

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the**

**STATE BOARD OF CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION  
HODGE EDUCATION BUILDING  
2500 NORTH LINCOLN BOULEVARD  
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA**

**October 15, 2020**

The State Board of Career and Technology Education began its regular session at 9:02 a.m., Thursday, October 15, 2020 via the zoom platform. The final Agenda was posted at 2:17 p.m., October 13, 2020, in accordance with 25 O.S. 2011, § 311(9).

Members of the State Board of Career and Technology Education present:

Ms. Joy Hofmeister, State Superintendent of Public Instruction and Chair of the Board  
Dr. Marcie Mack, State Director, ex-officio nonvoting member  
Ms. Estela Hernandez, Oklahoma City  
Mr. Brian Bobek, Oklahoma City  
Mr. David Stewart, Afton  
Mr. Michael Brown, Lawton  
Mr. Tim Burg, Shawnee  
Ms. Janet Smith, Tulsa  
Mr. Randy Gilbert, Tecumseh

Members of the State Board of Career and Technology Education not present:

Mr. Jimmy Stallings, Enid

Attendees from the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education and other guests:

See Attachment A.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Marcie Mack called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Ms. Angela Jones called the roll and ascertained there was a quorum.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS**

Superintendent Hofmeister did not give any comments.

### **DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS**

Dr. Mack said that she had a few things to cover:

- You received a link to the administrative rules book. We do have that posted on our website. The rules were effective September 11, 2020. Mr. Hammonds held the book up for the board members to view. If you would like a printed copy, please let us know.
- Our next session on our virtual Oklahoma Educator Industry Partnership (OEIP) will be held on Wednesday, October 21, 2020 from 11:00am to Noon. Ms. Cori Gray is going to touch a little more on that later. The flyer for that is in your e-packet. Last month we focused on entrepreneurship and this month we're going to focus on wind energy. If you can connect, we'd love to have you participate.
- Accreditation is going well. We did combine that with a hybrid model, primarily virtual, to where we're able to engage with the schools, we are still doing the interviews with all of the stakeholders and meeting that criteria, that you as the board have set for accreditation. They are currently finishing up an accreditation visit that was started on Tuesday. All eight (8) accreditations should be completed by the first week in December. Then we will be ready to bring the reports to the board for approval, hopefully in February.
- We did have an opportunity for Oklahoma to be recognized in one of Advance CTE's webinars this week on reopening and a conversation about resources for career and technology education as we look at providing learning virtually. We had an opportunity to highlight some of the great things that the schools are doing and the way that they're connecting with students. We were grateful to be able to share that.
- We will be sending out information to you on the ACTE's CareerTech Vision 2020 (Association of Career and Technology Education) national conference. The conference will be virtual, and we do have Oklahomans who will be up for national recognition. If you have an opportunity to watch that when our excellent educators in Oklahoma have an opportunity to be recognized on the national level, we want you to be able to participate in that.
- The last thing I have is for November, as you're planning the November board meeting, we usually have that at a school site. We will not be having that at a school site this year. We will have a different plan for our November board meeting. We will send you information on that closer to the board date.

### **1.04 MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 17, 2020 MEETING**

Mr. Tim Burg moved to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2020 meeting. Mr. Dave Stewart seconded. The motion carried with the following votes: Mr. Gilbert, yes; Ms. Smith, yes; Mr. Burg, yes; Mr. Brown, yes; Mr. Stewart, yes; Mr. Bobek, yes; Ms. Hernandez, yes; Superintendent Hofmeister, yes. Motion carried. A copy of the minutes is on file at the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education.

### **RECOGNITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

Dr. Mack said that we do have three distinct recognitions and presentations today. As we had in our meetings in June and July, we had an opportunity for some of our national candidates for CareerTech Student Organizations offices speak with us. We are very fortunate to have an individual in FFA that has chosen to run for national office, our first presentation today will be from Madelyn Gerken who is our National FFA Officer Candidate.

#### **2.01 MS. MADELYN GERKEN, FFA NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE**

Ms. Madelyn Gerken said thank you Dr. Mack. Well good morning everyone, I am so excited to be here. They told me that this would be the state board meeting and so I got really excited but I didn't realize the kind of educators that would be on this call. Over the past few months, thank you for everything that you have done. I know that I appreciate it and several people in my hometown really appreciate it as well across the State of Oklahoma. I'm from Kingfisher, Oklahoma. I grew up on a farm and ranch just a little outside of Kingfisher, we've got about 5,000 acres and a little over 200 cows. My passion for agriculture started when I was young and now as a junior in college, I'm pursuing an animal science major with a biotechnology pre-health option and a minor in American sign language with hopes to become a pediatric rural physician within Oklahoma. FFA started in my blood ever since I was young, when I was seven years old it was my very first State FFA Convention and I saw Travis Schnaithman (State FFA President for 2006-2007) give his retiring address. That is when I set a goal to be a state officer and from seven all the way to my senior year, I started making connections and building that foundation for wanting to run for a state office. Then serving as a state officer within the State of Oklahoma, I had incredible opportunities to be able to promote and advocate not only for FFA but for other CareerTech student organizations, having several conversations with Dr. Mack and other people at Oklahoma's Capital and on the hill in DC. I really realized what career and technical education looks like and what that means for our nation. A few weeks ago Dr. Mack and I were having a conversation about CTE and I asked her where's the disconnect? if anyone doesn't support our student organizations, why is that and she said it's primarily just because they don't know about them and I think that's a huge point as we continue to educate our students within the State of Oklahoma as well as students across the nation. FFA has over 700,000 members and I'm so excited to potentially serve as a national officer and represent not only FFA but all of our career and technical education systems. Thank you so much for having me and if you have any questions about the process or about anything that I mentioned I would love to answer them at this time.

**2.02 MR. LINDEL FIELDS, SUPERINTENDENT/CEO AT TRI COUNTY  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER – SKILLS TO REBUILD PROGRAM**

Mr. Lindel Fields said thank you Dr. Mack. It's an honor to be with the board today and what a way to start a board meeting hearing from, Madelyn, congratulations. The future is certainly bright for Oklahoma and Oklahoma CareerTech. Today I want to talk to you about a program that's affecting students so positively, primarily adult students, students like the one I had the opportunity to meet just the other day. My daughter, Eva, attends Tri County's child development center, here on campus. The other day I went to pick her up and while I was waiting for her I met a young lady by the name of Brittany. Brittany had started school that day at Tri County Technology Center, she hadn't been to school in quite some time and the reading is significant in the CNA (certified nursing assistant) program, which is part of our Skills to Rebuild program. I said so your tuition was waived so you could come to school, well I'm proud of you, congratulations and hang in there. Later I learned that Brittany was a single mom of three (3) young children. We had the opportunity to interview Brittany for the Oklahoma Horizon's podcast and Rob McClendon asked her during that interview, would you have been able to attend school without skills to rebuild and she said no sir, there's no way I would be able to afford the tuition. Brittany represents thousands of students who can't afford to go to school. The tuition for the CNA program is just over seven hundred (\$700) dollars. Now, seven hundred (\$700) dollars might be somebody's car payment today but seven hundred (\$700) dollars for the Brittany's of the world might as well be the great wall of China with her on one side and prosperity on the other. It's that program, that opportunity, that I want to share with you today, a program called Skills to Rebuild that's generating the kind of excitement unlike I've ever seen in my career in CareerTech.

Oklahoma's unemployment rate is now down in the single digits, far from where it was just a few months ago. The number I want to talk to you about today is the underemployed. Just two days ago, the Ludwig Institute published its data on underemployed and it stated that only forty-five (45%) percent of people 16 years old or older have a full-time job that pays more than twenty thousand (\$20,000) dollars a year. Only twenty thousand dollars a year that means roughly fifty five (55%) percent of the workforce is working in poverty.

Today I want to talk with you about what we can do to get that number lower and get the underemployed in jobs that pay a livable wage. Skills to Rebuild is a partnership with the State of Oklahoma, it was conceived to get the underemployed and unemployed back to work to help stimulate our economy. The program was simple, it was intended to train 375 workers over a one-year time frame that would generate a \$10 million dollar payroll. Prior to making the request, we surveyed our community, we called every health care provider in Tri County Technology Center's community and we learned there was a need for 300 health care workers in the next six months and of course a lot of that was because of COVID. We put a plan together to train 375 workers and we had this idea that we could waive tuition and that was a philosophical debate for Tri County Technology Center because we believe students should have some skin in the game but we recognize these are really, really unique times. We went about putting the program in place and we put in a Gears grant, the Governor liked our plan, he liked the return of investment or an ROI and he gave us a grant for a million dollars. We started the program about three months ago and have received an excess of 1900 applications for the program. That is five times what we would normally get in any given year. That first weekend our servers crashed but what that tells

us is that people want stability, people don't want to go through this again and what everyone understands is that stability comes from work, from a good paying job and the most reliable way is to get an education, to get training. We initially planned to train 375 workers, the demand was so great, we now have 581 workers on the books.

Let me tell you why this is so important, the need for training is not new, you all know that. We've had a skills gap in Oklahoma for many years. All of you are involved in businesses and know people in the industries. How many times have you heard "I can't get skilled labor", "I can't find people". We've had a skills gap in Oklahoma, and we continue to have a skills gap. As we move through these challenges the skills gap is going to change and you know we don't have to look back too far to see the breadth of the skills gap in Oklahoma. Here's why I believe we have a skills shortage in Oklahoma. On average we graduate about 40,000 students from high schools every year. A high school diploma is not nearly enough these days, we have to get more people in the pipeline in post-secondary education. Last year of the 40,000 students that graduated, roughly 45% went on to post-secondary education, a few thousand more went on to CareerTech; more went into the military, so roughly 15,000 students are left over that have a high school diploma. These 15,000 people are the Brittany's of the world. We have a significant number of underemployed. The potential for these students is great, people are not cut out for poverty and 55% of our people don't go to college or CareerTech.

So, what can we do about this? While COVID has been so bad for so many there might be a silver lining, people are motivated like they've never been before, people want and need stability like never before. The programs through Skills to Rebuild and flex programs like many of our Technology Centers have across the state, students can go to school, they can see the light at the end of the tunnel. What we've learned from our experience is that people want to go to work and that is evident with over 1900 applications. Now is not the time for us to sit back, now more than ever we have to double down on our efforts to get folks into the labor market. Thank you for the opportunity to be with you today and I am happy to answer any questions.

**2.03 MR. DWIGHT HUGHES, SUPERINTENDENT/CEO AT HIGH PLAINS  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER AND MR. KYLE REYNOLDS, SUPERINTENDENT AT  
WOODWARD PUBLIC SCHOOL – TAP (TECHNICAL APPLICATIONS PROGRAM)**

Mr. Dwight Hughes said thank you Dr. Mack. Kyle and I are at the TAP (Technical Applications Program) center at Woodward Public School. Some background on the program, Superintendent at the Technology Center was pushing instructors to get more certifications out of our junior, senior and adult programs. The instructors talked to administrators and said what we need is a better product coming in, we get students like Madelyn that have a skill set when they come to us but not as many kids had that foundation. We thought that was a great idea by the instructors and how can we do that, we need to hit the middle schools. One day, Mr. Kyle Reynolds came by the school, said that they were doing an addition at the middle school and it was going to add some space, come by for a tour. Mr. Reynold's had an industrial arts program that they'd had to utilize before that they weren't going to have to utilize in the future because of the new addition. I said what are you going to do with that industrial arts building? That led them to a conversation about High Plains' idea and that they needed to bring in all their partner schools. Mr. Reynolds was

Minutes of the Meeting of the State Board of  
Career and Technology Education  
October 15, 2020

gracious enough to let us bring all our partner eighth grade students that are interested in CareerTech to his center.

This is our fourth year and we'll have 1400 students that went through these programs. We are just now seeing the effect the eighth graders that went through the first year as they are juniors at the Technology Center. The product has made a 180 turn around. Our teachers are so excited about what's coming through this program.

\*showed a video of students in the TAP program.

Mr. Kyle Reynolds said thank you Dr. Mack. I appreciate the opportunity today to talk about our TAP program. Superintendent Hofmeister I want to thank you for allowing our state teacher of the year to come visit Woodward Public School the other day, she was glad to be doing something in person. I did bring her to see the TAP program. Mr. Hughes did a good job of prefacing things and if someone were to hear just that conversation you might think that the Technology Center was taking advantage of the school and that, honestly, is far from the truth. That initial conversation we had was really born out of frustration on both of our parts. We had a nationally competitive TSA program and all of a sudden, we were five years with four instructors. It was very frustrating that we couldn't sustain that component of hands on learning for our students. This is not just about growing more kids to go to CareerTech, it's about helping them find their football, helping me identify kids that need to find their football, the thing that keeps them engaged in school, it's that thing that we can tie a string to a real life skill, vocation an occupation and our academics.

Here's an example, a math teacher on the middle school campus walks into Ms. Goss and says here's a component that we're struggling with we're working on, say fractions and we see the kids are weak. She can bring that skill into whichever trade it is that they're working on here at the TAP center and help tie a string on things to make you know here's reality and here's what you need to be doing in the classroom and make it work so it hugely successful program it bleeds over in so many ways to the academic side on this campus. Any regular classroom teachers can come in and see how they can change the pedagogy in their classroom to match an active classroom with hands-on activities and make the learning in their classroom even better.

One of the TAP teachers was in an IEP (Individualized Education Program) meeting and the student was struggling and not maintaining their eligibility and so Ms. Goss said don't worry about it I've got this and within a couple of days that student is motivated to get caught up on academics and make those things work because the last thing that kid wants is to miss out on the multimedia opportunities that he's in love with over here that he can he visualizes that as a career down the road.

It's just been incredible. We can show attendance numbers that you know our attendance rates are higher, our discipline rates are lower, and it just bleeds over into so many things and we're just fortunate that we have the sort of partnership that we have here.

## MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

### 3.01 ANNUAL REPORT – DR. MARCIE MACK

Dr. Mack said I will share out my screen so that you can see the annual report, we also sent a link to this in your e-packet. For any of you who would like any of this information that you want to provide to a local industry or group that you're working with please let us know we'll make sure that we provide you the documents.

Our annual report, of course, as we talked about our business plan, our strategic plan and all of those pieces that you approved in September; now here are the deliverables off of what you have set forth in our strategic plan and approved for us. When we look at all of our deliverables, where we have the opportunity to engage, we got to talk about the individuals that it's impacting here's the numbers that back up those all of the specific stories that we heard from Mr. Fields, Mr. Hughes and Mr. Reynolds today. Here's where that culminates into our touch points that we get to have across the state.

Dr. Mack reviewed:

- The enrollment numbers for FY20 and compared that to the FY19 numbers.
- Business and Industry for FY20
- Skills Centers, Dropout Recovery & Adult Basic Education
  - Our second truck driver training class has graduated. They were employed at the time that they graduated so our numbers and those numbers are not reflected in what you see here.
  - We also have some expansion and community corrections that I will talk about in our meat processing. We are very encouraged that we will have an opportunity to grow our base of enrollments.
  - We still are working very closely with The Department of Corrections to make sure that the classrooms and our instructors can provide that education in a safe environment.
  - The programs that we do have at community corrections are the programs that we have with juvenile affairs. We are able to continue to move forward to make that connection for our students and transition into employment post-secondary education.
  - Adult Basic Education - with the U.S Census being completed we will be able to update these numbers because this is off the previous census. We'll be able to see what the gap is as we talk about a high school equivalency and where do we need to target and making sure that we're filling that gap.
- K-12 Schools and CareerTech Student Organizations
- FY20 Teachers in Comprehensive Schools
- Technology Centers
- Technology Center Enrollment by Career Cluster
- FY20 ODCTE Fiscal Overview

### **3.02 LAUNCH OF OUR ENERGY CLUSTER – MS. CORI GRAY, DEPUTY STATE DIRECTOR**

Ms. Cori Gray said thank you Dr. Mack. I appreciate the opportunity to present to you and to the board about an exciting opportunity. On October 19<sup>th</sup>, the Oklahoma Department of CareerTech and the Oklahoma Energy Workforce Consortium will launch a new career cluster. Energy will be Oklahoma's 17<sup>th</sup> career cluster. The new cluster was created to increase awareness and encourage Oklahomans to pursue opportunities in the energy industry. The Oklahoma Energy Workforce Consortium is made up of members from CareerTech, the State Department of Education, The Regents, Oklahoma Works, and over 40 business and industry partners from across the state.

The energy industry is expecting a shortage of skilled workers by 2025. In order to fill the gap, a diverse group of energy leaders-initiated talks to add a career cluster on energy. Our business and industry partners did not see energy, as one of Oklahoma's primary economic systems, represented in the 16-career cluster model.

Energy is one of Oklahoma's largest industries. Utilizing our multiple delivery arms, the CareerTech system already provides training for the career pathways in the new energy career cluster. The goal is to showcase Oklahoma's energy industry, to provide opportunities and prepare students for careers in the areas of maintenance, design, production, transportation, generation, transmission, and distribution of all forms of energy – traditional and alternative.

A social media campaign related to the launch will commence October 19<sup>th</sup> during Careers in Energy Week (October 19-23, 2020). I would encourage you to share our social media posts on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn with your social media followers throughout the week. The October 19<sup>th</sup> press release will be posted on the CareerTech website and a video about the energy sector. The need to recruit, train and retain workers and how to get into energy will be posted on CareerTech's YouTube channel. Videos from Governor Kevin Stitt and other state officials will also be posted throughout the week. A website is being developed and promoted by our business and industry partners. The new career cluster is important and we are looking at building a diverse energy workforce for Oklahoma. We will send you the links to that website once it is up and running.

In addition, a virtual industry energy panel discussion will occur at 2 p.m. October 21, 2020 to discuss the need for qualified professionals and the benefits of this new career cluster, which is designed to fill a looming gap in Oklahoma's workforce.

We will also be hosting a Virtual OEIP (Oklahoma Education & Industry Partnerships), which we've talked about in the past. You have a flyer for that and the focus of this month's OEIP are careers in energy as it relates to wind. We're really excited we have a direct focus.

All of the members of the Oklahoma Energy Workforce Consortium will be sharing these communications through their social media platforms in hopes of reaching a large audience. Any assistance you can provide for us to highlight this new program and opportunity we would really appreciate it. Thank you again for your time and support in this endeavor.

### **3.03 MEAT PROCESSING UPDATE – DR. MARCIE MACK**

Dr. Mack said that I've talked about this a little bit, given some updates and there are some statewide advisory groups that helped to drive this conversation for us and primarily it's meeting a request that the industry and various individuals have brought to our attention and that is specific to the labor as it relates to meat processing. There are a variety of avenues for labor within the conversation of meat processing whether it be current labor need but how are we also going to be able to sustain and build that pipeline. In that conversation and working directly with the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture and Secretary Arthur we can now go to phase two of making sure that we are providing that pipeline.

We did launch the end of June, first part of July three online certification courses that are certified through the American Meat Association. From food safety to meat evaluation, culinary meat selection those have been ongoing. The next piece to that is what's that next level? This certification that's offered online core to what we get to do in career and technology education is the hands-on component. What does that look like? How are we able to move that forward? With grant funds that were made available to us here at CareerTech we are going to be able to deploy that at various stages in the educational footprint:

- We will have eleven Agriculture Education programs that will be offering not only the online piece, but they will also be deploying the hands-on components.
- We have five community correction locations that will be able to offer some of those areas as well.
- We will also have three technology centers.

So, in that particular piece the ones that are in this initial deployment are ones that have local industry right now, in their area, that are partnering with them because they have that specific need.

We will have the opportunity to provide a mobile training trailer that can be utilized directly at a business site or at a school or for short-term training anywhere it may need to travel. We will have that available so that we can deploy this training as it's needed to the industry as it continues to diversify. We will have other areas to add as their plants come online that we'll be able to deliver that directly.

The next phase is the equipment has been ordered. We will start deploying the equipment to be delivered in November, hopefully for all of those to be final by the first part of December. We will have the opportunity to go around to each of the programs that will be providing the hands-on. We will share that calendar out with you if you would like to attend any of those that are in your area so that you can speak directly with the students and the instructors who are providing the frontline hands-on piece.

We are also partnering with Oklahoma State University and working on virtual reality by the end of December. Our target would be to have our virtual reality components for the meat processing available for programs if they're looking to implement this curriculum. The virtual reality will help those schools that do not have the classroom space for some of the components. The students will also have the opportunity to visit Oklahoma State University's lab.

We are also working with Panhandle State University for our students who are completing that industry credential that they would be able to garner college credit as they continue on into post-secondary education or move directly into industry that the work that they're doing in their high school classroom will also garner them college credit.

In being able to make this happen our Agriculture Education programs in our K-12 are starting the hands-on; our technology centers will have hands-on and also direct delivery to business and industry. As well as our partnership in utilizing the resource of Oklahoma State University and their meats lab working with them to make sure we're providing that full perspective of the agriculture industry and what it means not only for meat processing but agriculture industry as a whole in that education space.

### **MANAGEMENT ACTION ITEMS**

There were no management action items.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:33 a.m.

The next regular meeting of the State Board of Career and Technology Education will be held on Thursday, November 19, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will convene at the Oliver Hodge Education Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

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Joy Hofmeister, Chair of the Board



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Angela Jones, Executive Assistant  
to the CareerTech State Director and Secretary  
of the CareerTech Board