

Kansas State Board of Education: Career and Technical Education Policy Initiatives

On May 11, 2010, the Kansas State Board of Education approved policy motions that reflect a progressive, challenging agenda that seek to ensure Career and Technical Education's contributions and potential are realized. These policy motions not only embrace the priorities of the *Reflect, Transform, Lead: New Vision for Career and Technical Education*, but also strategically ensure that all students will achieve challenging academic and technical standards and be prepared for high-skill, high-wage, or high-demand occupations in current or emerging professions by improving high school completion and the transitions to and success in postsecondary degree or credentialing programs.

- 1) Create an integrated system of assessments for each of the career clusters, the tested academic content areas and the 21st Century Profiles that provide both state/federal accountability and career-readiness certification.
- 2) Adopt integrated core content standards with CTE Career Cluster Pathways utilizing the 21st Century skills as the organizing principle.
- 3) Support the creation of performance-based Qualified Admissions Standards by KBOR.
- 4) Revise Teacher Preparation Program Standards to reflect the integration of content standards.
- 5) Require schools to create integrated courses that allow students to gain at least three additional credits in career clusters during his/her K-12 experience.
- 6) Expect that all students enter secondary-level studies prepared to succeed in project-based, contextual learning activities that prepare them for further education and training that meet rigorous academic and technical standards.
- 7) Offer a school accreditation option for all Kansas schools based on the 21st Century Learning Environments that will help guide reform and/or redesign of public schools.
- 8) Offer a graduation option for all Kansas students designed around the 21st Century Learner Profiles.
- 9) Require all Kansas local education agencies to ensure every student has access to services that help guide them in career planning.
- 10) Require every Kansas student, beginning in middle-level or junior high school, to utilize a personalized college career plan of study throughout his/her school experience.
- 11) Create opportunities for Kansas schools utilizing KSDE resources to develop funding mechanisms based on verified, performance-based student achievement that respond to the changing workforce and economic development needs.