

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

The August 20, 2015 meeting of the Kansas Postsecondary Technical Education Authority (TEA) was held at the Kansas Board of Regents, 1000 SW Jackson Street, Suite 520, Topeka, Kansas.

Members Present

Ray Frederick Jr., Chair
Bruce Akin, Vice Chair
Kathy Howell
Thomas Burke
Linda Fund

Steve Kearney
Jay Scott for Randy Watson
Michael Copeland
Eddie Estes

Members Absent

Joe Glassman
Lana Gordon

Others Represented

Flint Hills Technical College
Hutchinson Community College
Johnson County Community College
Kansas City Kansas Community College
Manhattan Area Technical College
Cowley Community College
Fort Scott Community College

North Central Kansas Technical College
Northwest Kansas Technical College
Washburn Institute of Technology
Salina area Technical College
Wichita Area Technical College
Pratt Community College

The meeting was called to order by Chair Frederick at 10:04 AM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Member Burke moved to approve the minutes of May 28, 2015. Following a second by Member Kearney, the motion carried.

REPORTS

Introductions

Chair Frederick introduced Linda Fund, Executive Director for the Kansas Association of Community College Trustees (KACCT) who was appointed by the Regents in June to fill in for Member Jackie Vietti during Member Vietti's term of service at Emporia State University (ESU) as Interim President. Chair Frederick also welcomed Department of Commerce Interim Secretary Michael Copeland to the TEA.

Eric Burks, President of North Central Kansas Technical College and President for the Kansas Association of Technical Colleges, introduced the following new technical college presidents; Sheree Utash, Interim President at Wichita Area Technical College; Jim Genandt, President at Manhattan Area Technical College; and Brenda Chatfield, Interim President at Northwest Kansas Technical College. Member Fund introduced two new community college presidents: Alysa Johnston, President at Fort Scott Community College, and Dennis Rittle, President at Cowley Community College.

Director Beene introduced new Associate Directors Eric Tincher and Kathleen Cochran who joined the Workforce Development team over the summer, and Logan Staab, who is the new the Project Director for the Microsoft IT Academy initiative for secondary and postsecondary institutions across the state.

Chair Report

Chair Frederick informed the members of the TEA that he was invited to participate in the community college New President's Academy on July 30, 2015 during which he provided an overview of the TEA Strategic Priorities. Chair Frederick also participated in a press conference on August 17, 2015, at Wichita Area Technical College, which promoted a recent donation from Airbus for equipment for the college, as well as the recent start of another Workforce AID training for nearly 70 participants for work with Spirit AeroSystems.

Member Liaison Report

Member Estes noted 3i Show will be held on October 8, 2015, and will include eight specific "stops" at the show for students to learn about careers in Agriculture. The TRAC7 Mobile Units have also been invited to set up for the event. Invitations will be sent to statewide Future Farmers of America chapters, and Member Estes invited all present to attend.

Member Burke announced that Kansas City Kansas Community College will be opening a new technical education center in the city of Leavenworth. Both technical and academic courses will be delivered and include the following program areas: Culinary Arts, Building Maintenance, Construction, HVAC, Electrical, Major Appliance Repair, as well as Office Assistant and Medical Assistant.

Jay Scott reported that Dr. Randy Watson and the State Board of Education are continuing to develop a new vision for K-12 Kansas education, focusing on college and career readiness, which will be highlighted at the KSDE Conference in Wichita in late October. The Kansas Advisory Council for Career and Technical Education (KACCTE) met this summer and has updated four career clusters, which will be presented to the State Board of Education in September.

Vice President for Workforce Development Report

Chair Frederick congratulated Rita Johnson on her new role as Vice President for Workforce Development, and expressed appreciation for her continued leadership with the TEA and the Workforce Development team.

Vice President Johnson reported that in addition to the T/NT Subcommittee meetings, the Workforce Development team has had a busy summer of transition in working through position changes and the addition of new staff. Interviews are currently being conducted to replace Deej Cowling as Executive Assistant as she is now the Executive Assistant to President Flanders. Vice President Johnson reported attending a number of activities over the summer including the KATC Retreat on July 8, 2015; KBOR new board member orientation on July 22, 2015; the July 24 announcement naming Washburn Institute of Technology a Fiat Chrysler Automotive Training Center; and on July 27, 2015 she attended the first day of the KACTE Summer Conference. She also reminded members of the grand opening of the new Locomotive Diesel Technology facility at Washburn Institute of Technology on August 31, 2015.

The Annual KBOR Retreat was held in Dodge City, Kansas, August 11-13, 2015. Vice President Johnson provided an overview of the topics discussed and key goals identified. The Retreat included the opportunity for each university as well as representatives from the community and technical colleges to discuss with Board members the vision and mission of their institutions, unique programs, and the contributions their colleges are making to Kansas. The final day of the retreat focused on development of Board goals and standing committee agendas for the coming year.

DISCUSSION AGENDA**T/NT Course Reclassification Subcommittee Status Report**

Chair Frederick informed the group that he has assumed the role as chair of this subcommittee, which was previously held by Member Vietti, and recognized Vice President Johnson to present the update for the committee.

- Round 2 Tier/Non-Tier Course Review

Vice President Johnson explained that the subcommittee held four meetings over the summer, during which consensus was reached on the second round list of courses to be moved from Tiered to Non-Tiered status. These recommended changes will be presented to the Program/Curriculum Committee in September. The list of courses recommended for course status change will be presented to the full TEA for a first review during the September 24, 2015 meeting. The list of courses will then be sent to the institutions noting the dates for the appeals period. The Program/Curriculum will review any appeals received and forward the list and a final recommendation to the full TEA for action during the October 29, 2015 meeting. The final TEA recommendations will then be forwarded to KBOR for action in November.

- Tiered Funding Report

Vice President Johnson provided a brief history of the Tiered Technical Education State Aid funding, including the development of the cost model, the distribution of \$8M “new money” received in FY2012, and the inclusion of the hold harmless proviso. During the last legislative session, new proviso language was added, requiring: The state board of regents shall create a preliminary plan to fully implement the provisions of KSA 71-1803(a)—Tiered Tech Funding in consultation with community colleges and technical colleges by November 1 and the state board shall submit the final plan to the legislature by February 1, 2016.

The subcommittee’s discussions regarding funding model distributions focused on three “what if” scenarios: 1) appropriation of new funding (amount of additional funding requested), 2) appropriations remain the same, and 3) appropriations are reduced (less money).

The consensus of the subcommittee was to request \$8.3M as the amount required to fully fund the current identified system gap, with further agreement discussions regarding funding for the Non-Tiered side continue and include a study and review of how the cost model is applied to non-tiered courses as well as the funding assumptions. Representatives from community and technical colleges shared the scenarios with their respective groups for discussion and input. Based on the feedback received, the subcommittee reached consensus on the following:

- If new funding is appropriated, the funds would be distributed only to institutions with a positive GAP; institutions with a negative GAP would not receive any of new money but would maintain their current base. Under this scenario, 15 colleges would receive a share of the new funding and the base amount for the remaining 11 colleges would remain flat. However, the remaining GAP for the 15 colleges with positive GAPS would still remain at about \$2.9 M which would be addressed the following year.
- If the appropriation is reduced, the consensus of the subcommittee is that the cut should be applied across the board to all institutions with each receiving the same percentage of reduced funding.
- If appropriations remain flat, representatives from the community and technical colleges agreed to gather additional feedback from their respective groups on a distribution scenario where each institution’s base is decreased by an established percentage. Those funds would then be redistributed to all institutions based on each institutions percentage of the total cost amount which would begin the process of implementing a distribution based on the cost model and resetting each institutions base funding amount. This process would then be repeated annually.

The Subcommittee will meet via conference call on Tuesday, August 25, 2015 to share feedback from the community and technical colleges regarding a percentage of the appropriation to be used to establish redistribution pool. The subcommittee recommendations will be presented to the TEA Budget/Finance committee during the September conference call meeting and shared with the full TEA during the September 24, 2015 meeting; with final action taken at the October TEA meeting

Budget and Finance Committee

Chair Frederick recognized Vice President Frisbie for an update regarding the KBOR budget.

- **KBOR Budget Request**

Vice President Frisbie reported that despite a lengthy legislative session, the budgets for FY2016 and FY2017 were adopted, and explained that in most respects, the state funding for postsecondary institutions has been maintained. The one exception concerns the amount planned for the GED Accelerator program; however, because expenditures from the FY2015 allocation were not large, the remaining funding will be available for FY 2016 and FY 2017.

Vice President Frisbie explained that as the FY2016 and 2017 budgets have been approved, the TEA is required, in accordance with current law, to make a recommendation to the Board related to the amount and distribution of state funding for technical education for development of the budget adjustments for the 2016 Legislature. In September, KBOR will have to approve a list of budget amendments to be sought for FY2016 and or FY2017. She suggested that two issues for the TEA to consider include the funding for Excel in Career Technical Education Initiative (SB155), and the amount to request to provide closure of the current identified GAP in the funding model.

TEA members discussed the challenges to estimate the additional funding that may be needed for SB155 due to the first round changes for certain courses from Tiered to Non-Tiered status, as well as the possible enrollment increases due to the addition of new education centers that were not previously in operation. Vice President Frisbie explained that the recommendation could include identification of an appropriation amount now, with the caveat that this amount be revisited once we have collected enrollment information.

Motion: Member Howell moved to recommend KBOR request \$8.3M for FY2017 to close the current gap for tiered technical education state aid. Following a second by Member Burke, the motion passed.

Motion: Member Howell moved to recommend KBOR request \$23M as the current estimated amount needed to fund SB155 for FY2017. Following a second by Member Fund, the motion passed.

- **Carl D. Perkins Reserve Fund Grants**

Director Beene provided a summary of the Carl D. Perkins Reserve Fund Grants awarded in July, 2015. While these funds do not require the approval of the TEA for distribution, this round included a significant amount of funding which affects the entire state. The total awarded was \$362,477, which included awards for the following:

- Manhattan Area Technical College was awarded \$22,100 for the purchase of a dedicated van and portable equipment for the Dental Hygiene outreach program. The funding of this project will allow the program to increase capacity, and expose students to more patient populations, alternative dental care settings, and aid underserved populations including low-income children and special needs patients.
- An award for \$69,912.48 was made to Colby Community College for the purchase of an Electronic Medication Dispensing System which replicates the medication administration system often found in patient care settings, allowing students to learn in a simulation setting and perfect medication administration.
- An award of \$48,300 was made to Hutchinson Community College for the purchase of an Object30 Prime 3D Printer for the Computer Drafting Technology – Architectural and Machine Drafting programs. The printer will provide students hands-on experience, and as the demand for CAD graduates in the area is higher than the supply and this printer can be used as a recruiting tool, demonstrating the sophistication of the program.

- An award was made to Washburn University/Washburn Institute of Technology in the amount of \$49,725 for the Purchase of an Atech 822FJ Instrument Panel Training Board, Smart TV, Wolf Camera, and Snap-On/Starrett Precision Measurement Certification Set for Auto Service Technician program. Grant funds will also be used for the instructor to attend Train-the-Trainer for precision measurement certification, and an additional certification in precision measurement can be added with the tools purchased through this grant.
- \$69, 610 was awarded to Kansas City Kansas Community college to add two lathes which can be operated manually or through Computer Numerically Controlled (CNC) capability, replacing 20 and 30 year-old lathes that do not have CNC capability.
- Highland Community College received an award of \$46,753 to purchase diagnostic tools and equipment needed for the expansion of the Diesel Technology Program at its Western Center.
- An award of \$16,110 was made to Fort Scott Community College to purchase equipment needed to expand its Welding Program

OPEN COMMENT PERIOD

Eric Burks, President of North Central Kansas Technical College, welcomed Vice President Johnson to her new position, and expressed his appreciation for her leadership and hard work, especially on the recent T/NT Course Reclassification Subcommittee

OTHER MATTERS

2015-2016 TEA Strategic Priorities

Chair Frederick presented the 2015-2016 TEA Strategic Priorities for discussion and noted a suggested revision to an item listed under *Aligning Educational Offerings within the System*. If approved the suggested revision would read: "Strengthen partnership with Kansas State Department of Education to develop and implement programs of study connecting secondary and postsecondary career pathways and increase secondary student participation in postsecondary career technical programs." Jay Scott expressed that this language is an accurate reflection of the work that the TEA and KSDE are doing. Chair Frederick asked for any additional questions or suggested revisions. Member Howell suggested that language might be added under *Evaluating and Measuring System Effectiveness* to further expound on the work currently being conducted on industry-recognized credentials. Recommendations on that language change will be brought back to the TEA for further consideration.

U.S. Department of Education/Office of Career Technical and Adult Education Monitoring Visit Update

Director Beene reminded the Authority that the Workforce Development team hosted a monitoring visit from OCTAE in April 2015. She explained that states are monitored either on risk assessment or based on time from last visit; and this visit was expected as the last visit to Kansas was approximately 10 years ago. KBOR received an official notification from the U.S. Department of Education stating there were no areas of non-compliance and no findings were identified by OCTAE. The TEA commended the work done by Director Beene and the Workforce Development team.

Workforce AID Update

Director Gruber presented an update on Workforce AID (Aligned with Industry Demand). Workforce AID is a joint workforce training solution for industry led by Commerce, aligning workforce training and education with industry demand to provide a skilled, credentialed workforce with college credit for Kansas companies. Because the initiative is an employer-driven system approach to link education to jobs and address the skills gap, different models, based on company size and needs, are utilized to provide training for new hires and/or incumbent employees working toward career advancement.

The success of the project has depended on extensive partnerships, including those with **KANSASWORKS** and private staffing agencies to recruit participants. Use of a pre-hire model has been found most desirable for recruiting ease and ensuring candidate quality.

Over 15 training programs have been conducted to date and over 150 individuals have been employed since February 2014. This includes 100% retention of 25 participants trained for Spirit AeroSystems, Inc., and more than 50 additional candidates in the training pipeline. Workforce AID has been nationally recognized, and Kansas is one of seven states to receive grant funding from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation to implement strategies to expand the talent pipeline management model. Director Gruber reported that Kansas will be a participant in a national webinar next week and will be highlighting Workforce AID. Additionally, as part of the project with the US Chamber Foundation, research has been commissioned with the Mid-American Regional Council (MARC) to conduct research on the industry sectors that drive the economy, specifically with a focus on IT/Technology demand\ in the Kansas City area

TEA members discussed raising awareness of the project with legislators and ways that the TEA might further assist with the expansion of the project, including funding considerations and requesting business and industry partners to continue to raise the bar on contributions to the project.

Industry Credential Recognition Initiative

In response to a concern raised during the Open Comment period and discussion in the May 2015 meeting of the TEA, Vice President Johnson provided information on the current initiative to develop a process framework based on recommended standard/criteria to ensure the validity and reliability of industry credentials. With the current proliferation of credentials, it has become difficult to discern quality certifications from those of lesser caliber, and this may be the biggest factor impacting the assurance that an individual holding a certification actually has the competencies needed by industry. The purposes of a credential recognition program include protection for the student, maintaining industry confidence, and mitigation of potential risk to the system by providing validated, publicly available standards for the acceptance or endorsement of certain industry certifications.

Vice President Johnson explained that the initial steps to develop a framework of standards and requirements for system acceptance/endorsement of quality industry credentials began in November 2014 with a two-day workshop conducted by Dr. Roy Swift, Executive Director of Workcred, Inc. Workcred, Inc. is an American National Standards Institute (ANSI) affiliate organization tasked with increasing awareness of competency-based, industry recognized workforce credentials and supporting efforts to improve the quality, transparency, portability, and market value of these important tools. During the first day Dr. Swift explained the standards used by national and international organizations recognizing entities that operate certifications of persons, how these standards are being implemented in the U.S. and internationally, and provided examples of organizations accredited under these standards. The following day, Dr. Swift conducted a work session with KBOR staff to assist in identifying specific criteria for use in the development of a formalized process for recognizing/endorsing industry certifications aligned with KBOR approved postsecondary career technical programs. A proposed framework and recommended criteria, based on the general standards used by ANSI/ISO/IEC, was developed as a result of this work session.

This issue has also been a major topic of discussion nationally, and the work being done here in Kansas was shared with other states during the spring meeting of the National Association of State Directors for Career Technical Education. While the original plan was to present the proposed framework and recommended standards/criteria to industry and educational stakeholders this fall for further discussion, a number of other states have asked to join in these efforts and assist in developing a nationally recognized set of uniform expectations and criteria. Vice President Johnson and Dr. Swift will be conducting a workshop at the National ACTE meeting in New Orleans in November, 2015 for state CTE directors interested in participating in a pilot (funded through NASDCTEc) with the end goal of developing a set of uniform expectations/criteria for all states to use. KBOR staff will simultaneously the process of evaluating the credentials identified through program alignment based on our initial draft framework and recommended criteria.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Frederick called for adjournment. The next TEA meeting is scheduled via conference call for Thursday, September 24, 2015, at 10:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Charmine Chambers, Associate Director for Workforce Development