

MINUTES - MEETING OF THE  
STATE BOARD OF CAREER EDUCATION  
9:00 a.m.

April 7, 2011

The State Board of Career Education (SBCE) was called to order by Chairman Phil Taylor. The meeting was held at the Hilton Little Rock Metro Center, 925 S. University Avenue, Little Rock, Arkansas.

A record of member attendance is as follows:

PRESENT

Mr. Phil Taylor, Chairman  
Mr. John Riggs, Vice Chairman  
Mrs. Lucy Ralston  
Dr. Thomas Flowers  
Mrs. Martha Dixon

Ex-Officio Nonvoting Members  
Mr. William L. "Bill" Walker, Jr., Ex-Officio Secretary

ABSENT

Mr. Richard Smith

Ex-Officio Nonvoting Members

Dr. Tom Kimbrell  
Mr. Shane Broadway

A. ACTION ITEM – APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 9, 2010

On motion by Mr. Riggs and second by Mrs. Dixon, the State Board of Career Education unanimously approved the minutes of December 9, 2010.

B. ACTION ITEM – AUTHORIZATION OF EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT AND STIPEND FOR BOARD MEMBERS PERFORMING OFFICIAL BOARD DUTIES

Mr. Charles Brown, deputy director for finance, recommended that the State Board of Career Education approve by a majority vote the authorization of payment to its members of a stipend not to exceed eighty-five dollars (\$85) per meeting attended. The board action will be effective January 1, 2011, as required by Ark. Code Ann. 25-16-904.

Mr. Brown also recommended that the State Board of Career Education approve by a majority vote the authorization of expense reimbursement for each board member for performing official board duties. This vote (as required by Ark. Code Ann. 25-16-902) specifies that board members will comply with an expense reimbursement that will not exceed the rate established for state employees by state travel regulations.

On motion by Mrs. Dixon and second by Mrs. Ralston, the State Board of Career Education unanimously approved the authorization of expense reimbursement and stipend for board members performing official board duties.

C. ACTION ITEM – APPOINTMENT OF A NEW MEMBER TO THE STATE PLUMBING APPRENTICESHIP COMMITTEE

Mr. Jonathan Bibb, program manager of the apprenticeship program, recommended that the State Board of Career Education approve the appointment of Mr. Stephen Hayes of Van Buren, Arkansas, to the State Plumbing Apprenticeship Committee (SPAC).

Mr. Bibb stated that due to a vacancy on the State Plumbing Apprenticeship Committee created by the resignation of Monte Breeden, the committee announced the opening and requested qualified plumbers to apply for the vacant position. Two applicants submitted letters requesting consideration for appointment. After review, the members of the State Plumbing Apprenticeship Committee voted to recommend Mr. Stephen Hayes as their choice to fill the open position on the committee.

On a motion by Dr. Flowers and second by Mrs. Ralston, the State Board of Career Education unanimously voted to approve the appointment of Mr. Stephen Hayes to the State Plumbing Apprenticeship Committee.

D. INFORMATIONAL ITEM – STATE IMPROVEMENT PLANS FOR PERKINS PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Mr. John Davidson, deputy director of career and technical education, stated that Arkansas is in a second-year improvement plan for career and technical education (CTE) skill attainment and a first-year improvement plan for literacy.

Mr. Davidson provided board members with information relating to the state's performance and the strategies that have already been implemented, as well as additional projects.

E. INFORMATIONAL ITEM – LOCAL TARGETS FOR PERKINS PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Mr. John Davidson, deputy director of career and technical education, stated that some school districts will be faced with insurmountable challenges in meeting the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) requirements relating to adequate annual progress for CTE concentrators on the literacy and math performance indicators for Perkins.

Mr. Davidson stated that while Arkansas will be held to the goals in the state's NCLB workbook in negotiations with the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education, districts and consortia will be held to attainable growth levels.

Mr. Davidson provided the board members with data on progress made by CTE concentrators over the past three years, including a comparison of their performance to that of all students.

F. INFORMATIONAL ITEM – LOCAL IMPROVEMENT PLANS FOR PERKINS PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Mr. John Davidson, deputy director of career and technical education, stated that ten districts are in the third year of an improvement plan in one of the performance indicators for Perkins. These districts have failed to meet performance targets for three consecutive years, thus placing them in third-year improvement plan status.

G. INFORMATIONAL ITEM – UPDATE ON PROGRESS OF SOUTHERN REGION EDUCATION BOARD CURRICULUM PROJECT, PREPARATION FOR TOMORROW, FUTURES IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Ms. Sandra Porter, associate director of workforce training, stated that the Department of Career Education, in partnership with the Southern Region Education Board (SREB), is developing a program of study entitled Futures in Science and Technology in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) cluster. This program of study was chosen by the Governor's Workforce Cabinet.

Ms. Porter stated that the Curriculum Development Committee held its initial meeting December 15-16 and established teams to develop project-based learning projects for the 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grades. Each team brainstormed 20 projects and then narrowed the list to 10 projects for each grade level. The Curriculum Development Committee has a wide range of participants, including individuals from STEM industries; two- and four-year colleges and universities; Accelerate Arkansas; East Initiative; Audubon Arkansas; Arkansas Science & Technology Authority; STEM Coalition; Department of Education specialists in math, English and science; and secondary career and technical education instructors.

Ms. Porter stated that Phase I of the project, which included development of course descriptions and technical and academic standards, is complete. Phase II will consist of development of assessment specifications, completion of skeletal projects with enabling learning activities; development of one full unit of study; and design of course syllabi.

Ms. Porter stated that the goal of the committee is to pilot the 9th- and 10th-grade curricula in the 2011-2012 school year.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATIONAL ITEMS – LONOKE LITERACY COUNCIL EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT (E & E) PERFORMANCE

Mr. Jim Smith, deputy director for adult education, stated that to be considered Effective and Efficient (E & E), local adult education programs and literacy councils receiving adult education funds are required to meet or exceed 80 percent of their negotiated core indicators of performance as mandated and defined by the Workforce Investment Act of 1998.

Mr. Smith informed the board members that for three consecutive years, the Lonoke Literacy Council has failed to meet E & E performance standards. As a result, the program will be presented to the State Board of Career Education at the June 2011 meeting for appropriate action prior to continuation of funding.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATIONAL ITEMS – GENERAL EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (GED®) FEES

Mr. Jim Smith, deputy director for adult education, stated that due to shrinking state and federal funding, the Adult Education Division is seeking alternative methods to secure additional funds to offset some of the costs of administering the GED Tests. Currently, test-takers are not charged a fee to take the test. Funds generated by fees would be re-invested in adult education programs across the state.

Mr. Smith informed the board members that last year, 8,783 examinees were tested, with 7,539 passing. The Adult Education Division has seen an increase in the number of students taking the GED test.

Mr. Robert Treviño, commissioner of the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services Division (ARS), and Mr. Jim Moreland, associate director of special programs for ARS, presented Mr. Bob Abbott, Arkansas Kidney Disease Commission member, with Senate Resolution 26, honoring Mr. Abbott for his hard work and dedication in creating the Chain of Life Award to recognize Arkansans who donate kidneys.

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Walker recognized Ms. Susan Harriman, representing the Department of Education, and Ms. Monieca West, representing the Department of Higher Education.

Mr. Walker also introduced new employees: Mr. Jeff Jackson and Dr. Trenia Miles.

Mr. Walker gave board members a legislative update and provided them copies of HB1290 – Department of Career Education Appropriation for 2011-2012; HB1289 – Arkansas Rehabilitation Services Appropriation for 2011-2012; and HB1620 – Establish Arkansas College and Career Readiness Standards.

Mr. Walker provided board members a copy of the latest *Career Counselor*.

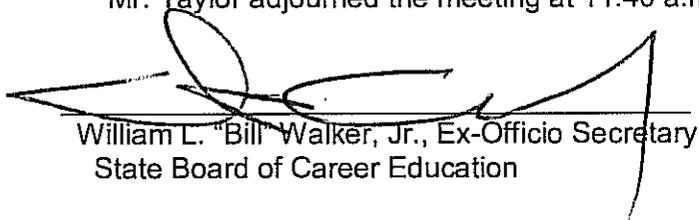
Mr. Rodney Chandler gave the board members an update on the construction project that continues at the Arkansas Career Training Institute in Hot Springs.

Mr. Walker announced the following dates:

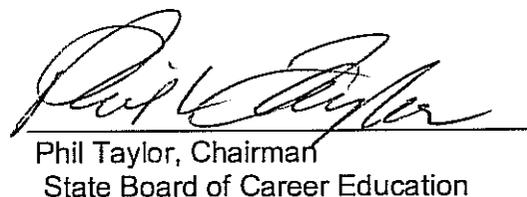
- May 3-6, 2011 – Senior Management Team Retreat in Hot Springs. He invited board members to attend.
- June 2, 2011 – Originally scheduled SBCE meeting. Mr. Walker asked if board members would like to move the meeting to the next week to coincide with the FFA Convention at Camp Couchdale. Board members agreed to change the meeting date to June 9, 2011.

## ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Taylor adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m.



William L. "Bill" Walker, Jr., Ex-Officio Secretary  
State Board of Career Education



Phil Taylor, Chairman  
State Board of Career Education