

KENTUCKY CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION TASK FORCE

Minutes of the 1st Meeting of the 2019 Interim

June 18, 2019

Call to Order and Roll Call

The 1st meeting of the Kentucky Career and Technical Education (CTE) Task Force was held on Tuesday, June 18, 2019, at 10:00 a.m., in Room 129 of the Capitol Annex. Senator Mike Wilson, Chair, called the meeting to order, and the secretary called the roll.

Present were:

Members: Senator Mike Wilson, Co-Chair; Representative Bobby McCool, Co-Chair; Senator Johnny Ray Turner; Representative C. Ed Massey; and Steven Thomas.

Guests: Chris Riley, OEA.

LRC Staff: Jo Carole Ellis, Yvette Perry, Lauren Busch, Seth Dawson, Chuck Truesdell, Joe Lancaster, and Christal White.

Senator Wilson introduced Representative Bobby McCool, Co-Chair, and the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) member representative, Mr. Steven Thomas. He welcomed the CTE Task Force members and outlined the objectives.

Discussion of Task Force Objectives

The CTE Task Force was created to study the existing delivery, organization structure, and funding mechanisms of career and technical education in Kentucky, including but not limited to area career and technical centers, local school district-operated career and technical centers, comprehensive high schools, regional academies, and the Kentucky Community and Technical College System; to identify promising career and technical education practices from research and other states; to study the need and feasibility for a vocational teacher ranking system that allows for occupational experience and training as alternatives to college training, that is uniformly applied to all teachers within a vocational certification field, and that encourages vocational teachers to remain in the classroom; and submit strategies for the future of career and technical education in Kentucky.

Senator Wilson said the lack of highly-skilled, qualified candidates has created a skills gap for thousands of high-paying positions throughout the state. While Kentucky has been successful recruiting new industry, providing the workforce with qualified graduates

offering essential skills has been problematic.

Senator Wilson said the system, implemented in the 1990s, consists of two differently funded systems. Upon review of studies and recommendations, the task force may convert to one system focused on equity in funding. The group will also review the EPSB study and its recommendations regarding inequities among Area Technology Centers (ATCs), specifically the structure and salary schedule of teachers within the ATC. Although students should be provided opportunities to access classes which include the most emphasized skills-gap careers, some schools are unable to offer these classes.

Discussion of Future Agenda Topics

The Task Force discussed the proposed meeting topics. The tentative topics include an overview of the CTE system, including progress made on recommendations from the 2014 SREB report; an overview of the funding system of ATCs and locally-operated centers, including recommendations for revising the system; an overview of the KCTCS's role in the CTE system, including the level of collaboration with ATCs and locally-operated centers; a presentation by representatives of ATCs and locally-operated centers regarding their programs, initiatives, issues, outcomes, etc.; and a report by EPSB on the vocational teacher ranking system as contemplated in 2019 Senate Concurrent Resolution 149. Senator Wilson welcomed members to make additional suggestions for other areas of concern. He said the goal of the task force is to make recommendations and, if needed, provide legislation to address and modernize Kentucky's system to enable students the opportunity to acquire technical skills and qualify for available, high-paying careers.

Discussion of Future Meeting Dates

Future meeting dates will coincide with the Interim Joint Committee on Education (IJCE) meetings, when possible. CTE Task Force meetings will be held at 10 a.m. prior to the IJCE meeting at 1 p.m.

Other Business

The next meeting of the CTE Task Force will be July 10, 2019, at 10:00 a.m. Subsequent meetings are tentatively scheduled for August 2, September 11, and October 9. A November meeting has not yet been scheduled.