

# Critical Teaching Needs Scholarship Board Meeting

October 16, 2025 – 11:00 AM CST

Teleconference

## **Board Members Present:**

- Dr. Anna Schwan – President
- Pat Mikkonen – Vice President
- Dr. Joseph Graves
- Dr. Kay Schallenkamp
- Dr. Kelly Glodt

## **BOR Support Staff**

- Janice Minder
- Molly Weisgram

## **Call to order**

Dr. Anna Schwan called the meeting to order at 11:05 AM.

### **1. Approval of the Agenda**

It was MOVED by Mikkonen, SECONDED by Graves to approve the agenda.

Voice Vote: All “AYES” and no “NAYS.” MOTION CARRIED

### **2. Approval of the Minutes** – April 17, 2025

The board reviewed the minutes from April 17, 2025, and had no changes.

It was MOVED by Graves, SECONDED by Glodt, to approve the minutes from April 17, 2025, as presented. Voice Vote: All “AYES” and no “NAYS.” MOTION CARRIED

### **3. Update on 2025-2026 CTNS Scholarship**

Molly Weisgram explained that of the 13 applicants who were offered the 2025-2026 CTNS scholarship, 10 accepted their awards. This left \$29,722.10 remaining in the fund.

### **4. Update on Past Recipients & Obligation Fulfillment**

Dr. Minder explained that the SD Board of Regents office staff have been working to get employment verifications of past recipients up-to-date and scholarships converted to loans when necessary.

### **5. Discussion of Critical Teaching Needs Areas**

The Board reviewed historical critical teaching needs areas and discussed data presented in the South Dakota Department of Education’s Instructional Staff Turnover and Vacancy Dashboard regarding the status of all high need teaching areas identified throughout the South Dakota K-12 school districts as well as the South Dakota Department of Labor & Regulation’s Hot Careers for 2025.

The Board discussed a question posed by a potential candidate about whether students pursuing an elementary endorsement (K-8) could apply for the CTNS scholarship since grades 6-8 are considered “secondary” education. The general census of the Board was to include the elementary endorsement as these positions continue to be in high need.

### **6. Establish Critical Teaching Needs Occupations for 2026-2027**

The Board discussed critical teaching need occupations for the 2026-2027 scholarship application round and determined that because all K-12 teaching positions are in high need, they would like to open the scholarship to all K-12 teaching positions.

# Critical Teaching Needs Scholarship Board Meeting

October 16, 2025 – 11:00 AM CST

Teleconference

The Board also discussed the possibility of making the Critical Teaching Need Scholarship renewable. Currently, the scholarship is not a renewable scholarship. Students who receive the scholarship their junior year must re-apply their senior year to be considered for funding, yet their five-year work obligation remains the same whether they are awarded one or two years. Since nothing in statute prevents it, members felt that making it automatically renewable is important. Though these students would not need to reapply, they would need to accept the renewable award and sign a new Acceptance & Promissory Note for that amount.

It was MOVED by Glodt, SECONDED by Schallenkamp, to (1) make all K-12 teaching positions the critical teaching needs for the 2026-2027 application, and (2) make the CTNS a renewable scholarship for students who are awarded starting in their junior year. Voice Vote: All “AYES” and no “NAYS.” MOTION CARRIED

## **Review Proposed 2026-2027 CTNS Application Essay Question**

The Board reviewed the proposed essay question for the 2026-2027 CTNS application.

It was MOVED by Graves, SECONDED by Mikkonen, to approve the proposed essay question for the 2026-2027 CTNS application. Voice Vote: All “AYES” and no “NAYS.” MOTION CARRIED

## **Discussion of Renewable Scholarship**

Discussion and action handled in #6.

## **Dissolve into Executive Session**

It was MOVED by Glodt, SECONDED by Graves, to dissolve into executive session at 11:34 AM. Dr. Schwann called the meeting out of executive session at 12:01 PM.

## **Report of Executive Session**

The Board reconvened in public session at 12:01 PM.

It was MOVED by Glodt, SECONDED by Schallenkamp to:

1. Permit the extended deferment for the initial years after graduation and require the five-year employment commitment using current employment for Recipient 1;
2. Prorate the principal loan based on the employment obligation that was fulfilled and allow six-month deferment prior to first loan payment through First National Bank for Recipient 2; and;
3. Submit the loan repayment request in full to First National Bank and allow 6-month deferment prior to payment start for Recipient 3.

Voice Vote: All “AYES” and no “NAYS.” MOTION CARRIED

## **Election of Officers**

It was MOVED by Graves, SECONDED by Glodt to approve the following slate of officers: Anna Schwann, President; Pat Mikkonen, Vice President.

Voice Vote: All “AYES” and no “NAYS.” MOTION CARRIED

# Critical Teaching Needs Scholarship Board Meeting

October 16, 2025 – 11:00 AM CST

Teleconference

## **Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting of the CTNS Board was set for 2 p.m. (CT) on January 29, 2026.

## **Adjourn**

It was MOVED by Schallenkamp, SECONDED by Glodt to adjourn the meeting.

Voice Vote: All "AYES" and no "NAYS." MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 PM.

DRAFT