

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the  
STATE BOARD OF CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION  
HELD AT GREEN COUNTRY TECHNOLOGY CENTER, 1100 OK-56 LOOP,  
OKMULGEE, OKLAHOMA**

**SEPTEMBER 19, 2024**

The State Board of Career and Technology Education began its regular meeting at 9:10 a.m. Thursday, September 19, 2024, at Green Country Technology Center, Seminar Center, Okmulgee, OK, and the meeting was also streamed on YouTube. Notice was properly given, and the final agenda was posted at 1:31 p.m. on September 17, 2024, in accordance with 25 O.S. 2011, § 311(9).

Members of the State Board of Career and Technology Education present and all appeared in person:

- Mr. Brent Haken, state director, ex-officio nonvoting member
- Mr. Michael Brown, Lawton
- Mr. Randy Gilbert, Tecumseh
- Mr. Edward Hilliary, Elgin
- Mr. Rob Seeman, Morris
- Ms. Kendra Wesson, Norman

Members of the State Board of Career and Technology Education not present:

- Mr. Ryan Walters, state superintendent of public instruction and chair of the board
- Mr. Peter Dillingham, Enid
- Ms. Shaelynn Haning, Tulsa
- Mr. Zachary Archer, Hammon

Attendees from the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education and other guests:

See Attachment A.

**1.01 CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL**

Mr. Brent Haken called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. Ms. Ashley Rink called the role and ascertained there was a quorum.

**1.02 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, SALUTE TO THE OKLAHOMA STATE  
FLAG AND A MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Led by Mr. Brent Haken.

### **1.03 DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS –MR. BRENT HAKEN, STATE DIRECTOR**

- Thanked Green Country for hosting the meeting and expressed gratitude to Superintendent Roger King for setting up the meeting.
- Planned to move quickly through comments to allow the school to present their updates.
- Mentioned that Superintendent Walters was absent and that we would be skipping over his agenda item.
- Noted that fall is a good time to observe school activities and programs.
- Shared about a recent visit to Southwest Technology Center in Altus, where they are using one-time funds creatively by building the shell of a building and using their trades classes to complete it, enabling them to add programs next year.
- Acknowledged that some updates would be discussed during the meeting's agenda.
- Apologized for failing to send out a bi-weekly memo to the board members two weeks ago.
- Mentioned the current focus on reviewing budgets and data.
- Announced upcoming participation in the State Chamber's fly-in in Washington, D.C. next week.
- Shared involvement in an interim study this afternoon and noted he would be at the Capitol from around noon until between 2:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.
- Encouraged attendees to ask questions and promised to provide more information on ongoing activities.

### **1.04 MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 15, 2024, REGULAR MEETING**

A vote was taken on the motion to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2024, regular meeting with the correction that Randy Gilbert was present. The results were as follows:

Ms. Kendra Wesson, yes  
Mr. Rob Seeman, yes  
Mr. Edward Hilliary, yes  
Mr. Randy Gilbert, yes  
Mr. Michael Brown, yes

Motion carried. A copy of the minutes is on file at the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education.

**Unscheduled Item/Additional Comments by Mr. Roger King, Superintendent of Green Country Technology Center**

- Mr. Roger King welcomed attendees to Green Country and shared a brief history of the campus, noting that it was the 28th technology center in Oklahoma, established in 1991.
- Mr. King expressed gratitude for the recent \$385,000 one-time appropriation, highlighting how the funds helped expand the center's capacity, including the addition of new construction trades and cosmetology programs. Currently, the school operates at 107% capacity with 400 full-time equivalent students, up from 330 last year.
- Mr. King also discussed a performance measurement policy called the "Go Green Performance Policy," which rewards instructors based on enrollment, retention, and certification achievements. Programs are incentivized for reaching benchmarks but may be flagged for low performance.
- Additionally, Mr. King acknowledged staff members for their contributions, specifically thanking Ms. Dee Dee Estes, Mr. Anthony Nieto, and Mr. Steve Emerson, a construction trades teacher whose students have been instrumental in campus renovations.

**2. RECOGNITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

**2.01 Presentation and Possible Discussion by Mr. Jase Flud, Construction Trades Student and 2024-2025 State SkillsUSA Officer – Parliamentarian from Green Country Technology Center**

- Welcome and Introduction
- Mr. Jase Flud welcomed everyone to Green Country and introduced himself.
- Overview of Green Country's mission and programs
- Green Country's mission is to develop a skilled workforce by preparing students for success.
- Green Country offers a variety of programs, including:
  - Construction Trades
  - Cosmetology
  - Programming
  - Video game development
- Emphasized the need for skilled workers in real-world career fields, particularly in Oklahoma.
- Discussed career and technology student organizations (CTSOs)
- Highlighted Green Country's strong support for CTSOs, including SkillsUSA, HOSA, and BPA.



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- Although each organization serves different industries, all share the common goal of developing America's future workforce.
- Noted that collaboration across these organizations strengthens workforce development.
- Shared success stories from the construction trades program:
  - Amberly McCuller interned at Crossland Construction and was offered a full-time position.
  - Another classmate is working with a licensed electrician to further his career.
  - Several graduates are now enrolled in Oklahoma State University's construction management program, building on skills learned at Green Country Technology Center.
- Shared CTSO accomplishments at Green Country Technology Center.
- HOSA Achievements:
  - HOSA chapter awarded the Certificate of Merit for contributions to the National Service Project of "Be the Match."
  - Students placed internationally:
    - Sarah Holman and Lacy Sperry placed second in Forensic Science at the HOSA International Leadership Conference.
    - Courtney Pullman, Toney Fox, and Michaela Tucker placed first in Public Service Announcement at the same conference.
  - HOSA instructor Amanda Longan received a plaque for Outstanding HOSA Adviser.
- SkillsUSA Accomplishments:
  - Last year, two cosmetology students made history by qualifying for the state conference after placing at districts.
  - Four students from the construction trades program, including the speaker, qualified for the State Contest.
  - Mr. Jase Flud placed eighth at the State Conference.
  - On the leadership side, Green Country had two separate opening and closing teams that placed in the top three at the state conference:
    - Mr. Jase Flud's team placed third in the secondary division.
    - The postsecondary team placed second.
- Conclusion
  - Mr. Jase Flud expressed pride in the accomplishments of Green Country Technology Center students and staff.

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- He thanked the board members for visiting Green Country Technology Center and for their service.

### **3. MANAGEMENT INFORMATION**

#### **3.01 Discussion and First Reading of the 2025 CareerTech Business Plan – Mr. Russell Ray, Director of Communications**

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks
  - Mr. Russell Ray commented on how he appreciated hearing student success stories like Mr. Jase Flud's and others, which align with the mission of Oklahoma CareerTech's Communications and Marketing division.
  - Shared a brief anecdote about meeting Rusty, the beloved janitor at Green Country Technology Center, and noting the food court that was named in his honor.
2. Overview of the Business Plan for 2025
  - The heart of the business plan is the appropriations request on pages 4 and 5, which Mr. Brent Haken will address later.
  - The business plan and marketing materials, including the annual report, are used to highlight Oklahoma CareerTech's success stories.
3. Business Plan Highlights
  - Page 1:
    - Outlines the vision, mission, goals, and values of Oklahoma CareerTech.
  - Page 2:
    - Discusses FY24 enrollment statistics:
      - FY24 enrollment: 521,000 students, a 6.5% increase over the previous year.
      - Record-high CTSO membership for the third consecutive year.
    - Mentions new graduation requirements emphasizing career readiness training.
    - Highlights Oklahoma CareerTech's leadership role in apprenticeships.
4. Business Spotlight
  - Page 3:
    - CaptiveAire, a ventilation system and HVAC equipment manufacturer, expanded its Mogi manufacturing plant, creating 100 new jobs and doubling production capacity.
    - Indian Capital Technology Center played a critical role in training new workers for the expansion through a Training for Industry Program agreement.
    - The partnership provided cost-effective, customized training and created career opportunities for students.
5. CareerTech Champion Series
  - Page 6:
    - Addison Asher:
      - Welding and metal fabrication student at Northeast Technology Center.
      - Uses welding as a means to pay for college and plans to become an occupational therapist.

- Hopes to attend NSU or Southeastern State after high school.
- Crystal Mize:
  - Overcame personal struggles, including abuse and drug use, to receive her high school diploma.
  - Credits the Sallisaw Adult Learning Center and Oklahoma CareerTech's Skills Center Program for her success.
  - Aspires to become a drug and grief counselor and be a positive example for her children.
- 6. Additional CareerTech Champion Series Highlights
  - Page 7:
    - Ms. Linda Pledger:
      - Emergency medical services instructor at Great Plains Technology Center.
      - Named 2023 Instructor of the Year by the Oklahoma EMT Association.
      - Known for her dedication, often teaching from 8 a.m. until 10 p.m.
    - Mr. Hunter Young:
      - Former engineering student at Canadian Valley Technology Center.
      - Participated in the center's first robotics program, which boosted his confidence.
      - Earned a master's degree in robotics engineering and now works as a successful robotics engineer in Maryland.
- 7. Director's Column
  - Page 8:
    - Mr. Brent Haken wrote about a collaboration between Oklahoma CareerTech and higher education.
    - The partnership allows students at participating technology centers to apply up to 18 hours of practical nursing credit toward a college degree.

#### **4. MANAGEMENT ACTION ITEMS**

##### **4.01 Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Annexation of Konawa Public Schools in the Pontotoc Technology Center District No. 14 – Ms. Gina Hubbard, Director of Statewide Outreach**

- On August 27, the voters of the Konawa School District voted 225 to 193 to annex to Pontotoc Technology Center.
- This was truly a grassroots effort by Travis Graham, Pontotoc Tech superintendent and Karis Reavis, Konawa Public Schools superintendent.
- We are excited about the opportunities this provides for students and the community.

A vote was taken on the motion to approve the Annexation of Konawa Public Schools into Pontotoc Technology Center District No. 14. The results were as follows:



Mr. Michael Brown, yes  
Mr. Randy Gilbert, yes  
Mr. Edward Hilliary, yes  
Mr. Rob Seeman, yes  
Ms. Kendra Wesson, yes

Motion Carried. A copy of the minutes is on file at the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education.

**4.02 Discussion and Possible Action on the 2025-2029 Strategic-Plan – Ms. Gina Hubbard, Director of Statewide Outreach**

- **Overview and Considerations:**
  - Provided an update on input gathered since the last board meeting, including engagement and staff surveys.
  - Discussed alignment with appropriations request and business plan.
  - Discussed focus on growth under Director Haken's vision, aiming to serve more students and businesses.
- **Educational Attainment Goals:**
  - Increase system enrollments by 15% over the next five years.
  - Grow credentials earned by students by 10%.
  - Increase student organization membership by 5%.
- **Secondary Enrollment Targets:**
  - Secondary enrollments (PK-2) to grow by 10%.
  - Full-time tech center enrollments to increase by 25%.
- **Postsecondary Enrollment Targets:**
  - Adult and Career Development enrollments to rise by 10% to more than 52,000 by 2029.
  - Workforce and economic development industry-specific enrollments to increase to more than 10%.
  - Increase Training for Industry Program enrollments by 7,400.
  - Increase full-time and short-term Skill Center completers over five years.
  - Skills Center focus on successful reintegration of incarcerated individuals.
  - Adult education and family literacy to grow by 30%, with legislative and financial support.
- **Business and Education Partnerships:**
  - Aim to increase unique businesses served by 10% in the next five years.
  - Set goal for 250 participants in internships and apprenticeships over five years (currently at zero).
- **Career Awareness and Planning:**
  - Increase active users of OK Career Guide by 10% over five years.

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- Encourage more student requests for internships, apprenticeships and job shadowing.
- Increase connected business engagement by 40%, encouraging opportunities for students to interact with businesses.
- **Agency Operations and Field Support:**
  - Limit administrative costs to 3% over the next five years.
  - Focus on recruitment and retention, maintaining less than 10% turnover (current average is 6%).
- **Additional Comments:**
  - Strategic plan submission to OM due by October 1.
  - Hall of Fame banquet on October 3, with individual seats available and sponsorships sold out.

A vote was taken on the motion to approve the minutes of the 2025-2029 Strategic Plan. The results were as follows:

Ms. Kendra Wesson, yes  
Mr. Rob Seeman, yes  
Mr. Edward Hilliary, yes  
Mr. Randy Gilbert, yes  
Mr. Michael Brown, yes

Motion Carried. A copy of the minutes is on file at the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education.

**4.03 Discussion and Possible Action on the FY26 Appropriations Request – Mr. Brent Haken, State Director**

**FY26 Appropriations Request**

- Provided one-pager and business plan for review.
- Key focus on workforce training, now called career training, to avoid confusion with the Workforce Commission.
- Request for \$41.65 million for workforce-related training programs, increased from \$37 million last year due to rising costs.
- Proposed change to terminology, removing "workforce" to avoid conflict with other state items.
- Flex Benefit Allowance slightly less than last year, allowing for some anticipated increases.
- Plan to include the \$450,000 for incarcerated individual training, transitioning it from a one-time allocation to base funding.



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- Growth in K-12 Career Tech program support, addressing staffing shortages due to growing programs (240+ high school programs in the last two years).
- Industry competitiveness affecting retention, especially in high-demand areas like aerospace.

**Teacher Support & Funding**

- K-12 teachers' training funds could increase by up to \$1,500.
- Increased support for competitive salaries to retain instructors.
- Mention of a million-dollar Career Technology Expansion Fund to help schools, especially in underserved areas.

**Ad Valorem & Other Funding**

- Discussion on balancing the need for state funding with growing ad valorem.
- Plan to request additional funding from sources like Oklahoma's Promise and Pell Grants.
- Emphasis on a balanced approach with contributions from both state funding and internal growth.

**Tech Center Funding Formula**

- Detailed funding formula to calculate appropriations, considering ad valorem, district area size, and percentage of students served.
- Schools with the highest need, such as Metro Tech with a large waitlist, received more funding.
- Superintendent Finance Committee evaluating the current funding formula for future improvements.

**Legislative Process**

- Preparing documentation to submit to the legislature by October 1.
- Committee will continue working on a revised funding formula to present to the board for approval.

A vote was taken on the motion to approve the FY26 Appropriations Request. The results were as follows:

Mr. Michael Brown, yes  
Mr. Randy Gilbert, yes  
Mr. Edward Hilliary, yes  
Mr. Rob Seeman, yes  
Ms. Kendra Wesson, yes

Motion Carried. A copy of the minutes is on file at the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education.

**4.04 Discussion and Possible Action on One-Time Funding Approvals – Mr. Brent Haken, State Director**

**One-time Money Allocation:**

- Leftover \$1.606 million from the one-time money pot is available for distribution.
- Criteria for schools to qualify for these funds:
  - Schools with a building fund of **two mills or less**.
  - Schools where building fund revenue is **10% or less** of their general fund over the last five years.
  - Schools that have consistently received **less than \$1.5 million** in building fund allocation over three years.
- Eligible schools would receive around **\$321,200** each for expenses usually covered by their building funds.

**Use of Funds:**

- Discussion around how to best distribute the money. Some suggested distributing it to a **few schools** with a larger amount, while others suggested helping **multiple schools** with smaller allocations.
- The concern is whether \$300,000–\$400,000 would be sufficient for schools to make significant improvements, such as adding new facilities or programs.

**Application Process:**

- Schools would have to **apply** for these funds, ensuring they meet the eligibility criteria and demonstrating a need. This approach is meant to encourage schools to put effort into securing the funding, giving it greater value.

A discussion was had among the board.

A vote was taken on the motion to approve One-Time Funding Approvals. The results were as follows:

Ms. Kendra Wesson, yes  
Mr. Rob Seeman, yes  
Mr. Edward Hilliary, yes  
Mr. Randy Gilbert, yes  
Mr. Michael Brown, yes

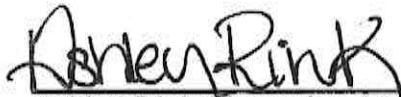
Motion Carried. A copy of the minutes is on file at the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education.

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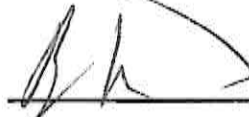
### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

The next regular meeting of the State Board of Career and Technology Education will be held Thursday, October 17, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will convene at the Oliver Hodge Building, 2500 North Lincoln Boulevard, Room 1-20, OKC, Oklahoma.



Ashley Rink, Executive Assistant  
to the CareerTech State Director and  
Secretary of the CareerTech Board



Ryan Walters, Chair of the Board-

