

NEW MEXICO PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION

Summary Minutes for PEC Work Session

Thursday, August 20, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Patricia Gipson called the PEC Work Session to order at 9:10 a.m. using a Zoom Webinar.

Commissioners in Attendance:

Commissioner Patricia Gipson, PEC Chair, District 7, Las Cruces
Commissioner Trish Ruiz, PEC Vice Chair, District 9, Hobbs
Commissioner Karyl Ann Armbruster, PEC Secretary, District 4, Los Alamos
Commissioner R. Carlos Caballero, District 1, Albuquerque
Commissioner David Robbins, District 2, Albuquerque
Commissioner Glenna Voigt, District 3, Albuquerque
Commissioner Georgina Davis, District 5, Aztec
Commissioner Tim Crone, District 10, Espanola
Commissioner Sonia Raftery, District 8, Roswell
Commissioner Michael Chavez, District 6, Deming

Commissioners Absent:

None

WORK SESSION AGENDA

1. Discussion of Career Technical Education

Chair Gipson introduced PED CCRB Director Dr. Elaine Perea to update the PEC on CTE reports, activities and challenges over the last 18 months since the last update to the Commission.

Transition Perkins Five was passed in December, 2017 and went into effect in July, 2018 as a new law. July, 2019 to June 2020 began a transition year and the December 2019 Annual Report to the USDE did not require performance measures.

Chair Gipson questioned why the PEC was not asked to review any of the CTE-Perkins reports. Dr. Perea asked that the PEC attorney discuss this issue with the PED General Counsel regarding the oversight of PEC regarding CTE-Perkins reports. Chair Gipson reiterated that she would like to have PEC review these annual CTE-Perkins reports.

Dr. Perea continued her update describing the funding of CTE-Perkins. Money is based on U.S. Census poverty data. Perkins provides grants based on numbers of students classified as poverty, and the law requires a \$15,000 minimum threshold. CCRB has set up regional areas and groups to create relationships with local communities, school districts and charter schools. There are ten regions in the state with coordinators in each of the regions. These regional coordinators also work with New Mexico Work Force Solutions, Chambers of Commerce, Regional Education Cooperatives (REC), local Community Colleges to assess the major work/career/CTE opportunities in their specific region. By working together, funds can be pooled and some smaller schools and programs have the opportunity to be funded. Many small schools/districts in the past could not utilize the small amount of CTE/Perkins funding for sustainable programs in their areas. These collaborations seem to be working very well and many smaller schools and programs are now able to participate.

Dr. Perea referred the Commissioners to the packet that she provided. There is a chart of the regional districts which was created by the PED CCRB Bureau to demonstrate the career opportunities in the different regions.

The schools, districts, and charter schools in these regions can pool and spend funding to the best opportunities for jobs and hiring of students in the region. Some regions have hired a CTE Coordinator to work with all groups.

For Perkins, 85% of the funding goes directly to LEAs, including a small portion that the state administers competitively, known as Reserve funding. Dr. Perea referred Commissioners to the charts provided showing where the funding is going. In the transition from Perkins 4 to Perkins 5 all funds go to LEAs with no formula based redistribution. Any funds not spent, go back to CCRB to be placed in the reserve fund that is available for competitive distribution by CCRB.

The challenges to the program include CTE certifications for students. Students need to pass tests to qualify for actual jobs. Some contracts were extended from June 30 to December 31 and are being done in small groups and also one-on-one contacts. Schools and districts are completing reentry to school plans, including CTE considerations. In many districts, the fall semester will only provide CTE theory, but in January plans seems to include more hands on experiences. Plans may need to be edited as the school year progresses. Some districts may not be offering CTE courses because of COVID-19 because hands on instruction, internships and mentorships are such an integral part of CTE. Also, local businesses are in a difficult place because of COVID-19 effects and many find it hard to assist schools and students.

Next Gen CTE funding from the state has been a successful initiative. 80%, or \$4 million dollars, go to LEAs and charter schools to bridge the gap between Perkins and CTE programs. Next Gen funds can be used to fund non-Perkins programs, but they must address STEM. Next Gen funds are overseen by LESC and LFC at the state level. PED Deputy Secretary Gwen Warniment oversees the PED CCRB at the department level. The annual report is how USDE oversees the federal funding. PED oversees the local LEAs in the state for funding.

There are a number of unique programs around the state of New Mexico mentioned by Dr. Perea. Silver City has launched a number of CTE programs it could never fund previously. There is a wind project in Maxwell and REC 9 where virtual reality equipment has been purchased to train students. A teacher has been hired to travel in a van in his regions to train the students with this equipment.

At the PEC meeting tomorrow, the Commission will add the information packet and report submitted by Dr. Perea to the formal record for the meeting.

2. Implementation Year Checklist

Megan Maestas discussed proposed various edits/changes to the Implementation Year Checklist. PEC will vote on approval of the changes at the PEC meeting tomorrow.

3. Assurances Reviews

This topic will be discussed at a later PEC Work Session.

4. Attendance for Success Act policy

This topic will be discussed at a later PEC Work Session.

ADJOURN

No votes were taken by Commissioners during this work session. The work session was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Submitted by Beverly Friedman, PED Liaison to the PEC