Iowa State Board of Education

Executive Summary

August 4, 2016

Agenda Item: Update and Progress on Career and Technical Education (CTE) Redesign

Iowa Goal: Individuals will pursue postsecondary education in order to drive economic success, and all PK-12 students will achieve at a high level.

State Board Role/Authority: House File (HF) 2392

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Chief, Bureau of CTE

Attachments: 0

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board hear and discuss this information.

Background: HF 604 (2013) mandated the establishment of a Secondary CTE Task Force to review existing programming and make recommendations to reduce skill shortages, enhance economic growth, and ensure that all students have access to high quality, globally competitive CTE programs.

The task force recommendations consisted of: 1) career guidance; 2) high quality secondary CTE programming; 3) work-based learning; 4) CTE teacher preparation and professional development; and 5) regional partnerships and regional centers. These recommendations became the basis for HF 2392, which was passed unanimously by the Iowa Legislature and signed by Governor Branstad on May 26, 2016.

The CTE Redesign Bill (HF 2392), includes two divisions and authorizes the department to develop rules for approval by the State Board. Division I provides code language for implementing meaningful career guidance.
Emergency rules have been adopted for school districts to establish district teams to guide the career and academic planning process, and choose a career information software system that meets career guidance and development standards.

HF 2392: Division II rewrites Chapter 258 of the Iowa Code and focuses on how the redesigned CTE will be implemented across school districts through the following: 1) code corrections; 2) reconfigured CTE services areas; 3) outlining the framework of the career academy as a model for offering and teaching CTE; and 4) establishing regional CTE planning partnerships and regional centers.

The department has begun the process for developing and writing Division II rules through the following: a) holding listening sessions around the state; b) establishing internal department teams with input from key external informants; c) producing several iterations of the rules to be reviewed by the teams; and d) vetted by senior department leadership. The department intends to have the Division II rules fully developed by early October 2016, and submitted to the State Board for approval in November 2016.