

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
STATE BOARD OF CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION
2500 NORTH LINCOLN BOULEVARD,
OLIVER HODGE BUILDING, ROOM 1-20
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA**

JANUARY 30, 2026

The State Board of Career and Technology Education began its special meeting at 9:13 a.m. Friday, January 30, 2026, at the Oklahoma State Department of Education, 2500 North Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City, OK, and the meeting was also streamed on YouTube. Notice was properly given, and the final agenda was posted prior to 8:59 a.m. on January 29, 2026, in accordance with 25 O.S. § 311(9).

Members of the State Board of Career and Technology Education present and all appeared in person:

- Mr. Lindel Fields, superintendent of public instruction and chair of the board
- Mr. Brent Haken, state director, ex-officio nonvoting member
- Mr. Brian Bobek, Oklahoma City
- Mr. Randy Gilbert, Tecumseh
- Mr. Leonard McCullough, Tulsa
- Mr. Rob Seeman, Morris
- Mr. Michael Brown, Lawton – entered at 9:14 a.m. shortly after roll was called.

Members of the State Board of Career and Technology Education who were absent:

- Mr. Ryan Deatherage, Kingfisher
- Mr. Peter Dillingham, Enid
- Ms. Shaelynn Haning, Tulsa

Attendees from the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education and other guests:

See Attachment A.

1.01 CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Superintendent Fields called the meeting to order at 9:13 a.m., and Ms. Ashley Rink called the roll and ascertained there was a quorum.

1.02 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, SALUTE TO THE OKLAHOMA STATE FLAG

AND A MOMENT OF SILENCE

Led by Superintendent Fields.

1.03 OPENING COMMENTS

Superintendent Lindel Fields called the meeting to order, welcomed the group and proceeded directly into the business on the agenda.

No action was taken.

1.04 DIRECTOR COMMENTS

The Director provided an update on agency activities. He reported that the strategic planning process is underway and that feedback is being received from stakeholders across the state. He noted appreciation for staff leadership in coordinating the effort and encouraged participation from board members who have not yet participated, including completion of surveys.

The Director informed the Board that the legislative session will begin next week with the State of the State address and that agency staff are preparing for legislative engagement.

He also shared that the spring season includes numerous CTSO events and student activities statewide and that related updates and highlights will continue to be provided in bi-weekly communications.

No action was taken.

1.05 MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 18, 2025, REGULAR MEETING

A motion was made by Mr. Randy Gilbert and seconded by Mr. Michael Brown to approve the minutes of the December 18, 2025, regular meeting.

Voting Results:

Mr. Brian Bobek, yes
Mr. Michael Brown, yes
Mr. Randy Gilbert, yes
Mr. Leonard McCullough, yes
Mr. Rob Seeman, yes
Superintendent Fields, yes

Motion carried. A copy of the minutes is on file at the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education.

2. MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

- 2.01 Possible discussion related to the Notice of Rulemaking Intent for the proposed rule changes which was published in the *Oklahoma Register*, Volume 43, Number 6, on December 1, 2025. Express written approval was received from the Governor on December 5, 2025, in accordance with 75 O.S. § 303. A public hearing was held on January 8, 2026, and all proposed rule changes were subject to a public comment period, in accordance with Oklahoma law – Ms. Gina Hubbard, Director of Statewide Outreach.**

Ms. Gina Hubbard, Director of Statewide Outreach, presented information regarding the proposed rule changes. She reported that the Notice of Rulemaking Intent was published in the *Oklahoma Register*, Volume 43, Number 6, on December 1, 2025, and that express written approval was received from the Governor on December 5, 2025, in accordance with 75 O.S. § 303. She further stated that a public hearing was held on January 8, 2026, and that the proposed rule changes were subject to the required public comment period.

Ms. Hubbard advised that no changes had been made to the proposed rules since they were previously presented to the Board. She stated that the proposed revisions were made to ensure compliance with statute and to provide clarification and improved efficiency. She recommended approval of the proposed rule changes.

Board members were provided an opportunity for questions and discussion.

No action was taken.

3. MANAGEMENT ACTION ITEMS

- 3.01 Discussion and Possible Action on the adoption of the proposed permanent rules in Title 780, Chapter 1 of the Oklahoma Administrative Code, as presented, pursuant to the Oklahoma Administrative Procedures Act, 75 O.S. § 250.1 et seq., and 74 O.S. § 500.15 – Ms. Gina Hubbard, Director of Statewide Outreach.**
- a. Subchapter 17. Travel Reimbursement**
- **Clarifies the approval process for employee reimbursable travel expenses, affirming that the agency head or designee is authorized to approve actual and necessary travel expenses in accordance with 74 O.S. § 500.15. Amendments ensure consistency with state statute and clarify internal approval procedures.**

3.02 Discussion and Possible Action on the adoption of the proposed permanent rules in Title 780, Chapter 10 of the Oklahoma Administrative Code, as presented, pursuant to the Oklahoma Administrative Procedures Act, 75 O.S. § 250.1 et seq., and 70 O.S. § 14-140.1 – Ms. Gina Hubbard, Director of Statewide Outreach.

a. Subchapter 3. Administration and Supervision

- **Implements provisions of the Oklahoma National Guard CareerTech Assistance Act, outlining eligibility, application requirements through the Educational Services Office of the Military Department, and submission to the Department of CareerTech and the technology center.**
- **Allows eligible Guard members to transfer benefits to qualifying dependents in accordance with 70 O.S. § 14-140.1.**

b. Subchapter 5. Audits

- **Updates audit reporting thresholds to reflect federal expenditure requirements of \$1,000,000 in accordance with 2 CFR 200 Subpart F.**

3.03 Discussion and Possible Action on the adoption of the proposed permanent rules in Title 780, Chapter 15 of the Oklahoma Administrative Code, as presented, pursuant to the Oklahoma Administrative Procedures Act, 75 O.S. § 250.1 et seq. – Ms. Gina Hubbard, Director of Statewide Outreach.

a. Subchapter 3. Technology Centers

- **Establishes enrollment criteria to determine student eligibility for specific programs.**
- **Authorizes the Department to set tuition, using a formula, for out-of-district students attending a technology center.**

3.04 Discussion and Possible Action on the adoption of the proposed permanent rules in Title 780, Chapter 20 of the Oklahoma Administrative Code, as presented, pursuant to the Oklahoma Administrative Procedures Act, 75 O.S. § 250.1 et seq., 70 O.S. §§ 11-103.6 and 14-108.2 – Ms. Gina Hubbard, Director of Statewide Outreach.

a. Subchapter 3. Programs and Services

- **Updates Agricultural Education language to expand program offerings and defines planning and supervisory periods pursuant to 70 O.S. § 14-108.2.**
- **Provides clarification related to programs, teacher contracts, and student organization requirements.**
- **Renames Health Careers to Health Science to align with the national association.**
- **Removes Adult Training and Development in comprehensive schools and Alternate T&I programs, as they are no longer offered.**
- **Requires Department approval for exceptions to minimum and maximum enrollment.**
- **Adds CareerTech Student Organization mission language to ensure alignment with respective programs.**
- **Includes procedural and clean-up edits for consistency.**
- **Makes permanent language previously adopted under emergency rule to remain in compliance with 70 O.S. § 11-103.6.**
- **Promulgates permanent rules for Industry Specialist Certification to support recruitment and retention of qualified instructors.**

3.05 Discussion and Possible Action on the adoption of the proposed permanent rules in Title 780, Chapter 25 of the Oklahoma Administrative Code, as presented, pursuant to the Oklahoma Administrative Procedures Act, 75 O.S. § 250.1 et seq. – Ms. Gina Hubbard, Director of Statewide Outreach.

a. Subchapter 11. Business and Industry Services Programs

- **Revises provisions related to the funding mechanism for customized and safety training programs.**
- **Updates the referenced document governing record maintenance requirements.**

As the Board moved to the rule items, discussion was held regarding the procedure for consideration. It was the consensus of the Board to consider Items 3.01 through 3.05 together under one motion in order to expedite the process.

A motion was made by Superintendent Fields to approve the final adoption of the permanent rule changes as set forth in the Notice of Rulemaking Intent published in the

Oklahoma Register, Volume 43, Number 6, on December 1, 2025, with no changes.
The motion was seconded by Mr. Leonard McCullough.

Voting Results:

Mr. Brian Bobek, yes
Mr. Michael Brown, yes
Mr. Randy Gilbert, yes
Mr. Leonard McCullough, yes
Mr. Rob Seeman, yes
Superintendent Fields, yes

Motion carried. A copy of the minutes is on file at the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education.

3.06 Discussion and Possible Action on Mid-Year Personnel Report and Ratification of Personnel Actions from July 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025 – Mr. Brent Haken, State Director of Career and Technology Education.

A motion was made by Mr. Randy Gilbert to approve the Mid-Year Personnel Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leonard McCullough.

Voting Results:

Mr. Rob Seeman, yes
Mr. Leonard McCullough, yes
Mr. Randy Gilbert, yes
Mr. Michael Brown, yes
Mr. Brian Bobek, yes
Superintendent Fields, yes

Motion carried. A copy of the minutes is on file at the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education.

After the vote, Mr. Michael Brown stepped out of the meeting at 9:21 a.m.

3.07 Discussion and Possible Action on the Full Postsecondary Accreditation for Chisholm Trail Technology Center School District No. 26 – Mr. Joey Vanek, Accreditation Manager.

Mr. Joey Vanek presented the accreditation report for Chisholm Trail Technology Center. He reviewed the accreditation process, including examiner review of the technology center's application materials, stakeholder interviews, program observations, and evaluation of operations using the Board-approved quality standards. He reported that the accreditation division conducted a hybrid on-site review September 9–11 in Omega, Oklahoma, with a team of 19 examiners who interviewed 24 stakeholders. He stated that no areas of non-compliance were identified.

Mr. Vanek advised that, if approved, the technology center will be required to submit a continuous improvement plan within 90 days addressing one opportunity for improvement for each of the six quality standards, and that agency staff will monitor progress and provide technical assistance as needed. He recommended that the Board grant full accreditation status to Chisholm Trail Technology Center.

The Superintendent of Chisholm Trail Technology Center, Mr. Kurt Thomas addressed the Board and expressed appreciation for the accreditation process, noting its value in evaluating programs, operations, and stakeholder feedback.

Board members asked questions and discussion was held.

Mr. Michael Brown reentered the meeting at 9:25 a.m. as Superintendent Thomas was speaking.

A motion was made by Mr. Leonard McCullough to approve the Full Postsecondary Accreditation for Chisholm Trail Technology Center, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brian Bobek.

Voting Results:

Mr. Brian Bobek, yes

Mr. Michael Brown, yes

Mr. Randy Gilbert, yes

Mr. Leonard McCullough, yes

Mr. Rob Seeman, yes

Superintendent Fields, yes

Motion carried. A copy of the minutes is on file at the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education.

3.08 Discussion and Possible Action on the Full Postsecondary Accreditation for Moore Norman Technology Center School District No. 17 – Mr. Joey Vanek, Accreditation Manager.

Mr. Joey Vanek presented the accreditation report for Moore Norman Technology Center. He reported that the accreditation division conducted a hybrid accreditation review September 23–25 at Moore Norman Technology Center in Norman, Oklahoma, including the South Penn campus. The examiner team consisted of 28 members who interviewed 31 stakeholders.

Mr. Vanek stated that no areas of non-compliance were identified and recommended that the Board grant full accreditation status to Moore Norman Technology Center.

The Superintendent of Moore Norman Technology Center, Mr. Brian Ruttman, addressed the Board and commented on the value of the accreditation process.

Board members asked questions and discussion was held.

A motion was made by Mr. Brian Bobek to approve full postsecondary accreditation for Moore Norman Technology Center. The motion was seconded by Mr. Michael Brown.

Voting Results:

Mr. Rob Seeman, yes
Mr. Leonard McCullough, yes
Mr. Randy Gilbert, yes
Mr. Michael Brown, yes
Mr. Brian Bobek, yes
Superintendent Fields, abstain

Motion carried. A copy of the minutes is on file at the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education.

3.09 Discussion and Possible Action on the Proposed Changes to Exhibit 6 in the Accreditation Guidelines for Oklahoma Public Postsecondary Career and Technical Education, as presented, pursuant to 70 O.S. § 21-104 - Mr. Brent Meeks, Director of School Accountability.

Mr. Meeks presented proposed revisions to Exhibit Six of the accreditation guidelines. He clarified that the proposed changes do not alter the standards themselves but update the checklist used by technology centers to provide required documentation. The revisions are intended to:

- Clarify and align checklist items with the federal student aid handbook,
- Remove non-required or unnecessary items, and
- Ensure policies and procedures meet federal and state law requirements.

Mr. Meeks noted that the proposed revisions are intended to help districts maintain compliance and that the checklist will continue to be monitored and updated as needed.

Board members were given an opportunity for questions.

A motion was made by Mr. Michael Brown to approve the proposed changes to Exhibit Six of the accreditation guidelines. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leonard McCullough.

Voting Results:

Mr. Brian Bobek, yes
Mr. Michael Brown, yes
Mr. Randy Gilbert, yes
Mr. Leonard McCullough, yes
Mr. Rob Seeman, yes
Superintendent Fields, yes

Motion carried. A copy of the minutes is on file at the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education.

- 3.10 Discussion and Possible Action to convene in Executive Session pursuant to 25 O.S. 2021, § 307(B)(1) related to the Annual Performance Review, Employment and Compensation of the State Director, Mr. Brent Haken, State Director of Career and Technology Education (Authority: 25 O.S. 2021, § 307 (B)(1)).**
- a. Vote to Convene in Executive Session pursuant to 25 O.S. 2021, § 307 (B)(1).**
 - b. Discuss the Annual Performance Review, Employment and Compensation of Mr. Brent Haken, State Director of Career and Technology Education.**
 - c. Vote to Exit Executive Session.**
 - d. Discussion and Possible Action regarding item(s) discussed in Executive Session, including the Annual Performance Review, Employment, and Compensation of the State Director – Mr. Brent Haken, State Director of Career and Technology Education.**

Mr. Michael Brown moved to convene to executive session at 9:41 a.m. Mr. Leonard McCullough seconded the motion.

Voting Results:

Mr. Rob Seeman, yes
Mr. Leonard McCullough, yes
Mr. Randy Gilbert, yes
Mr. Michael Brown, yes
Mr. Brian Bobek, yes
Superintendent Fields, yes

Motion carried. A copy of the minutes is on file at the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education.

c. Vote to Acknowledge Return to Open Session

Mr. Michael Brown moved to return to open session at 10:47 a.m. and Mr. Brian Bobek seconded the motion.

Voting Results:

Mr. Brian Bobek, yes
Mr. Michael Brown, yes
Mr. Randy Gilbert, yes

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Mr. Leonard McCullough, yes
Mr. Rob Seeman, yes
Superintendent Fields, yes

Motion carried. A copy of the minutes is on file at the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education.

d. Discussion and Possible Action on the Annual Performance Review, Employment and Compensation of the State Director – Mr. Brent Haken, State Director of Career and Technology Education.

The Board reported that it had conducted a thorough evaluation of the State Director over the course of two board meetings. Board members expressed that the evaluation was exemplary and acknowledged the Director's leadership in maintaining and advancing the CareerTech system. Goals, objectives, and opportunities for improvement were discussed, and the Director expressed appreciation for the Board's guidance and commitment to advancing CareerTech in Oklahoma.

A motion was made by Mr. Leonard McCullough regarding items discussed in executive session, including the annual performance review, employment, and compensation of the State Director, as discussed in executive session. Mr. Brian Bobek seconded the motion.

Voting Results:

Mr. Rob Seeman, yes
Mr. Leonard McCullough, yes
Mr. Randy Gilbert, yes
Mr. Michael Brown, yes
Mr. Brian Bobek, yes
Superintendent Fields, yes

Motion carried. A copy of the minutes is on file at the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education.

4. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

5. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:49 a.m.

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The next regular meeting of the State Board of Career and Technology Education will be held Thursday, February 19, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will be held at the Oklahoma State Department of Education, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

A copy of the minutes is on file at the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education.



Lindel Fields, State Superintendent
of Public Instruction and Chair of the Board



Ashley Rink, Executive Assistant
to the CareerTech State Director and
Secretary of the CareerTech Board

