



*advancing career and technical education for all students*

**Annual Spring Meeting  
Virtual: Microsoft Team  
Wednesday, March 25, 2021  
MINUTES**

**MCTA Attendees and School Systems Represented:**

Dr. Tamara Barron, MSDE CTE Judiciary (present)  
Joseph Brewer, CTE Supervisor, Allegany (present)  
Carrie Akins, CTE Director, Calvert (present)  
Kate Campbell, CTE Specialist, Harford County (present)  
Emilie Cherry, Community College of Baltimore County (present)  
William Eckles, CTE Supervisor, Carroll (present)  
Steve Garland, CTE Specialist, Washington (present)  
Michael Grubbs, CTE Coordinator, Baltimore County (present)  
Douglas Handy, CTE Director and MCTA President, Baltimore County (present)  
Sharon Kramer, CTE Director and MCTA Treasurer, Howard (present)  
Robert Limpert, CTE Director and MCTE President-Elect, Harford (present)  
Nicole Parr, CTE Director, Cecil (present)  
Kristine Pearl, CTE Director, Frederick (present)  
Diane Stulz, CTE Director, Worcester (present)  
Adam Tolley, CTE Director, Queen Anne's (present)  
Robin Werner, CTE Director, Talbot (present)  
Michael Weglein, MCTA Executive Director (present)

**LEAs not represented**

- Anne Arundel County
- Baltimore City attempted to connect.
- Caroline County
- Charles County
- Dorchester County
- Garrett County
- Kent County
- Prince George's
- Montgomery County
- St. Mary's County
- Somerset County
- Wicomico County

**GUESTS:**

None

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**Meeting Recorded in Microsoft Teams.**

**Available via Microsoft Stream - [Watch 'MCTA Spring Meeting' | Microsoft Stream](#)**

### **Meeting Minutes**

#### **9:00 a.m.—9:18 a.m.—Welcome, Meeting Purpose, Agenda & Introductions, (Douglas Handy)**

Doug Handy welcomed members. He discussed virtual meeting protocols and the benefits of the virtual format. Doug introduced the executive board members, reviewed the agenda and then described the purpose of the 2 ½ day meetings. He thanked participants for quickly pivoting to Microsoft Teams today due to the issues with Google Meet. Doug finished his section of the agenda by moving to the member survey that was distributed the evening before. The survey consisted of two questions: 1. What are your needs? 2. What can you offer in terms of support to other LEAs? Members shared that they did not receive it. Mike Weglein shared the member survey URL in the chat. Doug shared that their feedback would be helpful and that the survey would remain up until the end of the week.

#### **9:18 a.m.—9:30 a.m.—ACTE / MCTA Awards Nomination Process / How do we increase the # of nominees? What are your barriers? We had 9 incomplete submissions this year. (Sharon Kramer)**

Sharon Kramer described the awards opportunity that has been afforded to us by ACTE and described Maryland's role in the regional and national process. Sharon outlined the awards that are available through the MCTA / ACTE website. She took a couple moments to describe the purpose of each award.

She then described the awards process including the membership requirement to move forward to the regional and national level. Mike Weglein added that you do not have to be a member to be recognized at the Maryland (State) level; however, if you want to compete at the national level, you have up until March 1<sup>st</sup> to join. Mike shared that the call for award nominations ends on Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> of the preceding year. The executive board vets' candidates during January and announces Maryland winners during the first week of February (CTE Month).

Joe Brewer and Carrie Akins posted the question in the chat regarding ACTE membership and the awards process. Mike Weglein answered the question.

Sharon then discussed the plaque distribution process to our current and previous award winners and thanked Mike Weglein for handling the distribution. Mike Weglein provided a brief summary around the distribution process.

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Sharon asked for additional questions and or barrier questions.

Kristine Pearl asked a question regarding the work-based learning coordinator of the year and the awards process through ACTE which appears to be different than our process.

A second question was asked about the administrator award and how MCTA could help facilitate one of the directors getting nominated each year.

**9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.— LEA Check-In / Transition to In-Person Instruction (Rob Limpert)**

Harford County: Rob Limpert shared that there were 18 people on the call. He described what was happening in Harford County. Attendance at the high school level is around 15-20%. Working with other central offices and teachers to ensure CDC guidelines are being met. Pushing at technical center to get students back 4 days per week. Working hard to prepare students for TSAs.

Alleghany County: Joe Brewer from Alleghany described that they had been back since February. Feb 8<sup>th</sup> to end of March students were in a hybrid model. All students returning 4 days per week at the end of March. Discussed cafeteria / food challenges while meeting CDC guidelines.

Anne Arundel: Not present

Baltimore City: Not present

Baltimore County: Doug Handy deferred to Mike Grubbs. Phase 3 of 4-phase process. CTE was part of Phase 3. Two Wednesdays, March 17 and 24<sup>th</sup> to work with CTE students all day if needed. Schools had a choice to participate. 6-8 schools participated during the week of March 17. Described the selection process and variables that effected each school or teacher decision to participate or not in Phase 3. Doug finished the BCPS section of the presentation. Shared that participation was small.

Calvert County: Carrie Akins from Calvert County described in-person CTE instruction in Calvert. Instruction has been occurring since October. Discussed the 13 programs at CTA and how the process worked at her school. Developed some good systems as well as a school-response document and frameworks for her teachers. Described concurrent teaching processes. Senior process. Purchase of equipment / podium carts and cameras that can be wheeled into labs. Expect to have a normal certification season. Discussed CNA certification success as well as the 1500 cosmetology benchmarks.

Carrol County: Bill Eckles shared that students have been in the tech center 2 days per week since September. Carrol shifted to 4 days per week for students at the center beginning in March. Discussed air purifiers that were purchased by the county for each room. All students certified in CNA last month. Cosmetology will certify next month. Tech Center participation is at 90% compared to 50% at the comprehensive schools. Using picnic tables to allow students to eat outside.

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Cecil County: Nicole Parr shared that critical CTE programs have been at the school of tech since September. Other CTE programs (Homeland Security and Teacher Academy) returned in October. Shut down in Nov and Dec. CTE returned January 11<sup>th</sup>. Moving to 4 days per week this month. Student certification is on target. Cosmetology will begin testing during the last week of March. 12 students are ready to go. CNA/GNA and CCNA are getting ready. Wednesday's are virtual days; however some students are coming in to get more in-person instruction. Discussed new software for Interactive Media that allowed Cecil to keep the media students on track in Nov. and Dec. "Remote entry" software. Discussed using the new software for PLTW. Student participation is much higher at the School of Tech than comprehensive high schools. Allowing teachers to bring in guest speakers and employers to work with the students. Nicole discussed the mind shift that time in school would be time in the shop rather than the classroom.

Frederick County: Kristine Pearl described that they are somewhat in the middle of the other LEAs when it comes to students in the building. She discussed ESSRA grants and funding for CTE programs. She shared that certifications are beginning. Comprehensive schools returned in mid Feb. Some employees requested ADA which required central office administrators to substitute for teachers. Norm has been substituting 2x per week.

Howard County: Sharon Kramer described the Howard County phase-in approach beginning March 1. March 15<sup>th</sup> – PreK, K, 1 and 2 were brought in. March 29 – Grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 9 and 12 and Tech Center.

By April 12<sup>th</sup> the rest of the grades will return. Howard County is using Virtual Machines to access software in the cloud. Summer school – AHP will be offered in the summer. First two classes. Principles of Business, TAM as ways to begin participation in a career academy.

Worcester County: Diane Stultz shared that they have been back since September. Short hiatus in December due to an increase in COVID rates. 80% of CTE students are back in the building. Most teachers have been vaccinated already. Central office has not been asked to substitute. Offering summer programs for TSAs. Also offering TAM. Moving along pretty well. Vice principal at the tech center is doing a lot of contract tracing because students come from 2 other schools. Discussed that students who selected a CTE program for next year must select an all in-person option. Virtual is not an option for CTE programs. 2 bills in legislation that will require some type of virtual instruction for all students across the state.

Washington County: Steve Garland discussed the process in Washington County. Students have been back on and off since the Fall. Regular 5-day schedule by April 5<sup>th</sup>. All virtual is still an option for students. No constraints as it pertains to CTE programs. Students can opt for all in or all out. Central

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office is substituting for absent teachers. ACF certification is happening today in Washington. We are working to get students their TSAs.

Department of Corrections - Dr. Barron reporting. 10 prisons with CTE programs behind the fence. Technology is very limited behind the fence. September and October were in-person. Nov., Dec and Jan. back to asynchronous instruction. Scheduled to go back to in-person instruction on Monday, March 29<sup>th</sup>. Students have been completing assignments. Described how one of her institutions is recording lessons to improve teaching and learning.

Community College – Emily Cherrie. We have been back since May/June. Offering a combination of in-person and online instruction. Lots of different options. 30% on / 70% off. Hope to move to a 50%/50% model.

**10:16 a.m. – 10:46 a.m. MCTA Virtual Summer Institute on Tuesday, July 27, 2021 (Doug Handy) • Brainstorm around topics**

Doug reported on the summer institute. Shared that an in-person meeting will not work for many of our members. Discussed the cancellation fee (\$2815) and options to avoid the cancellation fee. Discussed deferring to later in the year (October).

July 27 Summer Institute – 1 day virtual. Free and Virtual.

- AM Session 8-11 a.m. Format to be determined.
- Lunch (11-12 working lunch + awards)
- PM Session 12-3 p.m. Format to be determined.

Fall Meeting – 1 day in -person at Turf Valley (Continental breakfast and lunch)

Should it be all day, ½ day or ¾ day.

Opened it up for questions.

3 directors shared that Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> will not work due to local PD responsibilities for the Fall date.

Also concerns about travel restrictions going into the Fall.

Doug shared that BCPS is not talking about the Fall just yet.

Mike shared that we have 60 days or until May 21 to make a decision otherwise we go to 75% reimbursement for Turf Valley.

Doug said we will meet again in May to make a final decision.

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Topics for Summer Institute:

- Participation from MSDE
- Rob Limbert and Nicole Parr – Virtual Machines / VDI.
- Kristine and Korbin – VPN
- Rob Limpert – Language and wording (creative) for grants where data does not support programs.
- Comments via Chat – PQI
- Mike or Doug presentation from last year that was cancelled – NAPE. Mike and Doug confirmed that they would be willing to present. NAPE Action Research and elimination of fees.
- CTE Learn discussion around LEAs piggybacking on Worcester County for MSDE courses through CTE Learn.

**10:30 – 10:40 a.m. – ACTE-Maryland Website Overview (Mike Weglein)**

- Review of member directory
- Review of membership features including job board and posting feature.
- Review of document archives.

**10:40 a.m.—11:58 a.m.—MCTA Business • Approval of Fall 2020 minutes (ALL) • Executive Director Report (Mike Weglein) • Treasurer’s Report (Sharon Kramer)**

Mike discussed the minutes from the Fall meeting, where they were posted on the website and moved for approval from DRAFT to FINAL.

Mike shared his executive director report which focused on the new website, social media communications, awards, and work with ACTE.

Sharon shared the current budget report. Budget was posted below the minutes for today’s meeting on the website.

**10:58 a.m.—Adjourn**

All participants exited at 10:58 a.m. Meeting officially adjourned.

Submitted by Mike Weglein, MCTA Executive Director, April 9, 2021

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