

**WASHINGTON STATE
WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING NO. 175
JANUARY 6, 2014**

Ms. Cindy Zehnder called the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (Workforce Board) Special Board meeting to order at 10 a.m. at the Workforce Board's Main Conference Room. The following Board members and officers were present:

Via Phone:

Gary Chandler for Don Brunell, Representing Business
Marty Brown, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC)
Creigh H. Agnew, Representing Business (Vice Chair)
Beth Thew, Representing Labor
Jeff Johnson, Representing Labor
David Stillman for Kevin Quigley, Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)
Mark Mattke, Representing Local Government
Gary Kamimura for Dale Peinecke, Employment Security Department (ESD)

Present:

Cindy Zehnder, Chair
Tim Probst, for Dale Peinecke, Employment Security Department (ESD)
Kathleen Lopp for Randy Dorn, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)
Mary Trimarco for Brian Bonlender, Department of Commerce

Eleni Papadakis, Executive Director

Career and College Ready Graduation Requirements

Ms. Cindy Zehnder welcomed Board members and staff; introductions were made. Ms. Zehnder provided a summary of why the Board is holding a special meeting, including: creating a policy framework with themes and developing an advocacy strategy the Board can work on throughout the session. Mr. Justin Montermini presented information on the policy platform. He talked about the Board's strategic plan and how our multiple pathways concept can be woven into the final Legislative outcome. The original Core 24 requirements were presented in November 2010 by the State Board of Education (SBE). This new SBE proposal has a few substantive changes: world language may be substituted for a personalized pathway requirement, the number of available electives was increased to four credits, and the development of a personalized pathway plan that may include non-baccalaureate postsecondary education and training is required. The plan is to focus students on awareness of career and education choices with more emphasis on a personalized pathway. Ms. Zehnder suggested a brief overall discussion, followed by taking each of the staff's five suggestions one by one.

Ms. Kathleen Lopp asked if the elements drafted here, are the most recent changes. The SBE has a few updates. Ms. Linda Drake noted there was a change from an Occupational Education (Oc Ed) credit to a Career and Technical Education (CTE) credit. But there is concern because there are still smaller districts that don't have a CTE program. Ms. Zehnder asked Ms. Lopp for a recommendation. Ms. Lopp stated the recommendation is for CTE. Mr. Gary Chandler asked for a definition of CTE and Oc Ed. Ms. Drake stated CTE is well defined: CTE has a certified teacher who has gone through the CTE process with OPSI, while Oc Ed is defined by the district. Mr. Chandler asked if the Oc Ed teacher is

as well trained. Mr. Marty Brown asked what the SBE needs from the Board and how does it fit with Common Core and Smarter Balanced. Mr. Ben Rarrick explained that this is not a new proposal, but a discussion of the particular components and how they relate to the costs and funding. The previous model was criticized for being too four-year college focused. SBE has reframed that structure so it's not a presumptive track toward a four-year degree but about a path toward a meaningful postsecondary education in its various forms. SBE has found considerable inequities in terms of opportunities students have to satisfy math and science requirements in a Skills Center. There needs to be some standardization. The premise of this SBE proposal is that every single student should be planning to go to school after high school, maybe not a four-year but some type of postsecondary education. Ms. Zehnder stated it appears the SBE would like support for the graduation requirement concept with these refinements. Mr. Rarrick noted that Common Core and graduation requirements are related but not the same. As a state we have adopted academic standards in Language Arts and Mathematics. Common Core sets expectations for content and learning claims the State wants students to make at each grade but different from the expectations of what classes students could take across the whole range to meet these learning objectives. In regard to the Smarter Balanced Assessment, eventually OPSI and SBE will have to set minimum proficiencies for a test at the 11th grade starting with the 2014-2015 school year.

Ms. Zehnder summarized a resolution that the Board broadly endorse the direction SBE is taking in developing a meaningful pathway that involves Career and Technical Education course equivalencies and a variety of postsecondary opportunities. Ms. Beth Thew inquired if these changes would increase the dropout rate. Mr. Montermini suggested the Board talk about what supplemental items should be part of that discussion. Ms. Zehnder stated the Board is not adopting the graduation requirements; the Legislature and SBE are taking action on this. The Board is providing a general endorsement for the framework because it lends itself to a meaningful pathway and career and technical training for students, however, the Board wants to address the issue of dropout prevention.

Mr. Montermini presented five suggestions to the Board.

1. Structured and Supported High School and Beyond Plan and Personalized Pathway Plan
2. Statewide List of Model Career and Technical Education to Academic Course Equivalencies
3. Dedicated Instructional Hours for Comprehensive Career Guidance and Counseling
4. Teacher Professional Development
5. Student Support for Academic Success: Dropout Prevention and Retrieval

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Ms. Creigh H. Agnew moved that the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board adopt the amended version (and the general direction) of the State Board of Education's Career and College Ready Graduation Requirements. Ms. Beth Thew seconded the motion. The motion passed, Ms. Lopp abstained.

Mr. Montermini presented an advocacy strategy including the formation of a subcommittee. He invited the committee members to participate in internal legislative meetings and take part in the legislative process, which would promote a consistent voice and empower Board members. Mr. Montermini said the staff really needs the feedback. Ms. Thew would like to ask other Labor members. Ms. Zehnder asked the Board members to seek participation from their other members.

Board meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.