

Tri Star Meeting  
December 8, 2022

Meeting Called to order at 7:00 pm

Roll call was taken. Board members present: Chris Falk, Randy Kunk, Joe Rose, Tim Rosengarten, Scott Bertke, Preston Meyer, Tim Pohlman, and Rick Kremer. Absent: Dorothy Kiel, Sandy Mast, Paul Moorman, and Sandra Schulze.

Amend agenda to approve the October minutes, not the June minutes as listed.

Rick Kremer motioned to approve the October minutes: seconded by Chris Falk. Motion approved.

Director's Report:

- Perkins- Tim has been working on several areas of the grant: 1) Tri Star will be losing around \$3,000 from the FY '22 grant since paperwork was not filed correctly by the previous Celina treasurer. ODE had several questions on the FY'22 grant. Tim is concerned that will cause ODE to look at our FY 22 audit closer. 2) Every three years each CTPD is up for an audit. Documents from FY'22 are to be turned in to ODE by December 19<sup>th</sup>. If not turned in, ODE automatically comes for a site visit. Minimum a phone audit will be conducted. Only 2 of the 9 agricultural programs did advisory meetings correctly and three schools did not even hold a meeting. This will be a finding that will have to be corrected. 3) ODE had questions on the FY'23 grant. Issues were solved. Tri Star was looked at closer because of issues with the FY'22 grant.
- State Funding- It looks like the state will be supporting career tech with increased funding. They are looking at equipment, facilities, programming, etc. The JVSD's feel compacts and comprehensives get more funding. According to ODE, JVSD's get around 90 million in career tech funding and compacts/comprehensives get around 22 million.
- Governor Visit- Nine career tech administrators met on November 22<sup>nd</sup> with Gov. DeWine and Lt. Gov. Husted to discuss career tech. Tim was fortunate to be invited. They want more students in career tech due to the skills shortage as more companies come to Ohio. Are supportive of increased funding and asked how/what we would use the money for. There are several CTPD's turning away students.
- Referral #133- Plasma Cutter for Welding. Motion by Chris Falk to approve purchase: Seconded by Randy Kunk. Motion passed. Will be sent to the nine school boards for approval.
- Licensure Change- Tim is on a group looking at changing the licensure requirements for career tech teachers. Both ODE and the governor is interested on how to make it easier to get more CTE teachers. The number of classes and salary are barriers. Many

administrators want to keep the rigor in the training, so our teachers are looked upon equally as regular education teachers.

- Superintendents are concerned about having funds for maintenance for the Tri Star building. This has been discussed since Tri Star was built. Advisory board members expressed concern about future costs. It was noted the building is nearing four years old.
- Student Work Options- Tri Star is looking into getting students to work sites earlier. This would help companies and enhance learning for students. The state has been asked by some professions to allow any 16-year-old students to be able to start working in their industry after 20 hours of safety training. This is a concern to the career tech world.
- Cooperative Update- The subcommittee continues to meet. Superintendents are updated regularly. Based on the auditors' findings, the current Tri Star agreement needs to be adjusted because of bonding concern and one school imposing their will on the other eight schools. Superintendents have hired legal counsel, an expert bonding agent lawyer, to help with the drafting of a new agreement. This will allow Celina to move ahead with their audit once new agreement is approved. A second revision will need to be drafted in the future to address other issues if the cooperative is adopted. The state legislature will not be taking up the cooperative language in lame duck session. Will be done in the new year.
- State School Board- The bill proposed to change the state school board contains language that would give career tech a cabinet level position that will promote Career Workforce and Career Tech Education. Also created is a K-12 position for education. Is concern the position could become political.

#### Assistant Director's Report:

- Industry Credentials-IWIP Grant will create more credentials for our students. Welding has already benefited from new credentials. Every student has already earned a credential in the program. Brian created a spreadsheet to show all the credentials and WebXams students have passed. He shared this with the counselors. Several expressed appreciation.
- College Credit Plus, CTAG's and Articulations- Brian explained the differences of those options. Only current CCP is Cyber Security with Rhodes State. Students get CTAG'S by taking class and is transcribed thru state schools only. Articulated is for each individual school...private or public and is not transcribed.
- Work Based Learning- Need 250 hours in two years and the hours need to be recorded. Helps with graduation path and the state is planning on reimbursing schools for each student who meets this target.
- Student Organizations/Activities- Skills/FCCLA did can food drive for Agape and Call Food Pantry. Angel Tree program where they did 125 gifts. Competition season is coming up and several programs will compete. The cost is becoming a concern.

#### Recruitment:

- Sophomore Tours- First two days had to be rescheduled due to fog. Had 550 students visit and Animal Health had the most numbers. Had many programs with large number of visits. Students get two choices and visit 45 minutes each. Julie did a great job in getting these scheduled.
- Open House- Will be held December 12<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7:30 pm. Last year had two open houses (December and January) but combined the two this year.

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#### Career Development/Adult Ed:

- Possible New Classes
  - Truck Driving- Several companies are interested. They are on the same page but has been a challenge to get started. Have donated space and trucks. Cost is \$4,000 and that is a concern.
  - Electricity- Short term basic class. A local company would like to have. Ten to twenty hours is what requested but will probably need more.

#### Good of the Order:

- Student doing well that was injured in one of our labs. Precision Machining and Med Prep student did a very good job with the situation. The staff involved handled everything very well.
- Safety Drill- Conducted school wide on November 22<sup>nd</sup> with the help of the Sheriff's Department.

#### Old Business:

- Reserve Capital Balance- Not available. New treasurer working to get items balanced.

Motion made to adjourn by Preston Meyer: Seconded by Joe Rose. Meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm.

**Superintendent/Treasurer Meeting**  
**Update on Tri Star Agreement/Cooperative**  
**Star Room at Tri Star**  
**December 22, 2022**  
**9:00 am**

Attendance: Superintendents- Bill Ruane, Doug Mader, Josh Meyer, Ken Schmiesing, Larry Brown, Mike Pohlman, Julie Gaerke, Kim Waterman, and Jason Shrader.  
Treasurers- Amy Reineke, Andy Wilker, Deanna Knapke, Jenn McCoy, Jill Ahlers, Laura Klosterman, Michelle Mauer, and Andy Meckstroth.  
Others- Dee Smith (Policy Consultant), Brian Stetler, and Tim Buschur. Ryan Callender (Legal Counsel) was on Zoom

Bill Ruane gave overview of what has been going on with the sub committee working on the Tri Star agreement and Cooperative. It has been meeting weekly with legal counsel and policy consultant. The committee itself has also met.

The goal is to revise the agreement to reflect better the original agreement when the bonding agent based their decision to sell bonds. The revised agreement in 2019 was a change that could concern the bond holders. The sub committee also is looking in the Cooperative, but the agreement revision is priority.

Dee did an overview on how we have gotten to this point that started a year and a half ago. She has coordinated the communication between all involved parties, explained the cooperative and the issues the auditor had.

Bill stated the timeline is to get agreement approved by January. This will help Celina with their audit, and we can move forward with the bonding issue. This will allow to look at the Cooperative. Andy Wilker was put on the subcommittee so he can keep the treasurers updated. Bill stated all members of the subcommittee, explained the agreement, bond issues it created, and the unintended consequences.

Ryan than went over the changes in the proposed new agreement. He said he does not see major issues, but the bond holders should have been notified of the agreement change. Once this new agreement is made, they will need to be notified.

Larry Brown had question on page five II.A, that the fiscal agent oversees paying the debt. The bond people need to know this.

Transparency is the number one goal of this revised agreement. Other issues discussed were calendar, staffing for both teachers and administration, and evaluation of staff.

Ryan- Bond agents never saw the new agreement in 2019. They based it on the 2017 agreement. Ryan stated that all payments were made, and he knew of no other main issues.

At this time, it was discovered that indeed a bond payment was made late in June by one day. Not everyone knew this information, and this was just coming out. This caused concern. Ryan said since it was paid, and Celina had not heard from the bond agent, it should not cause large concern.

Will meet January 4<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm at Tri Star to go over agreement. This will give all schools time to look at agreement. Communicate with Bill any questions who will than work with Dee.

Was brought up what/who is the committee in the agreement? Who is in charge? The revised agreement does put the committee in charge (made up of superintendents.) The advisory board is for advising and everyone wants that to continue. In the past it looked like the advisory board was in charge, but it was not being run that way. Tim explained when Tri Star started the advisory board was the superintendents. Members of that group changed over the years.

Jason Shrader made motion to adjourn seconded by Mike Pohlman. Meeting adjourned at 10:27 am.