

MINUTES



Kansas Advisory Committee for Career & Technical Education

Details

Date April 2, 2020

Time 9:00 AM

Group KACCTE Advisory Committee

Location Virtual - Zoom

Attendance: Stacy Smith, Natalie Clark, Kurt Dillon, Mark Thompson, Alex Delaney, Kathleen Mercer, Ann Mah, Tiffany Stovall, Joni Clark-Leiker, Jim Means, David Dennis, Clint Reed, Sharon Thielen, Scott Smathers, Becky Warren, Crystal Roberts, Travis Riebel, Gayla Randel, Angie Feyh, Eddie Estes, Lisa Graham, Nikk Nelson, Shannon Bohm, Silas Dulan, Scott Smathers, Wendy Coates

Time here	Business & Industry Update <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Business & Industry members
Time here	Perkins V Update <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kathleen Mercer
Time here	Work-Based Learning Update <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Natalie Clark
Time here	Pathway Revisions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stacy Smith

Business & Industry Updates

Eddie: First time in 66 years that 3iShow had to be cancelled. The annual High School Ag. Career Day was to be changed to Career and Technical Education Day, and had expectations of a very good turnout. The 3iShow has been rescheduled to March 18-20, 2021. Exhibitors may be rolled over to next year. They come from 20+ states, as well as Canada.

David Dennis, Sedgwick County: Before COVID-19: There was a problem with the 737 Max, which resulted in Spirit laying off about 2,500 people. The ripple effect on the community is

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huge, because many of the suppliers and manufacturers are from the Sedgwick county area. WSU Tech offered some scholarships to laid off workers, so that they could receive additional training. Many businesses have stepped in with trying to find ways to employ workers who were laid off.

After COVID-19: The county commission, of which Mr. Dennis is a part, made the decision to shut down most non-essential businesses, which resulted in more workers being laid off. Four days later, the governor's statewide stay-at-home order, was nearly identical to Sedgwick county's order. Thousands are unemployed in the area, and are unable to go back to school due to social distancing requirements.

Silas: Evergy is in a unique space, as they serve both Kansas and Missouri. Kansas has a current stay-at-home order, while Missouri does not. They are considered critical infrastructure, and have submitted letters to both Kansas and Missouri, to be among first to access needed supplies.

Prior to COVID-19, Evergy was working on upgrading HR systems, which was supposed to go live on May 1, 2020. As of today (April 2, 2020), it appears that this is still on track. They are looking to hire interns for the summer of 2020, with a goal of hiring over 100 interns, with a start date of June 1.

Evergy is still hiring, particularly linemen and linewomen. There are also some vacancies at the call center. Some apprenticeship programs are on pause.

Clint: Sedgwick County Fire Department is hiring. Five new recruits are going through the academy, but, for the first time in a long time, the first few weeks are web-based learning, which is not ideal for a job that requires a lot of hands-on training. They are working with Butler County Community College to use their web-based portal for their recruits. An additional five recruits are planned.

Wichita is also hiring. They are doing a joint academy, but social-distancing makes this difficult. The Regional Training Center is currently being used as a hub for COVID-19 quarantine and decontamination.

Tiffany: (Kansas Manufacturing Solutions) Manufacturers are affected by COVID-19 in a big way. With many retailers and restaurants shut down or slowed down, manufacturers for these areas have had quite a few layoffs. Companies are shut down for a variety of reasons: lack of raw materials, lost contracts. On the other end of the spectrum, some manufacturers are making critical-needs goods and have more business than ever. They have a need to retool and scale up very quickly, in terms of raw materials, cash and people.

The crisis has exposed a weakness in the national supply chain, in that knowledge of the small to medium-sized manufacturers is limited. There is a national push to find and mobilize these smaller companies to aid with critical-need goods. The Manufacturing Extension Partners (MEP) is working on putting together a database of those manufacturers, their capabilities, capacities and needs.

Beginning prior to COVID-19: working on FAME – Federation for Advanced Manufacturing Education. This is a 5-semester program that recruits students. Students receive instruction

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three days per week, then work for pay two days a week. At the end of the five semesters, the company may choose to continue to invest in the student's education, or the student may go into full-time work at the company. This model has worked well across the country. Employers in the Kansas City region are excited about this. The timeline is being pushed back to begin the chapter, with a goal to kick off in the Fall.

Shannon: Architecture/Construction – Most architects are working remotely. Shannon is in her second week of working completely remotely. Contractors are continuing to work at job sites, dealing with social-distancing challenges. There is concern about being able to meet deadlines due to being unsure about receiving ordered product. There is still quite a bit of work that will be going out to bid.

The State Fire Marshall being shut down affects inspections.

Sharon Thielen (Ag): Sharon manages the educational resources for the Kansas Corn group. Kansas Corn is a checkoff-funded commodity group. One penny per bushel of corn produced goes into the checkoff, then farmers decide how the funds will be used.

Kansas Corn as an initiative, in which the goal is to incorporate more agriculture education into K-12 classrooms. They help teachers by funding supplies, training, and curriculum that ties to standards that are already taught in the classroom, but also link to agriculture. Lessons are currently being adjusted to accommodate continuous learning.

Agricultural markets are greatly affected by COVID-19. Prices are going up in stores, but farmers are not really profiting. We are hearing about dairy farms in Wisconsin having to pour out milk because demand is down due to kids not being in school. There are several similar effects.

Comments: A distillery in Dodge City is making hand sanitizing equipment. The group is part of the Young Farmers group with Kansas Corn.

Many groups are trying to figure out how to contribute.

Alex: IT is as big as ever. With many working remotely, everybody needs IT. Technology is relied on more than ever.

Ann Mah: Board Update – There has been an amazing effort state-wide to get continuous learning going. A group of about 40 teachers across the state worked together to put together a plan. Continuous learning looks different in each district. Internet access varies across the state. Some schools are doing packets. Many are using Zoom. Some schools and districts are delivering meals to students. Families are dealing with homeschooling as well. New ways to reach kids are being found, and a lot is being learned.

Comments: Each district must submit a waiver, which includes how they plan to support continuous learning. Some communities are doing small group instruction, in groups of fewer than ten people. Responsiveness to varying needs is important.

David Dennis' son is a CTE teacher. Almost all of the courses that he teaches were already set up online, and most are dual credit. WSU is requiring them to finish the year, as scheduled.

Travis: There has been a lot of great collaboration among CTE teachers throughout the

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state. Some pathways translate well to online learning. Others rely more on technical skill and mastery and competency of those skills. There are discussions about bringing small groups in to allow for demonstration of skills as necessary.

Gayla Randel (Education & Training, Human Services, in absence of committee members): Pathways related careers in these areas are impacted in a different way. They are revisiting what it means to teach in a new model. Teachers are being viewed in a different light by the communities. Early childhood is an essential area that has remained open during the COVID-19 crisis. There is financial support being provided by the federal government in early childhood/child care areas.

Gayla met with a Kansas City area advisory committee in the fashion area. Many retail careers have been lost or furloughed. There is work to try to move to designing from home. The general level of internet services and lack of bandwidth in Kansas makes this difficult.

Perkins V Update

KSDE's portion of the state plan for Perkins V has been finalized. There has been a nationwide extension granted on the deadline for state plans, but our team had already completed it, so will not take advantage of the extension.

Schools are operating in crisis mode. KSDE is working with schools to extend deadlines for reports or applications, as needed. Kathleen has been doing webinars every other week around the Perkins application process. Schools have been invited to schedule individual Zoom meetings with Kathleen and their regional consultants if additional support is needed. Meetings are also being hosted with all consultants present.

In the past, Perkins did not allow for the purchase of curriculum. Rather than consumables or textbooks that might become outdated, there are now subscriptions and programs available that are updated frequently. Our state plan provides the opportunity to purchase curriculum, if it is somehow tied to CTSOs. The rationale is that KSDE does not vet or endorse curriculum. If a program aligns to a CTSO, it is likely vetted, used within the industry, and has validity. An example that has come up is Cengage. There is an assessment tied to this program. In the past, Perkins has not paid for industry credentials. There is a possibility that industry credentials may not be paid for with Perkins funds, but this has not been cleared with the federal government yet.

Action: Please provide feedback on these questions:

- Would it be a good practice to allow schools to utilize Perkins funds for curriculum?
- Would it be a good practice for schools to utilize Perkins funds for industry-recognized credentials, if it is allowable?

Possible Pros/Cons/Considerations:

- The "pie" doesn't get any larger; The money is just split differently.
- A student has the opportunity to leave high school with an industry-recognized credential.

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- Those funds are then not available for use on professional development or supplies that could benefit multiple students.
- At what point would you pay for a credential for a student? Special populations? All students?
- Currently, there are a cohort of students who may not get to finish Excel in CTE courses, or don't have consistent guidance due to the online platform. They may exit high school without a solid plan.

Feedback during meeting:

- Federal guidelines are the main consideration.
- Grant writers appreciate flexibility to meet the needs of their districts and schools.
- Being able to purchase curriculum that could support industry-recognized credentials would probably be seen as positive by CTE coordinators.
- Having funding to support credentials is important when you have many students who cannot afford it.
- It is difficult to engage students who know ahead of time that they cannot afford it. This could provide an opportunity for additional equity and access.
- Question: Would this be something that is eventually tapered out? You don't want to get into something that you are unable to continue after two or three years.
 - As of this writing, tapering would not be required, but there are no guarantees about what will happen when Perkins law is rewritten.
 - Curriculum that is currently purchased with local funds could not be funded with Perkins funds (supplanting).
- In the past, money was allowed to be used for things that would impact all students or just CTE. Ann would hate to move too far away from that.

Work-Based Learning Update

“Scale High Quality Work-Based Learning Pilot”

Consultants at KSDE had proposed a possible work-based learning micro-credential to teacher licensure. A 3-day training was set up for April. This has been moved to a virtual session once per week, starting on April 15 and going through May 20, 2020.

Presenters include:

- US Department of Labor – Youth labor laws

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- Department for Children & families – pre-employment transition services
- Department of Commerce – some models of WBL
- Kansas Board of Regents – Excel in CTE and WBL supports
- Department of Labor – labor market information
- KSDE consultants – additional topics and information

Pilot districts will be asked, at the end, to bring back artifacts and deliverables showing how they have used the professional development.

Region 1: Hugoton, USD 210 (Natalie)

- Coordinator: Bill Lohse
- Working to advance youth registered apprenticeships
- Had planned to do a Building Bridges, but are shifting to what can be done virtually and online and planning for next year in awareness, exploration and preparation experiences.

Region 2: Manhattan, USD 383 (Kurt)

- In early stages, trying to figure out logistics with being a bigger district
- Late start with workforce intermediaries
- May be difficult to find connections while people are out of jobs, but will move forward to prepare for next school year

Region 3: DeSoto, USD 23 (Gayla, Wendy)

- Building a new career center next year
- Coordinator: Dr. Cindy Swartz
- Coronavirus has impacted ability to make contacts, but they do have several who are very interested in helping to support the work.
- Functioning fairly independently

Region 4: Circle, USD 375 (Crystal)

- The intermediary at the workforce center has been trying to get in touch with businesses. Meetings have been postponed.
- They are trying to get funding set up, and have been visiting with Kathleen.

Region 5: Iola, USD 257/Chanute, USD 413 (Nikk)

- Currently preoccupied with continuous learning plan, in the same situation as others.
- Focusing on a new manufacturing pathway
 - Bring both districts together to use virtual reality manufacturing equipment
- New articulation agreement with Cloud County Community College around wind energy
 - Some high school courses equate to three credit hour course

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- 18 credit hours listed in the agreement that are a straight swap

CASEL – Collaborative for Academic Social Emotional Learning

- Kansas is one of eight states collaborating
- How social-emotional learning and workforce overlap

Pathway Revisions

Pathway revisions for 2019-2020 were postponed. Revisions will resume next August. A spreadsheet of the revised Pathway revision cycle was sent with the calendar invitation and agenda for this meeting.

Course Codes related to internship activities:

- KSDE will electronically submit some proposals of course codes to add to Pathways for internship purposes to KACCTE members in late April, early May
- Voting at June meeting following feedback
- Consider flexibility across pathways
 - This is part of the hope for the WBL coordinator training
 - WBL coordinators to be prepared enough to support students with internships in multiple pathways

Next meeting: June 9, 2020 – Location TBD

For more information, contact:



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