

## What Happened at the Regents Meeting?

May 9, 2017

The Board of Regents met on May 9, 2017 and voted to adopt, through emergency action, the recommendations detailed in the item, “Unit of Study Requirements for Career and Technical Education in Grades 7 and 8.” The item, and the supplemental slide deck that was presented to the Board, is available at <http://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2017/2017-05/p-12-education>. The Board’s vote enabled a change in the middle level regulation language that governs Career and Technical Education (CTE). Regents Tilles and Mittler were opposed; all others were in favor.

“Emergency action” happens whenever the Department wishes to grant districts the ability to implement regulation change in a shorter timeframe than would be possible following the typical protocol. In this case, the emergency action was taken to address concerns voiced by superintendents of schools to senior NYSED leadership around:

- finding Technology and FACS teachers to fill open positions; and
- scheduling two discrete CTE courses in prescribed units of study; and
- providing middle-level students with broad-based CTE learning experiences.

The emergency rule is effective July 1, 2017. A 45-day public comment period follows. The Board of Regents will revisit this action at their September meeting, and if adopted, the regulation change will become a permanent rule on September 27, 2017.

Prior to this vote, CTE was represented in CR 100.4 through 1 unit of technology education and  $\frac{3}{4}$  unit of Home and Career Skills (intermediate Family and Consumer Sciences [FACS]). Under the new language, CR 100.4 represents CTE in the middle level through “1  $\frac{3}{4}$  unit career and technical education.”

The emergency action allows districts with 2017-18 job openings for technology teachers or for FACS teachers to look to the expanded of all CTE certified teachers for recruitment into open positions. The content areas under the CTE umbrella are: Technology Education, FACS, Agriculture, Business Education, Trade and Technical, and Health Sciences Occupations. This option is available for all schools beginning in 2018-19 assuming the Board continues its approval of the regulation change when it is revisited in September.

The “Options” section and Attachment A clearly state that the current delivery method of 1 unit technology and  $\frac{3}{4}$  Home and Career Skills required under prior regulation language are viable and appropriate under the new regulation language: “Districts that have effective FACS and Technology Education programs could continue to meet the unit of study requirement in the traditional manner;” and see the “Current Delivery Model” column on the “Sample Middle Level CTE Delivery Models” chart.

The item also commits to providing curricular guidance for “Introduction to CTE”, building on the draft models created by NYS AFCSE, which will:

- Bridge middle level CTE to high school CTE
- Expose students to all CTE content areas, and tied to the sixteen career clusters through the Common Career Technical Core standards
- Follow a module format that will allow for greater flexibility in delivery
- Foster acceleration into graduation pathways in CTE, CDOS, and STEM
- Expand the pool of qualified CTE teachers to fill positions at the middle level

Finally, the item includes two attachments. Attachment A, referenced above, shows a few of the many possible delivery methods for middle-level CTE under the new regulation. Attachment B is the actual amendment to the current CR 100.4 regulation changing the 1 unit technology education and  $\frac{3}{4}$  unit Home and Career Skills to 1  $\frac{3}{4}$  unit career and technical education.

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