



## **CTE Committee Meeting**

Meeting Minutes

May 22, 2024

2:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

North Point High School

2500 Davis Road, Waldorf, MD 20603

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Myra Norton, Chair (IP\*)

Dr. Donald Boyd (IP)

Secretary Anderson (IP)

Matt Holloway (IP)

Secretary Portia Wu (IP)

Charnetia Young (V)

Dr. Carey Wright (V)

Secretary Rai (V)

Michael Thomas (V)

*\*IP (in-person) or V (virtual)*

### MEMBERS ABSENT

Brian Cavey

### GWDB STAFF

Rachael Stephens Parker

Molly Mesnard

John Strickland

## **WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS**

The meeting opened with Myra Norton, Chair of the CTE Committee, who greeted attendees and shared her enthusiasm for the ongoing efforts to enhance Career and Technical Education (CTE) in Maryland. She also expressed her gratitude to the hosts of the meeting, Charles County Public Schools, who gave a tour and whose culinary program prepared food for the occasion. Chair Norton used this time to introduce the attendees to the new legal counsel, Peggy DallAcqua, as well.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from the previous meeting on February 28, 2024, were reviewed and approved without any amendments.

## **INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIAL (IRC) POLICY**

Chair Norton introduced the importance of the Industry-Recognized Credential (IRC) process, and then turned the meeting over to Molly Mesnard, Deputy Director, CTE Committee and Richard Kincaid, Senior Executive Director, Office of College and

Career Pathways, MSDE, who presented the development and refinement of IRC Policy, defining which IRCs count in the *Blueprint's* 45% goal. They presented materials on the landscape analysis and stakeholder engagement efforts that informed the updated policy. The presentation provided an overview of the phased approach to implementing the new IRCs, including the application process and timeline for review. This included an updated definition and explanation of the seven required criteria (alignment with in-demand occupations, documented outcomes, validated by industry, assessment-based, standards-driven, attainable and accessible, portable) and two preferred but not required criteria (stackable and renewable). The policy further clarifies what completion means to count towards the 45% goal, and recommended next steps.

The CTE Committee made a motion to approve the IRC Policy to submit it to the Accountability and Implementation Board (AIB) for review and approval. The motion was seconded and approved.

## **CTE FRAMEWORK**

Ms. Mesnard and Lateefah Durant, Strategic Facilitator, CTE Committee, discussed the development of a statewide CTE Framework, a requirement of the *Blueprint for Maryland's Future*. The goal of the CTE Framework is to prepare students for a diverse, modern economy by providing a strategic roadmap that supports innovative CTE practices. The CTE framework focuses on ensuring accessibility, collaboration, and student outcome-driven programs. The CTE Committee staff worked with Advance CTE and MSDE staff, CTE Committee members and designees, and held three focus groups to provide feedback on the CTE Framework. The presentation walked members through the six priorities and accompanying strategies. Members discussed the draft Framework and staff will update the Framework draft as a result of the discussion.

## **PERKINS BUDGET**

Mr. Kincaid presented an update on the Carl D. Perkins allocation and budget for CTE programs. He explained the foundational role of Perkins V in funding CTE at both secondary and post-secondary levels. The presentation highlighted the nine required uses of federal Perkins funds, which include strengthening academic and career skills, linking secondary and postsecondary education, providing professional development, and ensuring services for special populations. Mr. Kincaid also detailed the state Perkins allocation, emphasizing the importance of these funds in supporting high-quality, innovative CTE programs across Maryland.

## **LEA SPOTLIGHT**

The meeting featured a spotlight on the host district for the meeting, Charles County Public Schools, presented by Rebecca Brandt, Director of CTE. Ms. Brandt provided an overview of their CTE programs, which encompass 19 programs across nine career clusters, including Arts, Media, and Communication; Business Management and Finance; Health and Biosciences; and Transportation Technologies. The presentation highlighted enrollment statistics, completer rates, and the various pathways

available to students. The district emphasized the impact of the *Blueprint for Maryland's Future* in expanding career counseling, apprenticeship programs, and early college opportunities. Ms. Brandt shared success stories and challenges, such as finding employers for apprenticeships and ensuring transportation for students participating in work-based learning experiences.

## **ADJOURN**

The meeting concluded with a summary of the key points discussed and a reminder of the next steps. Chair Norton thanked all participants for their contributions and adjourned the meeting.

Meeting materials can be found [here](#).

The recording of the meeting can be found [here](#).

*Approved by the CTE Committee on August 28, 2024.*