

**Minutes for State Board for Career and Technical Education  
September 23, 2024**

**Call to Order:**

The regular meeting of the State Board for Career and Technical Education was held on Monday, September 23, 2024, in the CTE Conference Room and via Microsoft Teams. It was called to order by Chair Sonia Meehl at 10:00 am CT.

Roll call was conducted and voting members present include:

Board Member Levi Bachmeier  
Superintendent Kirsten Baesler  
Board Member Pat Bertagnolli  
Board Member Lyndsi Engstrom  
Ms. Lisa Johnson proxy for Chancellor Mark Hagerott  
Vice-Chair Mike McHugh  
Board Member Eric Nelson was present briefly during meeting

Also present: Wayde Sick, Mark Wagner, Gwen Ferderer, Laurie Elliott, Marcia McMahon, Pam Stroklund, Daniel Spellerberg, Lyle Krueger, Pat Phillips, Jeff Fastnacht, Andrew Jordan, Nick Klemisch, Rick Diegel, Todd Benson, Ben Johnson, Darin Scherr, Scott Faul, Rhonda Schauer, Rick Diegel, Randal Brockman and Lorie Ruff.

Meeting chat information for this meeting does not exist.

Chair Meehl requested that due to all the guests present, she would like to move agenda item 5b to first item. There being no objection, the item was moved. Lyndsi Engstrom declared a potential Conflict of Interest for members to consider with this topic. After discussion, Board members did not have any concerns as today's presentation by Bismarck Public Schools and Central Regional Career and Technology Center will be informative only and no action will be taken.

**Presentation by Bismarck Public Schools and Central Regional Career and Technology Center:**

Lyle Krueger, Assistant Director for CRACTC, gave a brief history of how the center came about and the current virtual enrollment numbers they have. Today they are seeking the Board's approval for expanding CRACTC to include brick-and-mortar programs to complement existing virtual programs. This proposal would create an integrated CTE center that enhances hands-on learning, expands course offerings and provide equitable access to students across the state. Others who spoke in support of this expansion included Dr. Jeff Fastnacht, Bismarck Public Schools Superintendent; Rick Diegel, Kidder County School District Superintendent; Andrew Jordan, Wilton Public Schools Superintendent; Dr. Nick Klemisch, Garrison Public Schools Superintendent and Pat Phillips, CRACTC Interim CTE Director.

After much discussion, Chair Meehl conveyed that the Board will not decide today and asked Wayde Sick to bring the Department's recommendations to the next meeting. Any follow-up questions from the Board or Department will be directed to Lyle Krueger and Dr. Fastnacht.

**Board Outcome Progress Monitoring:**

Chair Meehl referred to the items that were included in the material packet and that these were the documents that were worked on by the Board during the Training Retreat in August.

Mike McHugh moved to approve the Progress Monitoring items listed A-E as presented in the packet and it was seconded by Superintendent Baesler. With no further discussion a roll call vote was administered:

Board Member Levi Bachmeier – Aye  
Superintendent Baesler - Aye  
Board Member Pat Bertagnolli - Aye  
Board Member Lyndsi Engstrom - Aye  
Ms. Lisa Johnson - Aye  
Vice-Chair Mike McHugh – Aye  
Chair Sonia Meehl - Aye  
7-0-1 Absent

**Consent Agenda:**

Lyndsi Engstrom moved to approve and accept the items listed in the consent agenda and it was seconded by Levi Bachmeier. The motion passed unanimously.

**Information Only – Updated Board Agenda Calendar:**

As discussed at the August Retreat, there will not be a Board meeting in July and the December meeting will be moved up a week to December 16. The revised calendar reflecting these changes were included in the material packet.

**Items for Discussion and Possible Action:****Election of Officers**

Superintendent Baesler nominated Sonia Meehl as our Chair and Mike McHugh as our Vice Chair and it was seconded by Lyndsi Engstrom. With no other nominations, Superintendent Baesler motioned to close nominations and elect by unanimous consent. Mike McHugh seconded the motion. With no further discussion a roll call vote was administered:

Board Member Levi Bachmeier – Aye  
Superintendent Baesler - Aye  
Board Member Pat Bertagnolli - Aye  
Board Member Lyndsi Engstrom - Aye  
Ms. Lisa Johnson - Aye  
Vice-Chair Mike McHugh – Aye  
Chair Sonia Meehl - Aye  
7-0-1 Absent

## **Board Comments:**

Lyndsi Engstrom reported that the CTE Board Funding Subcommittee met last week and they continue to develop new funding levels centered around the six guiding principles of the funding policy. After today's presentation, they may need to reevaluate our levels. Chair Meehl stated that she has invited Levi Bachmeier to join this subcommittee to include four members – Sonia Meehl, Mike McHugh, Lyndsi Engstrom and Levi Bachmeier.

Superintendent Baesler informed members that during the week of October 21, she and Wayde Sick will be meeting with a group of representatives from the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. They will be observing and learning about some of the educational happenings here in North Dakota by touring several sites in the area.

Chair Meehl stated that Wayde Sick had been traveling to several of the new centers last week and she joined him in Valley City and Edgeley. She found it very interesting to see the various state of completion of the projects.

Wayde Sick then gave a status report on the projects he visited in Jamestown, Valley City, Grand Forks, Fargo and Edgeley. Upcoming visits will include the Devils Lake, Heart River, Minot and Silver Ranch projects. Wayde and Mark Wagner will also be attending the ribbon cutting next week in Grafton and Cavalier.

Marcia McMahon and Laurie Elliott extended their thanks for the opportunity to work with the Board for another year. Their goal is to continue to improve this process by moving more into the monitoring report to give monthly updates. They will also focus on community engagement and board manuals.

Superintendent Baesler reported that the application process closed last week for the Board member vacancy. They received four applications and a committee will review them this week and give their recommendations to the Governor.

There being no other business brought before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:46 am.