

MINUTES
State Board of Vocational Education Meeting
November 19, 2008
Casper Hilton Garden Inn

State Board members present: Jim Lowham, Bill Anthony, Michelle Sullivan, Sandy Barton, Matt Garland, Dana Mann-Tavegia, Jeff Marsh, and Jim McBride

State Board Members Absent: Pamala Anderson, Jan Torres, Larry McGarvin, and Jim Rose

Also present: Mary Kay Hill, Wyoming Department of Education (WDE); Joe Simpson, WDE; Jennifer Duncan, WDE; John Shumway, Attorney General's Office (AG); Annemarie McCracken, Charter Schools contractor for SBE; Alan Moore, WDE; Joy Mockelmann, WDE; Fred Hansen, WDE; Gerry Maas, WDE; Tom Martin, WDE; Guy Jackson, WDE; Joe Baker, WDE; Bill Pannell, WDE; Teri Wigert, WDE; Linda Scott, WDE; and Billie Van Landingham, WDE

Members of the Press and Public Present: Merle Smith, Laramie County School District #2; Way Beatty, Natrona County School District #1; Brent Young, Laramie County School District #1 (LCSD #1); John Balow, LCSD #1; Tracey Kinney, Carbon County School District #1 (CCSD #1); and Rich Taedert, CCSD #1;

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jim Lowham called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Roll Call was conducted, it was determined that there was a quorum present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the February 20, 2008 and September 10, 2008 Vocational Board meetings were presented for approval.

SANDY BARTON MOVED THAT THE STATE BOARD OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 20 AND SEPTEMBER 10, 2008 BE APPROVED.

MATT GARLAND SECONDED THE MOTION

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PERKINS IV UPDATE

Teri Wigert, WDE, introduced the various areas of the Perkins IV update that will be covered during the meeting. The agenda was based around the azimuth that was created within Perkins to develop areas of focus for each area.

Joe Baker and Linda Scott, WDE, updated the board on integration of academic and career learning. This has been an area of concern since they seem to be on separate tracks. Perkins IV states that these areas must be integrated. This is one of 9 criteria that must be met in order to receive federal funds.

Linda Scott updated the Board on the team project of developing a Career Technical Assessment. The assessment needs to be valid and reliable. The assessment must meet the guidelines of the Perkins Act as well as provide valid and useful feedback on student learning. This will help teachers and counselors assist students as they move forward into their career field. Three assessments will be worked on this year: agriculture, food and natural resources, architectural construction and manufacturing.

Linda also talked about the Career Cluster Team that is comprised of teachers from all levels of education as well as small and large districts to develop the competencies that need to be developed in order for students to move into the career world.

Bill Pannell addressed the Board regarding career exploration and counseling. He talked about the career guides that have been being published and presented during the 8th grade unit of study for the Hathaway Scholarship for the last 3 years. Many counselors feel they are crisis counselors at this time and have trouble actually providing career counseling. Career Pathways Leadership Certification is available for school counselors around the state to provide them with the expertise to develop career counseling.

Implementation of the career clusters are being used around the country as a guideline for a curriculum in a small education community. They are also used as a model for structuring some college course offerings, a counseling model for guidance through career fields as well as a curriculum model in developing coursework. States will develop suggested templates for programs of study, articulation agreements with the colleges and university that will develop a model for implementation of the clusters that will match a national model.

Tom Martin discussed the recent monitoring visit by the National Office of Vocational Education. The focus was on Perkins IV. A total of five people arrived in November for the visit. They visited many high schools along I-80, Evanston, Rock Springs, Rawlins, Laramie and the Cheyenne high schools and community college. They were very pleased with the status of the Perkins plan being put into operation within the schools and the State department.

Guy Jackson updated the Board on the status of the CTE demonstration pilots in the State. Three projects were selected from the applicants from around the State based on a rubric. The three consortiums are Laramie County Community College in Cheyenne in development of wind energy programs of study, Campbell County School District with a culinary arts program, and the third in Jackson Hole which is also a culinary arts program.

Tom Martin updated the Board on the professional development program that is a part of Perkins as well as the state plan. The WDE has a contract with LCCC in Cheyenne to provide programs of study at all seven community colleges.

Teri Wigert concluded the presentation emphasizing that all WDE is doing is about lifelong career guidance for students.

Sandy Barton presented an update on the status of the Job Corps facility being built in Riverton. Eighteen individuals from the State visited two Job Corps facilities in Minot, North Dakota and Grand Junction, Colorado to give the group members an idea of what the State can look forward to with their facility. Matt Garland and Teri Wigert attended with the group. Matt was impressed by the respectfulness of the students, the cleanliness of the facility and the work ethic. Teri found that her perception changed significantly, she found the students to be resilient and focused on finishing their high school education. Both agreed that this will be one of the best things that will happen for this State.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Lowham adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.