

January 30, 2025

**KANSAS POSTSECONDARY
TECHNICAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY**
MINUTES
January 30th, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ray Frederick, Jr. (TEA Chair)
Curtis Sneden (TEA Vice Chair)
Mike Beene
Natalie Clark
Mark Hess
Cindy Hoover
Debra Mikulka
Amber Shultz
David Reist

MEMBERS ABSENT: Todd Zimmer
Keith Humphrey
Dr. Tiffany Anderson

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Frederick called the January 30, 2025, meeting of the Kansas Postsecondary Technical Education Authority to order at 10:00 am.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

After verifying that there were no requests for alterations to the agenda, Chair Frederick asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on December 19, 2024. Member Sneden moved to approve the minutes as presented, following a second by Member Hess, the motion carried.

III. INTRODUCTIONS & REPORTS

A. INTRODUCTIONS

Member Mark Hess introduced Morgan Gerstman, a potential candidate for the TEA, who has expressed interest in being a part of the team. Mr. Gerstman is currently a robotics manager at Hess Services and works closely with individuals in the technical industry.

B. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Chair Frederick announced to attendees that there would be no TEA meeting in February, making the next meeting an in-person meeting on Thursday, March 27th.

C. TEA MEMBER REPORTS

Member Natalie Clark reported on the celebration of Citizenship Day on January 15th and the secondary CTSO officers came to Topeka to present to the State Board of Education. She also shared that tomorrow Governor Kelly will hold a proclamation signing event declaring February as CTE month and that KSDE is excited their annual conference will begin in Manhattan on Monday.

D. REPORT FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Vice President for the Workforce Development, April White, provided an explanation of activity following the recent announcement pausing funding of federal grants which was later rescinded. VP White also praised her team for having successfully completed the Adult Education and Perkins annual reports for the year.

VP White informed everyone present that the Board of Regents website has now changed from .org to .gov due to decisions made in legislature. Staff member emails, however, will remain the same. She also updated members of the Virtual Healthcare Day, taking place right now, and reminded all that the Adult Education site applications were

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due tomorrow by the end of the business day. She also shared that a group of staff members will be at the Capitol for the Governor's signing the Proclamation of CTE month.

E. REPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Seth Carter, President of Colby Community College, provided updates regarding initiatives undertaken by Kansas community colleges, structured in alignment with the strategic plan pillars established by the Kansas Board of Regents. Monthly, six colleges will present their advancements, emphasizing key areas such as affordability, access, and success. The full report is available in the agenda packet materials.

F. REPORT FROM THE TECHNICAL COLLEGES

Jim Genandt, the President of Manhattan Area Technical College, provided updates regarding the technical colleges in Kansas, emphasizing their development, collaborations, and initiatives. These institutions are dedicated to advancing the strategic objectives set forth by the Board of Regents, which include enhancing access, affordability, and success for families, fostering a strong talent pipeline and innovation for businesses, and promoting economic prosperity. The full report is available in the agenda packet materials.

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Technical Program and Curriculum

1. Act on New Career and Technical Education Program(s) - Cowley Community College - Electrical Technology (46.0302) Technical Certificate B/33 credit hours, Technical Certificate C/49 credit hours, and Associate of Applied Science degree/60-68 credit hours
2. Act on Excel in Career Technical Education Fees - Cowley Community College - Electrical Technology (46.0302)
3. Act on Promise Act Program(s) - Cowley Community College - Electrical Technology (46.0302)

Detailed reviews of these items can be found in the complete agenda packet.

Member Beene moved to approve the items on the Consent Agenda as presented, which was seconded by Member Hoover. The motion was approved unanimously.

V. CONSIDERATION OF DISCUSSION AGENDA

INSTRUCTIONAL COST MODEL REVIEW AND STATE'S CALCULATED STATE SHARE

Elaine Frisbie, the Vice President for Finance and Administration at KBOR, presented a detailed review of the Instructional Cost Model established 14 years ago to identify the direct and indirect expenses incurred by technical and community colleges in delivering courses for academic credit to Kansas resident students. This model excludes costs not associated with instruction such as student unions, residence halls, and athletics. It comprehensively addresses both sides of the financial ledger, determining funding based on variations in college financing.

The model is applicable to both community and technical colleges. For community colleges, funding is sourced as follows: one-third from student tuition, one-third from property tax revenue, and the one-third from the state for in-district students, and two-thirds from the state for out-district students. For technical colleges, funding is sourced as follows: one-third from tuition and two-thirds from the state. The model calculates costs at the course level, incorporating four elements for tiered courses and three for non-tiered courses. The four elements for tiered courses include the instructor, instructional support, institutional support, and extraordinary costs, while non-tiered courses include only the instructor, instructional support, and institutional support.

Over the years, the model's rates have increased, with the highest rate for tiered courses reaching \$564 in 2024. Additionally, the model provides for high school students participating in Excel and Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs, with 100% state funding. The model has evolved over time, with the legislature fully funding it for the first time in fiscal year 2026. Funding for the model is based on a three-year rolling average of

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enrollments and costs, with the most recent year's data used for the current year's calculations. KBOR also clarified that the state funding for tiered courses comes from the State General Fund.

Additional information as well as the Instructional Cost Model Calculation amounts for FY 2026 funding are included in the agenda packet materials.

ACT ON ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-2026 EXCEL IN CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION FEES

Director Chambers shared information regarding the review and approval process for Excel in CTE fees for the next academic year. She outlined the statutory directive and definitions directing the Technical Education Authority (TEA) to conduct these annual reviews and referenced the collaboratively agreed upon allowable/unallowable fees established. She also reviewed with members the current TEA goal pertaining to Excel in CTE fees which is to identify and share best practices in reducing and/or eliminating the actual fees assessed high school students and ensure potential subsidies are adequately communicated. Additional documents provided for discussion included a listing of Course and Program Updates by Institution (a course-by-course list of requested fee increases and changes for each institution for AY 2026) and AY2023 through AY2026 totals by Program and Institution (a comparison spreadsheet with revised fee requests by program area for each institution).

The discussion focused on fee reporting by institutions and potential data discrepancies. Member Sneden noted the fee amount numbers keep moving around even within an institution and there does not appear to be a coherent way to determine a reason for the variances or see a pattern or emerging trend regarding efforts to minimize fees for high school students.

The variability in fees for similar courses and allowable cost items across institutions was also discussed at length. The meeting discussion emphasized the need for simplification and clarity in decision-making processes, focusing on understanding the reasons behind decisions rather than just relying on numbers and that additional work is needed in this regard.

Chair Frederick asked for a motion to approve Excel in CTE fees for AY2026. Member Reist proposed the motion to approve the minutes as presented, following a second by Member Sneden, the motion carried.

SKILLSUSA STATE OFFICER'S INTRODUCTION

Becky Warren, Kansas State Director at SkillsUSA, introduced the Postsecondary President for Kansas SkillsUSA who spoke in turn asked each of the other state officers to introduce themselves and share their experiences and the impact of SkillsUSA on their lives. The conversation emphasized the value of SkillsUSA in building leadership and networking skills helping them personally, academically, and professionally. Becky Warren introduced Jeremy Skrdlant, Professor at Fort Hays Tech NW, who shared how valuable SkillsUSA has been for students and how honored he is to be a part of it.

VI. NEXT MEETING REMINDER

Chair Frederick concluded the meeting with a brief reminder about the next TEA meeting, which will be held on March 27, 2025, at the Board of Regents office. He encouraged everyone to mark their calendars and thanked all attendees for their participation.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Frederick asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:06 p.m. Member Sneden proposed the motion, seconded by Member Mikulka, the motion carried.