in Hardinsburg. Just completed a five-cabin renovation in June 2023 and a 10-cabin renovation is currently being planned. That will leave a remaining five cabins. The remaining cabins will be addressed when funding is available. We are currently in the design phase of the new activity center to replace the old administration building that was built in 1961.

Agenda Item: Division of Technical Schools and Continuous Improvement Updates

Presenter: Larry Garrity, Division Director, Office of Career and Technical Education, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion:

Garrity updated the committee on remarkable things happening in the area technology centers and wanted to provide and update on three schools and the Area Technology Center (ATC) Student Advisory Committee. Student members are as follows:

- Gracie, Estill County ATC
- Jada, Russell ATC
- Bailey, Murray/Calloway ATC
- Shay, Caldwell County ATC
- Michael, Breckinridge County ATC
- Bethany, Rockcastle County ATC
- Kendra, Monroe County ATC

Garrity said there had been great opportunities for students this year regarding Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO), Work Based Learning (WBL), Project Based Learning (PBL) projects, and making great connections for dual credit. The following are highlights.

- Lake Cumberland Regional Career and Workforce Center Profile of a Student – Using the acronym “CASH” which stands for Characteristics, Attitudes, Skills and Habits. Staff will focus on embedding these critical skills in the classroom to help students be successful in their future.

- Estill County ATC – The Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) chapter hosted the second annual Breast Cancer Awareness Ceremony at the Estill County Court House.
- Barren County ATC - SkillsUSA Chapter held the Annual Community Service Day at the Barren River State Park.

Agenda Item: Legislative Updates and Initiative

Presenter: Regan Satterwhite, Executive Advisor, Office of Career and Technical Education, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion:

Satterwhite shared a brief CTE funding background for the new members. The 2022 biennium state budget saw a \$58 million increase to local area vocational education centers (LAVEC) and allowed for the expansion of the LAVEC pot which previously funded 42 schools and 50 area technology centers. This funding addressed the biggest hurdle regarding funding in Kentucky which was the adequacy of funding. The next priority is to work toward equitable funding for state operated centers and locally operated CTE regardless of where a student is sitting in a classroom across the state.

Funding goals include the following:

- Codify a new formula that creates equity in funding for all CTE programs so that a CTE student will equal the same value in a state-operated center and in a locally operated center or program.
- Ensure emphasis on high-quality instructional resources and industry-standard equipment for enhanced student learning in CTE pathways.
- Incentivize indicators of high-quality CTE that are important to workforce development.
- Simplify types and terminology so CTE is easily understood in the state.
- Leverage federal dollars and ensure high-quality programs by requiring Perkins eligibility.

CTE Funding Progress:

- Continued progress building capacity with the Kentucky General Assembly to codify a new funding formula for all CTE programs in the state.
- Established a CTE funding committee which provided specifications for an equitable formula that includes incentives for high-quality indicators.
- Secured bill sponsors to file a bill to amend the current LAVEC formula statute (KRS 157.069) during the 2024 session.
- Submitted a bill draft to both House and Senate sponsors which incorporates the committee recommendations and legislative guidance.

CTE Funding Formula Bill Draft:

- \$70 million of state CTE supplemental funding that is included in the formula for all local CTE programs and state operated programs.
- The state CTE funding allocation will be divided into a 60/40 split, 60% will be allocated based on the weighted full-time equivalent (FTE) value of students enrolled in the pathway and 40% will be allocated based on four incentive categories: Concentrators, Earned CTE dual credit (with a grade of "C" or higher), Technical Skill Attainment and Work-based learning participation.
- The funding shall be intended for improved student outcomes in CTE pathways (student supplies, resources, materials, the purchase and maintenance of industry-standard equipment and supporting CTSO participation). The KDE will monitor this.
- The mid-year adjustment will be eliminated.
- Districts may apply for approval for use of funds for middle grades CTE programming.
- To qualify for state funding, programs must maintain federal Perkins funding eligibility.

Other legislative priorities include:

- The OCTE has an additional budget request (ABR) for four local regional CTE consultants at the local level and a federal pilot program for the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC).
- Support for any viable teacher recruitment and retention legislation.
- Support for any viable teacher apprenticeship funding legislation.

Agenda Item: Schedule May 2024 Meeting Date

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

Summary of Discussion:

A doodle poll will be sent to members to schedule the next meeting in May 2024.

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:

Reflection:

Sen. Jimmy Higdon said he has been incredibly supportive of equal funding, and he is excited to see that we are starting to work in that direction. He said he felt like every school should be equal, equally funded and every student should have the same opportunity. His goal is to have everything under one umbrella.

Chair Little questioned if there is an opportunity to ensure that the dual credit students take is meaningful and count towards their postsecondary goals. The Office of Career and Technical Education has hired a career advising counselor, this person will collaborate with school districts K-12.

Beth Brinly asked if there were any considerations when looking at incentives, one being about pre-apprenticeship. The response was pre-apprenticeship is represented in the four incentives because it is on the valid industry certification list. It is also representative in the technical skill attainment.

Mike Hesketh said he has been involved with Shelby County Schools and the area technology center for years and he employs students and work-based learning as welders. His concern was that the structure of the state and the school district is very confusing to employers. Chair Little suggested a resource document for new committee members be created.

Mark Martin briefly shared feedback on what is going well in Meade County. He said industry certification and dual credit opportunities are expanding for students. He also said all avenues to postsecondary readiness are not always the same.

Mike Stone said the call for presentations for the 2024 Kentucky Association of Career and Technical Education (KACTE) summer program are available now through Feb. 1. The conference is July 8–11.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:57 p.m. by unanimous acclamation.