

**MINUTES OF THE  
APPLIED TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION TASK FORCE**  
Monday, August 28, 2000 - 1:00 p.m. - Room 303 State Capitol

**Members Present:**

Sen. Leonard M. Blackham, Chair  
Rep. Martin R. Stephens, Chair  
Sen. John L. Valentine  
Sen. Ron Allen  
Rep. Ron Bigelow  
Rep. Judy Ann Buffmire  
Rep. Craig W. Buttars  
Rep. James R. Gowans  
Rep. Bradley T. Johnson  
Rep. Bill Wright

**Staff Present:**

Mr. John Q. Cannon, Research Analyst  
Mr. John L. Fellows, Associate General Counsel  
Ms. Alicia Gambles, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present and a copy of materials distributed in the meeting are on file in the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.

**1. Call to order -** Chair Blackham called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

**MOTION:** Sen. Allen moved to approve the minutes of the August 14, 2000 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

**2. Business and Industry Input on Applied Technology Education -** Ms. Tammy Eva, Human Resource Associate, The Boeing Company, discussed Boeing's use of Custom Fit programs offered through Salt Lake Community College (SLCC), the Ogden-Weber ATC, and the Davis ATC. She noted that the Boeing Company works closely with these organizations, and that, without them, Boeing would not be as successful as it is. Task Force discussion followed.

Ms. Tonya Andrus, Training Coordinator, BD Medical Systems, discussed the Custom Fit and Short-Term Intensive Training programs used by BD Medical. She noted that through partnership with SLCC, a good quality training program was developed for their employees. She concluded that applied technology education (ATE) programs contribute to the company's success. Task Force discussion followed.

Mr. Shawn Weaver, Safety and Training Coordinator, Orbit Irrigation Products, gave an overview on the custom fit training programs provided to Orbit. He stated that the custom fit programs were developed to fit their needs and quickly train employees using their facilities. He noted that Orbit had recruited people trained through the custom fit program. He discussed his involvement with ATE programs at Weber State, Davis ATC, and Ogden-Weber ATC. Task Force discussion followed.

### **3. Higher Education Presentation on Applied Technology Education -**

Dr. Cecelia Foxley, Commissioner of Higher Education, listed several principles relied upon by Higher Education, including: 1) meeting the ATE training needs of students in the state of Utah must be the primary focus and solutions must be based upon making the most efficient use of state resources in delivering ATE; 2) each region of the state has unique characteristics, needs, and challenges and solutions must be tailored accordingly; and 3) the Utah State Board of Education is the appropriate governing body for K-12 ATE; the Utah State Board of Regents is the appropriate governing body for adult ATE; and the two systems must continue to collaborate and make certain there is a smooth continuum of credit and non-credit ATE opportunities for students at all levels.

Mr. Gary Wixom, Assistant Commissioner for Applied Technology Education and Extended Programs, Utah System of Higher Education, requested that the following recommendations be considered:

- 1) ATE in the Wasatch Front South Region should be delivered through a cooperative effort between the school districts and SLCC. New joint-use youth centers should be constructed in that region with the CEOs of these centers reporting to the President of SLCC.
- 2) The Southeast and Southwest ATCSRs should be patterned after the Mountainland model.
- 3) The existing ATCs should be brought under the governance of the State Board of Regents, maintaining their current operating characteristics and preserving their autonomy, flexibility, and their unique mission and role of providing non-credit ATE for secondary and adult students in their regions.

Task Force discussion followed.

Ms. Aileen Clyde, Vice Chair, Utah State Board of Regents, spoke on the importance of ATE. She made four commitments of the State Board of Regents to protect and enhance ATE. They include: 1) that the State Board of Regents structure be organized to provide increased emphasis on ATE programs, finance, and planning; 2) that the State Board of Regents and the State Board of Education develop a process for contractual arrangements between the two education systems for the continued provision of ATE services to secondary students who wish to attend ATE programs that are not offered on high school campuses; 3) that the State Board of Regents ensure that ATE program delivery is flexible, responsive, and meets the diverse needs of the student, business and industry communities, including non-traditional delivery formats; and 4) that the State Board of Regents expand its accountability procedures to assure that ATE goals are

met and funding is monitored. Ms. Clyde also discussed a proposed reorganized structure of the Board of Regents. Task Force discussion followed.

#### **4. Public Education Presentation on Applied Technology Education -**

Ms. Jill Kennedy, Chair, Utah State Board of Education, gave an overview on public education's commitment to ATE. She explained that ATCs do not provide credit; however, articulation agreements with Higher Education institutions are available to provide credit where it is appropriate. She stated that a third board is not needed for ATE and that the State Board of Applied Technology Education is the entity with the responsibility and concern for secondary students. She explained that a master plan is in place that calls for an expanded system of ATCs to serve all areas of the state. She noted that implementing this master plan would provide equity for all areas of the state and would eliminate service regions. She concluded that ATCs do not need to be part of Higher Education and that the State Board has set ATE as a top priority.

Mr. Steven Laing, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, outlined several issues relating to ATE. He stated that the governance of ATE programs in the state has become increasingly confused. He requested that the Legislature help to clarify the means by which ATE would be advanced in the state, because that advancement is essential to the future and continued economic prosperity of the state.

Mr. Laing outlined several issues that justify the need for clarification of ATE governance. He requested that the task force look at the governance issue of ATE for the purpose of clarifying who and what processes will be most effective in providing ATE to the state and its students. He also recommended that the Task Force designate the policy body responsible for answering governance questions. He suggested that several critical issues concerning governance be considered, including:

- 1) the conditions or criteria to justify the creation of an ATC;
- 2) equitable funding for ATE programs, ATCs, ATCSRs, school districts, high schools, and institutions of Higher Education;
- 3) funding for adults in ATE programs;
- 4) access to ATE programs for employee upgrades, custom fit, or short-term intensive training;
- 5) access for students and adults in areas not immediately proximate to existing ATCs or comparable programs; and

6) process or organizational structure to minimize duplication of effort, and confusion of roles.

Mr. Laing concluded that the State Board of Education/State Board for Applied Technology Education is the appropriate body to address these ATE issues. Task Force discussion followed.

Mr. Robert Brems, Associate Superintendent, Applied Technology Education Services, Utah State Office of Education, indicated that ATCs in the state of Utah are well supported by both the State Board and the Legislature. He suggested that public education and higher education programs look at the ATCs as a model to be emulated and replicated. Mr. Brems summarized by requesting: 1) that the Legislature assist in further developing ATC programs and facilities in the parts of the state that are still underserved; 2) that the Legislature participate in requiring that new procedures be developed to bridge any gaps between public and higher education, such as the credit issue; and 3) that the task force strengthen the ATE efforts in the state that are now functioning well. Task Force discussion followed.

**5. Public Comment Concerning Applied Technology Education - Sen. Dave Steele** addressed the committee on the needs of ATE in Utah. Sen. Steele suggested for consideration a process that would build on current success without moving to a third board. He suggested considering a revamped Joint Liaison Committee to develop an ATE budget. Higher Education, Public Education, Economic Development, Workforce Services, and Human Services would all be part of the new Joint Liaison Committee. The committee would then report directly to the Executive Appropriations Committee. Task Force discussion followed.

Ms. Karren Derrick, Utah School Boards Association, urged consideration of equity and adequacy of the ATCs. She also supported ATC governance under the State Board of Education.

Mr. Winn Westcott, Vocational Director for Grand and San Juan, Southeast Region ATC, discussed the plan that was developed for the Southeast Region. He expressed concern about ATE programs in rural Utah.

Mr. Gerald Summerhays, Utah Dental Association, reported on a successful partnership between education and business. He explained that SLCC helped to develop a dental hygiene program to meet the needs of the area. Task Force discussion followed.

**6. Updated Data Tables from the 1995 Legislative Performance Audit of Applied Technology Education Programs - Boyd Garriott, Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst** distributed a handout comparing audit information for fiscal year 1999 and 1993. The issue was not discussed at this meeting.

**7. Task Force Business** - Sen. Blackham presented a proposal to the Task Force for consideration. He indicated that committing \$10 million in new monies to the ATE system would empower the people that are providing the services. He noted that establishing mechanisms that reward cooperation would encourage the continued development of partnerships between higher and public education, business, and ATCs. In addition to additional funding, Sen. Blackham suggested governance changes for ATE in Salt Lake and Tooele counties. Task Force discussion followed.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 11, 2000 at 1:00 p.m.

**8. Adjourn -**

**MOTION:** Rep. Buttars moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

