



New Jersey State Employment and Training Commission

Dennis M. Bone, *Chairman*

Philip D. Murphy, *Governor*

State Employment and Training Commission Meeting Minutes

June 18, 2019

10 am – 12 pm

Rutgers Labor Education Center, New Brunswick, NJ

I. Welcome & Introductions

Chairman Dennis Bone called the meeting to order at 10:09 am and welcomed members and guests. He announced that, in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act of 1978, notice of this meeting was submitted to the Trenton Times and Star Ledger and was posted on the SETC website. Roundtable introductions were conducted. The vote on the draft minutes of the April 18, 2019 meeting was held for the next meeting, pending a quorum of members.

II. Chairman's Report

Chairman Bone reviewed the meeting agenda. Anyone wishing to use public comment time at the end of the meeting was asked to alert the Chairman to reserve time for this portion of the agenda.

Chairman Bone reported that a bill was introduced in the NJ Senate to designate February, in each year, as "Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month" in New Jersey. This would place a welcome emphasis on CTE efforts; the Commission will be hearing a presentation today from the NJ Department of Education, in further support of these efforts.

The National Governors Association (NGA) Summer Meeting will be held in August, in Colorado Springs. The meeting's focus will be aligning systems and priorities among all workforce partners. Chairman Bone noted that this is a valuable meeting that enables state workforce boards to share their ideas and innovations. New Jersey is already making great strides to align partners' efforts through our focus on high-quality partnerships and we look forward to sharing our practices and learning from the work of other states.

III. Local Workforce Development Board (WDB) Certification

SETC Deputy Executive Director Sheryl Hutchison provided the local WDB certification recommendations from the SETC Governance Committee. At the last Commission meeting, five local areas were approved for WDB Certification. A new summary report, outlining the next six (6) WDB areas now recommended for certification, was provided to the members. The report included an update on the challenges and good practices that continue to be identified through the certification process.

The six (6) WDB areas recommended for certification are listed below. A vote was taken for each WDB certification. Additional members' votes were collected via e-mail after the meeting; these votes are noted in the member attendance section at the close of these minutes. The motions and approvals were recorded as follows:

1. **Atlantic County WDB:** Motion to approve made by Sally Nadler; seconded by Paul Yuen. All in favor, with Melissa Brown abstaining. Motion passed.
2. **Bergen County WDB:** Motion to approve made by Teri Duda; seconded by Sally Nadler. All in favor with no abstentions. Motion passed.
3. **Gloucester County WDB:** Motion to approve made by Catherine Milone; seconded by Tom Hilliard. All in favor with no abstentions. Motion passed.
4. **Greater Raritan WDB:** Motion to approve made by Paul Yuen; seconded by Sally Nadler. All in favor with John Franklin abstaining. Motion passed.
5. **Mercer County WDB:** Motion to approve made by Teri Duda; seconded by Linda Eno. All in favor with no abstentions. Motion passed.
6. **Monmouth County WDB:** Motion to approve made by Tom Hilliard; seconded by Sally Nadler. All in favor, with Linda Eno abstaining. Motion passed.

Chairman Bone recognized the local WDB chairpersons and their staff for their outstanding work in this important effort, and presented WDB Certificates to the representatives from each of the six local WDB areas.

IV. Perkins V State Planning Efforts

Linda Eno, Assistant Commissioner, NJ Department of Education (NJ DOE) – Division of Academics and Performance, provided background on the Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs that are implemented in the state through NJ DOE. New Jersey is nationally recognized for its CTE model and the success of its CTE programs. Perkins Act Funds are federal dollars that support these programs at the county vocational schools, comprehensive high schools and charter schools, state agencies, and county colleges. New Jersey receives approximately \$25 million per year in Perkins funds for these programs. Additional funds are provided through state bond acts. The CTE programs in New Jersey serve a large number of students, but there is still unmet demand. CTE programs emphasize both college and career pathways. The challenge is how to grow CTE to meet both the demand and the changing demographics of our state. The new Perkins V Act offers a unique opportunity to engage with communities across the state, to identify how to grow the CTE programs and meet the changing needs of our students and our workforce.

David McNair and Kathleen Paquette, CTE Program Specialists at NJ DOE, provided a PowerPoint presentation highlighting NJ DOE’s work on the new Perkins V State Plan for New Jersey. The presentation provided detailed information on the CTE programs in New Jersey, including:

- the quality components of CTE for college and career readiness;
- the CTE vision to put learner success first, and the rigorous program approval process that is utilized in NJ;
- the 16 career clusters, including those aligned to the key industries identified by the NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development (LWD);
- the enrollment of students in CTE programs by career cluster and a comparison of the top statewide career clusters with New Jersey’s key industries;

A timeline for development of the Perkins V State Plan was provided. The four-year plan is due in April 2020. Mr. McNair and Ms. Paquette discussed ways to align the Perkins V plan with the WIOA State Plan, including an opportunity to “rethink school” with an emphasis on work-based learning (or structured learning) and apprenticeships; funding allocations, incentive opportunities, and the need to build a pipeline of qualified teachers were also highlighted. A comprehensive local needs assessment is being conducted to guide the plan priorities, including alignment of programs to industry needs and

implementation of equal access to high-quality CTE for all students. Perkins performance measures are another area for consideration and alignment with community and workforce needs. Stakeholder symposia are being held from May 31 – June 12 at six locations around the state, to solicit feedback from NJ DOE partners on these issues. In addition, NJ DOE will conduct online surveys and focus groups to garner more feedback.

Members discussed the need for outreach to students interested in CTE programs, and the need to drive innovation; it was noted that labor unions could play a central role, in mentoring roles and in recruitment within high schools for pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs. Middle school guidance counselors were noted as a key partner/stakeholder group for outreach. The NJ DOE representatives indicated that CTE funds are used to support holistic counseling and career guidance; NJ DOE works with parents and school boards to involve the whole community in career exploration. LWD Deputy Commissioner Paul Yuen indicated that LWD was fully on board with supporting the Perkins V planning effort, including the provision of labor market data and presentation of that data at the symposia.

Members also discussed collaboration with labor unions to create direct pathways from high school to careers. Don Howard noted that the Laborers Union is working directly with New York and New Jersey schools to align curriculum for math and other skills with building trades tracks, ultimately leading to direct recruitment from these programs into jobs with the Port Authority of NY and NJ. Discussion also focused on expanding access for non-traditional gender roles, such as men in health occupations and women in STEM careers; NJ DOE works with its partners to promote programs and access to these non-traditional populations, and includes professional development for school staff to aid in early career awareness and positive recruitment. Combatting outmigration of millennials is another area that NJ DOE focuses on through its CTE programs. Sally Nadler indicated that the SETC's Gender Parity Council is available to support CTE efforts and help recruit girls and women into these programs.

In closing, Asst. Commissioner Eno, Ms. Paquette and Mr. McNair conveyed their excitement about this opportunity to embark on new avenues to strengthen education and workforce pathways in New Jersey. Chairman Bone thanked them for their presentation and noted that the SETC welcomed this high-quality partnership discussion.

V. Combined State Plan for WIOA

SETC Acting Executive Director Gary Altman provided a presentation on the requirements for the new 2020 Combined State Plan for WIOA; it is anticipated that the plan will be due to USDOL/USDOE in the Spring of 2020. Mr. Altman outlined the inclusive approach for plan development, including statewide and local partners. The short term activities are to create a leadership team, work to establish the state vision and priorities, and form workgroups aligned with that vision. Updates will be provided to the SETC throughout this process.

VI. Public Comment and Adjournment

Chairman Bone invited comments from two graduate student interns, Helen José and Gayatri Vishwanath, who were visiting the meeting as part of their work with the NJ Department of State - Office of NJ Faith Based Initiatives. They indicated their interest in the work being done to expand career awareness in young students; they emphasized the importance of higher education and being prepared for the future workforce demands of the global economy.

Mr. Julio Sabater provided comments on the workforce system as a second chance system for the out-of-school youth population. He noted that linkages with local school districts are critical to reaching

youth who have dropped out of school. Recruiting these youths requires a large amount of time and resources; Mr. Sabater encouraged greater collaboration between the education system and the workforce system to reach and serve these youths. Linda Eno agreed that it is difficult to track students after they complete high school, or if they dropout; she noted that it is important to spotlight this issue and to strengthen partnerships for better leveraging of resources to serve out of school youth. Ms. Kate Butler indicated that the NJ Department of Community Affairs (DCA) is currently managing legislative grants-in-aid programs in three cities, that serve out-of-school youth; she offered to connect these partners to further leverage resources. Chairman Bone expressed his appreciation for the continued support of all the members and partners around the table, to help each other and strengthen all our efforts.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:58 am.

Next SETC Meeting

Tuesday, September 17, 2019 ~ 10 am – 12 pm
New Jersey Law Center, 1 Constitution Plaza, New Brunswick

ATTENDEES ~ June 18, 2019:

PRESENT MEMBERS and ALTERNATES

Bone, Dennis	Karsian, Andrea
Brown, Melissa (for Johnson)	Milone, Catherine
Butler, Kate (for Oliver)	Nadler, Sally
Duda, Teri	Safrin, Michele (for Blake)
Ferrera, Anthony <i>*email vote submitted</i>	Sen, Tapas <i>*email vote submitted</i>
Franklin, John	Sommer, Daniel (for Sullivan)
Eno, Linda (for Repollet)	Wise, Robert <i>*email vote submitted</i>
Hilliard, Tom (for Smith Ellis)	Yuen, Paul (for Asaro-Angelo)

ABSENT MEMBERS

Brown, Kevin	Reisser, Clifford
Carey, Michael	Rice, Ronald
Donnadio, John	Wade, Carolyn Carter
Gacos, Nicholas	Wimberly, Benjie
Hornik, Stephen	Wowkanech, Charles

OTHER ATTENDEES

Addison-Britt, Sandra	Moran, Patti
Burke, Jackie	Nynens, Simon
DeBaere, Gregg	Ochse, Maureen
Drakeford, Shamira	Paquette, Kathleen
Gallo, Eileen	Rajput, Riaz
Harris, Kevin	Rivera, Antonio
Howard, Donald	Sabater, Julio
José, Helen	Scalia, Donna
Korn, Dennis	Seavers, Diane
Lane, Davetta	Sternbach, Larry
LaPorte, Eddie	Strothers, Sandra
Levandowski, Andrea	Taylor, Yolanda
Lowery, Rhonda	Treml, Bernie
McCoy, Tennille	Williamson, Marcela
McNair, David	Vishwanath, Gayatri
Molinelli, Tammy	

SETC STAFF:

Gary Altman
JoAnn Brooks
Sheryl Hutchison
Kyree Robinson