Work-Based Learning Course Standards

The Background:

Rules, Regulations, and Minimum Standards of the State Board of Education 0520-01-03-.05(1) calls for the State Board of Education to adopt curriculum standards for each subject area, grades K-12. The approved standards are to be the basis for planning instructional programs in each local school system. Section 3.205 Approved High School Courses of the State Board of Education Policy identifies those courses which have been approved by the Board for instruction across the state.

The Department of Education's Division of Career and Technical Education (CTE) is proposing changes to the approved Work-Based Learning course offering. This item includes a revised course for 11th and 12th grade students consistent with the Work-Based Learning Framework and postsecondary pathways and is designed to reinforce Tennessee State Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy in Technical Subjects and where applicable Mathematics. It is also reflective of the competitive employment demands of our state.

Courses included in this item:

Work-Based Learning: Career Practicum	Revised/Renamed Course

Since first reading of the standards included in this item, the CTE Division conducted regional informational sessions on work-based learning. In total, over 300 teachers, counselors, administrators, and industry partners participated in those sessions. Feedback collected from stakeholders attending the informational sessions, as well as during the division's open comment period via CTE.Questions.gov, affirmed the course standards. Based on that feedback, the following changes have been made to the item since first reading:

- Made minor grammatical and formatting edits, in addition to small changes in language to ensure clarity and consistency with language in SBE rules and policies pertaining to work-based learning, as adopted by the Board on October 30, 2014.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends adoption of this item on final reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.