

**APPROVED MINUTES
KANSAS POSTSECONDARY
TECHNICAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY
MEETING**

The May 26, 2022 meeting of the Kansas Postsecondary Technical Education Authority (TEA) was held at the Kansas Board of Regents office, 1000 SW Jackson Street, Suite 520, Topeka, Kansas and virtually via ZOOM.

Members Present

Mark Hess, Chair	Deb Mikulka via ZOOM
Rita Johnson	Ray Frederick
Mike Johnson via ZOOM	Jason Cox
Mike Beene	Eddie Estes
Tiffany Anderson	Stacy Smith
Keith Humphrey via ZOOM	Amber Shultz

Others Present

Manhattan Area Technical College
Ft. Scott Community College
Northwest Kansas Technical College
Heather Morgan, KACCT

Kansas Board of Regents Staff Present

Scott Smathers	April Henry
Lisa Beck	Vera Brown
Tobias Wood	Sue Grosdidier
Charmine Chambers	Susanna Lee
Steve Funk	Susan Henry
Hector Martinez	Eric Tincher

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Hess at 10:00 AM.

Approval of Previous Minutes

Motion: Member Estes moved to approve the minutes of April 28, 2022. Following a second by Member Shultz, the motion carried.

REPORTS

Introductions
None.

Chair's Report

Chair Hess informed members that after this meeting, he will be relinquishing his position as TEA Chair due to his business time constraints, but he will remain on the TEA. He added that officer elections will be held later in the meeting. He informed members that in Hays, a local school board bond issue for \$143 million for a new high school recently passed, noting their long-term investment in education.

Member Liaison Reports

Chair Hess invited TEA member activity reports.

Member Estes reported that he had the opportunity to spend time at Dodge City Community College, and applauded their efforts working with Hilmar Cheese in Dodge City. He reported he also visited Northwest Kansas Technical College. He informed members that the MidAmerica Workforce Summit is scheduled for January 18-19, 2023. He informed members that Garden City Community College and Dodge City Community College are expanding their Rodeo programs.

Member Cox informed members that due to the increasing requirements of his business in the last two years since the pandemic began, he will be leaving his position with the TEA. He expressed his appreciation to TEA members, as well as to the community colleges and technical colleges.

Vice President for Workforce Development Report

Chair Hess called on Vice President Smathers to provide Members with a Workforce Development report. Vice President Smathers reported that May is a very busy month for Board staff as it is the end of the semester, getting close to the end of the fiscal year, and the end of the legislative session. He reminded members that the end of the fiscal year is June 30th, and their expense reports need to be submitted by June 1st. He informed members that KBOR is in the process of hiring an additional staff member for the Workforce Development team and hope to have that person employed by the time of the TEA meeting in August. He reported that he had the pleasure of speaking at the SSTI conference in Little Rock Arkansas, which is a conference that brings universities and economic developers together, where he learned that Kansas is unique in its focus on its institutions as economic hubs and workforce training centers. Vice President Smathers reported that the Accelerated Opportunity Kansas Summit was held last Tuesday, hosted by Washburn Tech. He added that this program allows students to earn their high school degree while also earning an industry certification. He informed members that President John Masterson is retiring from Allen County Community College and President Dennis Rittle is leaving Cowley Community College to serve as President at Northwest Arkansas Community College. He informed members that Cox Media reported that the Kansas border regions energy jobs campaign that Senior Project Director Peterson worked a great deal on won a bronze Telly Award for local TV promotional campaign. He added the Telly awards highlight the best and most creative across the entire nation and over 40 other countries. In response to a question from Member M. Johnson, Vice President Smathers informed members that Board Staff is currently completing a job description for the hiring of a staff member to assist with the Promise Scholarship Act.

Report from the Community Colleges

Chair Hess called upon Fort Scott Community College President Johnston to provide members with a report from the community colleges.

Report from the Technical Colleges

Chair Hess called upon Manhattan Area Technical College President Genandt to provide members with a report from the technical colleges.

Consent Agenda

Chair Hess informed members that there are items on the consent Agenda from the Budget and Finance Committee and the Technical Program and Curriculum Committee.

Budget and Finance Committee

- FY23 State Appropriations

- FY22 Kansas Innovative Technology Internship Grants

- AEFLA Local Program Awards

Program and Curriculum Committee

1. Program Alignment - Physical Therapy Assistant (51.0806)
2. New Program Proposals
 - Manhattan Area Technical College: Industrial Engineering Technology (15.0613)
 - Northwest Kansas Technical College: Mechanical Engineering Technology (15.0805)
3. Excel in CTE Fees
 - Cloud County Community College: Welding Technology (48.0508)
4. Promise Act
 - Manhattan Area Technical College: Industrial Engineering Technology (15.0613)
 - Northwest Kansas Technical College: Mechanical Engineering Technology (15.0805)

Chair Hess called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion: Member Frederick moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Following a second by Member Beene, the motion carried. Member M. Johnson abstained from the vote.

Discussion Agenda

Technical Program and Curriculum Committee

2022-2023 Excel in CTE Qualifying Credential Incentive List

Chair Hess called on Technical Program and Curriculum Committee Chair R. Johnson, with the assistance of Associate Director Chambers, to present the discussion agenda and to highlight the changes and recommendations that were applied based on discussions from the April TEA meeting. Associate Director Chambers explained that the 2023 qualifying credential list for excel in CTE Fees issue paper is provided for review is similar to what members have seen previously and highlights the criteria that is used. She directed member attention to the bottom of the second page to review clarifying language after their discussions in April, regarding the basic minimum criteria for inclusion on the list, and adjustments to the language from a “phase out occupation,” to a “watch list occupation.” She added that as this process progresses every year any occupation can come back on the list at any time once it meets the minimum criteria. Also included is some additional language that helps explain why a particular occupation found itself on the watch list for this year, such as for aircraft mechanics and service technicians, it was due to the demand at the time and sheet metal workers is due to no longer having an actual program CIP code that matches up to that occupation, noting obviously that sheet metal training for other occupations is usually under those specific occupations themselves.

Members expressed appreciation for the clarifying language added to the credential list per their concerns expressed at the April TEA meeting. Chair Hess called for a motion to approve the 2022-2023 Excel in CTE Qualifying Credential Incentive List as presented.

Motion: Member Frederick moved to approve the 2022-2023 Excel in CTE Qualifying Credential Incentive List as presented. Following a second by Member Smith, the motion carried.

Excel in CTE Fees

Northwest Kansas Technical College: Mechanical Engineering Technology (15.0805)

Chair Hess called on Associate Director Chambers to present the Excel in CTE Fees for Northwest Kansas Technical College: Mechanical Engineering Technology (15.0805). Associate Director Chambers explained to members that the Excel in CTE fees submitted for approval total \$1200 for a laptop computer.

Motion: Member Frederick moved to approve the Excel in CTE Fees for Northwest Kansas Technical College as presented. Following a second by Member Shultz, the motion carried.

Other Matters

Legislative Update

Chair Hess recognized Vice President Frisbie to provide members with a legislative update in the absence of Director Matt Casey. Vice President Frisbie informed members that the Legislature completed a four-day veto session. They focused on several bills and created a 988 hotline for those suffering with mental health issues as well as some new property tax rebates for businesses that were impacted by pandemic closures. She reminded members that the Legislature supported education as a system with funding for the university operating grants, state employee salaries, state aid to Washburn and the two-year colleges, student financial aid, cyber security infrastructure for the universities as well as facility issues with deferred maintenance. A trailer bill to the Promise Scholarship Act was published today in the Kansas register and so it will take effect today. The Promise Act also had some amendments including assistance with tuition waivers and military and law enforcement public safety officer waiver benefits for those who are killed or injured in the line of duty. A new bill was also passed offering a \$1,000 grant for those seeking to become qualified to teach computer science in the high schools. Sports betting was legalized, which will be administered by the State Lottery. Vice President Frisbie informed members that sine die was on Monday, so the next meeting for the Legislature is January 9, 2023, when it is expected there will be many new members in the Statehouse.

Promise Act Programs – Additional Field of Study

Chair Hess called on Vice President Smathers to provide a Promise Act program update with additional fields of study, with the Assistance of Director Henry. Vice President Smathers informed members that a Promise Act follow-up bill was passed by the Legislature with changes made from the previous bill that was passed last year. He informed members that one of the items that changed was that now institutions can choose an individual field of study from one of five options, which are agricultural food and natural resources; education and training; law, public safety, corrections, and security; or distribution and logistics. He explained that now, for example, instead of institutions picking only one program, they could choose a field of study and all their programs in that field of study would now qualify for the Promise Act. He explained that the bill is effective today, and Board staff have been working with the colleges to come up with a list of their selected fields of study that they have an interest in, and this list was provided to members as an additional hand-out material. He reminded members that the Promise Act covers all community colleges and technical colleges, as well as seven non-profit colleges. He explained that the TEA is being asked for approval of the fields of study as selected by the institutions. He pointed out members may notice that some of the institutions did not choose a field of study at this time, but they may choose fields of study later. He added that the four primary program categories from the original bill remain as approved by the TEA previously. Now, instead of an additional program, institutions have the option to select one of five fields of study. Vice President Smathers explained that Board Staff is asking the TEA to approve Board staff continuing to work with the colleges for their input in the programs within the fields of study and assuring that their selected programs will be covered under the specific fields of study prior to the college programs/fields of study going to the Board for approval. Vice President Smathers added that Board Staff has not yet received all the data from the colleges for the first year, however it is believed that a little less than 50% of the Promise Act funds were utilized. The Legislature agreed to allow funds to roll over to the next year and there is a \$10 million threshold in the Statute, except for the carryover funds.

Motion: Member Anderson moved to accept the Promise Act additional fields of study as presented and to authorize Board staff to continue working with the institutions and finalizing the list of programs in the approved fields of study to be submitted to the Board of Regents in June 2022. Following a second by Member Mikulka, the motion carried.

TEA FY 2024 Appropriations Request

Chair Hess called on Vice President Smathers to lead discussions regarding the TEA Appropriations Request for FY 2024. Vice President Smathers reminded members that every year the TEA is asked to submit their recommended funding requests to the Board for their upcoming year's budget request from the Legislature. Vice President Smathers prepared a summary of the input from members with information from both the Community and technical colleges for the TEA final recommendation to the Board of Regents. He informed members that the Board will review budget requests during their retreat in July 2022. He reminded members that last year, the TEA requested the following:

- 1) Excel in CTE: \$2.5 million more beyond the allocation for FY 2022 for a total of \$39,320,000.
- 2) Tiered Funding: \$2 million extra
- 3) Non-Tiered Funding: \$4 million extra
- 4) Capital Outlay Fund: \$4 million extra for a total of \$6,619,311

Total Request of \$12.5 million more than FY 2022

Vice President Smathers explained that based off what high education has been awarded in this year's budget, Board staff recommended the following appropriations to the TEA to consider in April:

- Implement Year Two of Legislative Action on Tiered and Non-Tiered State Aid - TBD
- Provide Additional State Funding for Projected Excel in CTE Student enrollment - \$2.0 million
- Continue CTE Capital Outlay Aid at FY 2023 Level (\$7,419,311) for Eligible Colleges - \$0
- Enhance HB 2239 which currently allows for contributions to a Kansas technical college or community college for capital improvements, deferred maintenance, or technology or equipment purchases to be eligible for a 60 percent non-refundable credit against: Income tax; Insurance premium tax and privilege fees; or Financial net income privilege. The credit has an annual limit not to exceed \$500,000 for any one college or community college with the total annual value of credits not to exceed \$5.0 million. The TEA might want to request that the credit percentage be updated from 60% to 80% and to increase the total annual value of credits limit from \$5 million to \$10 million. - TBD

After reviewing the recommended appropriations suggestions, TEA members asked KBOR staff to reach out to the two-year colleges for their input. The following comments were received and provided to TEA members for discussion:

Community Colleges:

- 1) Fully Fund SB 155- (No new money needed. Appropriation and Reappropriation should cover)
- 2) Fully Fund the Tiered and Non-Tiered Formula- (No new money needed next year)
- 3) Fully Fund Capital Outlay at the FY 2023 level- (No new money needed next year)
- 4) Fund \$5 million dollars into a fund for the community colleges which don't qualify for capital outlay. Divide the funds based upon number of FTE CTE credit hours. New \$5 million.
- 5) Fund \$13,000,000 million dollars in one-time costs for security and cyber security. (Each college would receive \$500,000. While size of school may increase security risk all colleges have a base level of risk which these funds can assist with assessment and security up-front cost to ensure colleges have mitigation processes in place to prevent security issues). New \$13 million.
- 6) Special Projects- To be determined. Focused investments in emerging occupations and needs identified by industry partners and businesses needing new or differently skilled workers in Kansas and to increase the number of students who are enrolling in career and technical education programs to serve that desperate need in the state of Kansas.

- 7) Strongly suggest TEA not make recommendations on the tax credit policy that was just passed. There are two reasons for this recommendation: 1. Tax policy has nothing to do with the budget (Money isn't appropriated for tax credits. It's handled as a revenue and refund situation.) Changes would also require a bill to be passed. 2. It's the first year of the program so let's see how well its being used before recommending changes. 3. The TEA can weigh in on any bill suggesting changes next year which is when changes would ultimately have to be made.

Technical Colleges:

- 1) Continue full funding for Excel in CTE.
- 2) Continue to fully fund the formula for tiered and non-tiered courses and eliminate any gap.
- 3) Increase funding for capital outlay to the eligible technical and community colleges by an additional \$3.8 million from the level funded for FY23.
- 4) Increase the tax credit allowance for the technical colleges to at least 80 cents per dollar donated (we prefer 1:1) as our institutions do not have taxing authority, unlike the community colleges, and increase the cap on the tax credits annually to \$7M for the technical colleges for 5 years.
- 5) Provide an appropriation of at least \$10M for deferred maintenance for the technical colleges due to them not having local taxing authority, and to support their work in driving the state's workforce/economic development.
- 6) Continue funding for the Promise Scholarship.
- 7) Continue funding for adult education.
- 8) Request \$3.5M to initiate a pilot program to provide for technical colleges to provide salary adjustments for faculty members teaching in programs of study leading to high demand/high wage and/or critical need occupations in health care, IT, manufacturing, construction, and engineering technologies.
- 9) Request \$2.8M for the technical colleges to help them improve internal IT/networking structures against cybercrime and related activity.

TEA members discussed the recommended appropriations suggestions as well as the input from the community and technical colleges, and summarized that for FY 2024, the TEA approves recommending to the Board that for the two-year sector the Board make the following Legislative budget requests:

- Implement Year Two of Legislative Action on Tiered and Non-Tiered State Aid - TBD
- Fully fund Excel in CTE Student Enrollment - \$0
- Continue CTE Capital Outlay Aid at FY 2023 Level (\$7,419,311) for Eligible Colleges -\$0
- Fund \$500,000 per institution in one-time costs to improve internal IT/networking structures, security, and cybersecurity - \$13,000,000

Motion: Following discussion, Member R. Johnson moved to approve the TEA Appropriations Request for FY 2024 for submission to the Board as summarized. Following a second by Member Mikulka, the motion carried.

Department of Corrections Update

Chair Hess called on Associate Director Grosdidier to provide members with a Department of Corrections update. Associate Director Grosdidier explained that last year was a transition year for the Department of Corrections, and she gave a brief history regarding Greenbush Educational Service Center previously handling most of the state prison facilities, providing all of the adult education and GED testing until completion of a new RFP by the Department of Corrections, and now eight colleges are involved with nine facilities so more services are being offered than ever before, including offering college and technical classes, and offering an adult education program with training and partnerships. She informed members that data shows that inmates who can obtain their high school diploma have only a 50% recidivism rate

and are less likely to return into the prison system, and currently the GED pass rate for inmates is approximately 78% . Associate Director Grosdidier reported to members that Kansas is the only state that tracks all graduates and provides them with a hard copy of their transcript and their diploma. Prior to the COVID pandemic, Associate Director Grosdidier would attend graduation ceremonies at the facilities, and she continues to send inmates graduation cards. She added that Kansas is leading the way with the Second Chance Pell Grants, which have been a game-changer for inmates who didn't have money to take the GED classes.

Election of TEA Officers

Chair Hess asked for nominations for Chair and Vice Chair for the upcoming fiscal year. Member R. Johnson nominated Member Frederick as Chair and Member Humphrey as Vice Chair and moved for TEA vote for approval. Following a second by Member M. Johnson, the motion carried by unanimous vote.

Chair Hess presented departing Member Cox with a plaque of appreciation for his service to the TEA.

Member Anderson requested that TEA members take a moment of silence in support of the victims and families of the recent Uvalde, Texas school shootings.

Next Meeting Reminder

Chair Hess reminded members that the next TEA meeting is a regularly scheduled conference call meeting on August 25, 2022 beginning at 10:00 AM.

Adjournment

With no further business, Chair Hess adjourned the meeting at 12:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:
Susan Henry, Executive Assistant