

**ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT APPROVAL** \_\_\_\_\_

**STATE BOARD MEETING DATE** June 24, 2013

**SUBJECT:** Consideration to initiate rulemaking for proposed rule R7-2-612, professional development and credit hour requirements related to Career and Technical Education Certificates

**SUBMITTED BY:** Chris Kotterman, Deputy Director, Policy Development and Govt. Relations

**MANAGEMENT TEAM REVIEW:** \_\_\_\_\_

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Career and Technical Education teachers are required by statute to hold a teaching certificate, just as any teacher of a traditional academic subject is required to hold. However, while teachers of traditional academic subjects are required to hold a bachelor's degree, due to the specialized nature of the knowledge involved, a provisional CTE certificate may be granted by substituting an amount of hours of direct experience in the field (typically 6,000) for a bachelor's degree.

In order to obtain a standard certificate, teachers who have not had professional knowledge/pedagogical coursework through a teacher preparation program as part of their degree must complete a certain number of credit hours in these areas in order to obtain a certificate. CTE programs maintain that they experience difficulty in getting quality teachers through this process for two reasons: 1) Some may never have been involved in a postsecondary program and find it difficult to navigate and/or are unable to complete while teaching full time and 2) Since current rule does not mandate a distribution of subject areas, teachers may take whatever is available to fulfill the requirement, and not achieve a well-rounded knowledge of practice.

A consortium of Joint Technical Education Districts (JTEDs), led by Western Maricopa Education Center (West-MEC), brought forward this proposal to expand the ability of teachers who hold a provisional CTE certificate to complete the professional knowledge requirements to acquire a standard CTE certificate through ADE-approved professional development. Currently, CTE teachers may substitute professional development clock hours for up to six semester hours of these required hours, at a rate of 15 clock hours to one semester hour. The rest must be completed at an accredited community college or university. This proposal would enable the entirety of the professional knowledge component of the standard CTE certificate via ADE-approved professional development, at the same rate of 15 clock hours to one semester hour. The intent of the districts involved is to create a sequence of ADE-approved professional development courses that offer teachers instruction in a range of the required areas, in order to provide more well-rounded CTE instructors to meet their current and future needs.

**BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: [ ] INFORMATION [X] ACTION/DESCRIBED BELOW:**

The Board initiate rulemaking procedures for proposed rule R7-2-612, relating to Career and Technical Education Certificates.

**ATTACHMENTS: YES [X] NO [ ]**