

**House Appropriations Subcommittee
Chairman David Monson
March 11, 2021**

SB 2019

Chairman Monson and members of the House Appropriations Committee, my name is Mark Vollmer. I proudly serve as Superintendent of Minot Public School District #1 and Minot Air Force Base #160. I am presenting today with MPS Career and Technical Education Director, Pam Stroklund. We stand in front of you today to offer our support for SB 2019.

I realize this bill has generated a lot of excitement and hesitation, so we will do our best to keep our comments concise to ensure times for questions you may have.

Minot Public Schools and the community of Minot support SB 2019 and ask the House Appropriations Committee to retain the \$45 million appropriated as one-time funding for Career Academy grants.

As North Dakota's public workforce education and training delivery system, the ND Department of Career & Technical Education is the best agency to approve, support and monitor programs and funding for the Career Academy grants. NDCTE is committed to providing youth with exploration opportunities and the foundation skills needed to enter the world of work, while providing adults with skills needed to enter, re-enter, or advance in the workforce.

According to the February 2021 Online Job Openings Report published by Job Service ND, we have 15,237 jobs open in North Dakota. Approximately 65% of the jobs open in North Dakota require an associate degree or less. The ND Workforce Development Council reported in October 2018 North Dakota has a shortage of workers prepared to fill these technical or "middle-skill" jobs requiring beyond high school but not a four-year degree. Business, industry and the economy all depend on high-quality career and technical education to sufficiently train workers to fill these jobs.

The Minot area is no exception when it comes to a shortage of trained workers. Coordinating efforts to provide short-term CTE training to fill our job openings is necessary. Building on the strengths and existing facilities of our community to ***train local to retain local***, a partnership has been developed with Minot Public Schools, Adult Learning Center, Quentin Burdick Job Corps Center, Dakota College of Bottineau, Minot State University, the City of Minot, and local business and industry.

Simply put, the **Minot Area Workforce Academy** is a one-stop shop designed to:

- Advance career and technical education throughout the Minot area,
- Provide quick re-tooling of unemployed workers,
- Provide opportunities for advancement of education, including GED services, certification programs, and access to association, undergraduate and graduate programs.
- Improve access of existing facilities to be used by local businesses for training, and to
- Remove barriers to employment, and meet the workforce needs of our community.

The one stop shop, staffed by a Director, Administrative Assistant, Social Worker, and Career Guidance/Work-based Learning Liaison, will meet the academic, social/emotional and career needs of area students and adults, including those who may be recovering from addiction issues.

A three-year plan has been developed to address the career and technical workforce needs of the Minot area. Each community partner, facility and offered program is identified on the Minot Area Workforce Academy graphic (attached). Local CTE programs are well positioned to equip students and adults with the educational opportunities and work-based learning they will need for career success starting Year One. Career Academy funding is needed to advance the programming and open up more opportunities for Year Two and Year Three. Dollars will be used for retrofitting existing facilities, purchasing equipment, and partnering with business/ industry to make available more apprenticeships and short-term on-the-job training.

On behalf of Minot Public Schools and the community of Minot, we request your support of SB 2019, the ND Department of CTE and the Career Academy grant funding.

SB 2019 is a game changer. In my nearly 30 years in North Dakota schools, I have never seen a more creative, innovative, or holistic approach to meeting the needs of a community in need. Therefore, we encourage a “DO PASS” recommendation.

Thank you for allowing us to share our story and our plan – a plan that exemplifies community collaboration to promote success. We will stand for any questions you may have.

Federal Impact Aid - Minot Public Schools

Impact Aid is a federal education program that reimburses school districts for the lost revenue and additional costs associated with the presence of nontaxable federal property. Because most public school districts are funded largely through local taxes and fees, and because federal land is exempt from taxation, as are many of the businesses and facilities located on that land, districts containing federal property are at a financial disadvantage in funding their schools. Impact Aid is the federal government paying its taxes — if it did not exist, local taxpayers would be burdened to make up the difference or students would have to go without the resources and opportunities the funding provides.

Impact Aid funding for construction and facilities has totaled \$22.25 million for each of the last five years for all 1,016 impacted school districts. Divided evenly amongst the districts, the average would be \$21,900 per year. In 1950 (and in 1950 dollars), the Impact aid construction and facilities allocation was \$99 million. Minot received \$180,901 during the 2019-2020 year. Minot received \$171,065 in the 2018-2019 year.

	Minot Public School District #1 City of Minot	Minot Public School District #1 MAFB
General Fund Mill Levy:		
General Fund Property Tax Levy	69.04	-
Tuition Fund Levy	4.77	-
Miscellaneous Fund Levy	11.58	-
Total General Fund Mills	85.39	-
Special Reserve Levy	2.99	-
Building Fund Levy (Up to 20 mills allowable)	-	-
Mills Related to Referendum Bonding (Potential Referendum June 2021)		
Special Assessments Levy	1.00	-
Total Capital Projects Levy	1.00	-
Sinking and Interest Levy	19.95	-
Total Mill Levy	109.33	-

As a federally impacted school district, MAFB School District has no bonding capacity for construction or capital improvements

Minot Public Schools
Federal Impact Payments
2019-2020

*Funding Received		\$ 7,659,649
MAFB Instruction Costs Paid to Minot Dist. #1	\$ 5,000,000	
75% State Aid Reduction for Tuition	\$ (3,750,000)	\$ (3,750,000)
Net Federal Impact Aid Payment		\$ 3,909,649

*Separate annual Federal Impact Aid payments related to students with disabilities vary between \$78,000 and \$140,000

North Dakota deducts 75% of Federal Impact Aid payments used as tuition payments to local school districts in determining ND per pupil payments

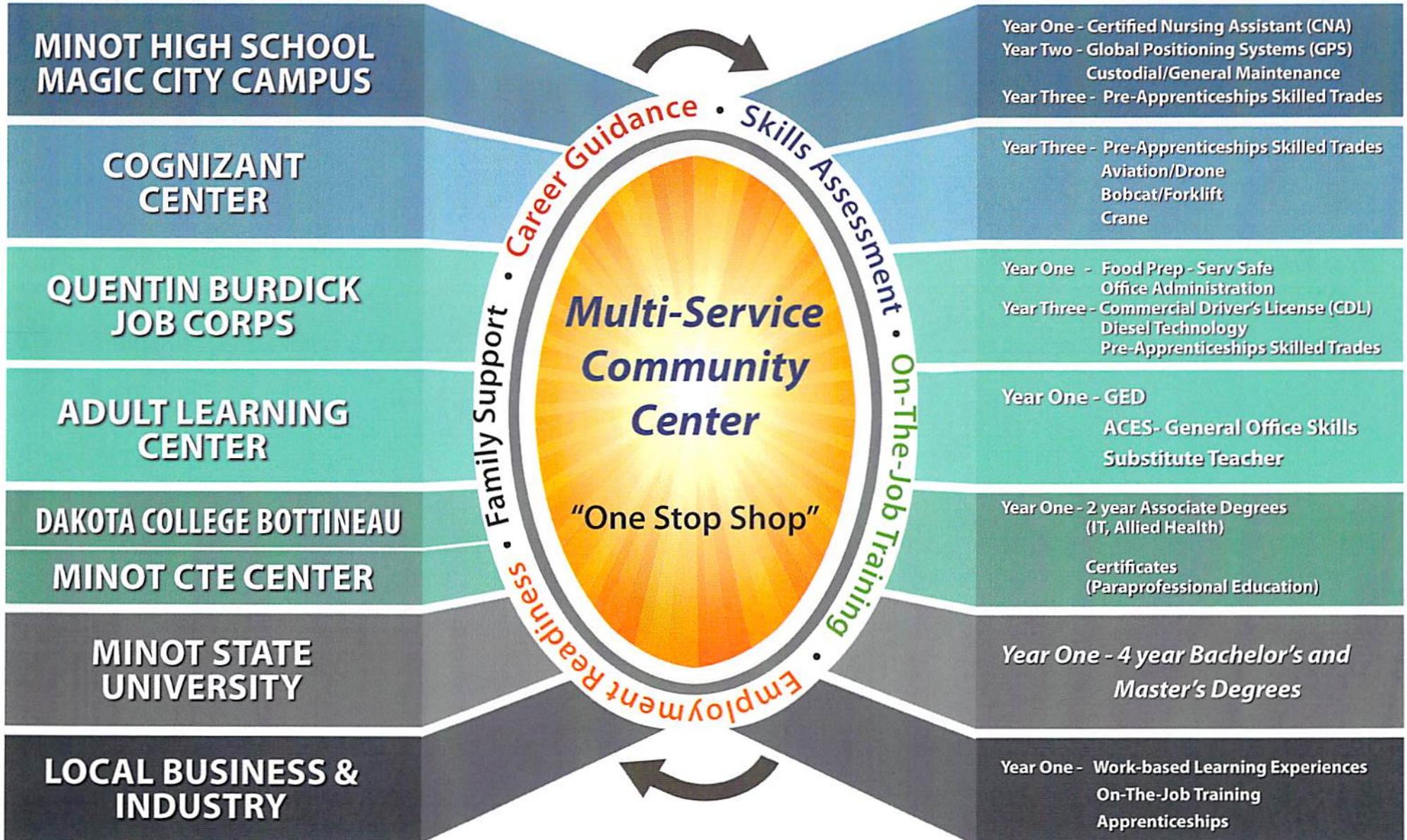
Timing of Federal payments can be variable - some payments are received one to two fiscal years later

Minot Area Workforce Academy

Meeting the Academic, Social/Emotional, and Career Needs of Area Students and the Community.

FACILITIES and COMMUNITY PARTNERS

PROGRAM GOALS





Quentin Burdick Job Corps Center

1500 University Ave W
Minot, ND 58703



Phone (701) 857-9600
Fax (701) 857-9621

To: North Dakota Legislative Branch
From: Jackson Pierce Public Affairs, Quentin N. Burdick JCC Operator
Date: March 4th, 2021
RE: Proposed CTE Center


This letter is to formally announce our support of the Community CTE Center, located in Minot, serving Western North Dakota.


The Job Corps program has been in existence for over 50 years, and in Minot for over 25. There are regular, comprehensive, LMI reviews and analysis done on a local, regional, and national level to ensure that the vocations offered, match with local needs.

There is a crucial need to develop and train more skilled workers in Western North Dakota. We understand that the rigid structure and enrollment requirements of Job Corps, leave some left out in the cold. This CTE Center would create new opportunities for new citizens to begin a career. The partnerships already discussed would cast a net of service and training so large that employers would now have a selection of pre-trained applicants, rather than the unfortunate impromptu OJT some are forced to do now.

The proposed skills training creates overlap with Job Corps in some areas where the need for workers is unbelievably vast (C.N.A.), and perfectly complements Job Corps mission in others (Diesel Mechanics). Because of this, Jackson Pierce, operator of the Quentin N. Burdick Job Corps Center, lends its complete support to this project. Whether it be through manpower and hours, partnerships, and allies, or use of property and equipment, we are committed to long-term success of not only the CTE Center, but Minot and all Western North Dakota as well.

Thank you,


Daniel T. Budzyn
Director of Student Progress and Accountability
Jackson Pierce Public Affairs, Inc., Quentin Burdick JCC


Fred Williams
Center Director
Quentin Burdick JCC


Edna L. Jackson
President & CEO
Jackson Pierce Public Affairs, Inc.



Date: March 4, 2021
To: House Appropriations – Education and Environment Division
From: Jerry Migler, Campus Dean/CEO
Dakota College at Bottineau
RE: SB 2019
State Board for Career and Technical Education
Career Academy Grants

This letter is to provide testimony regarding the funding of Career Academy Grants as described in SB 2019. The provision for Career Academy Grants would be a tremendous boost for the development of human talent that would benefit both individuals and the state's employers. The expansion of Career and Technical Education programs will lead to more people with the skills needed for the state's front-line workforce.

The community of Minot has demonstrated its support for career and technical education by providing funding for the establishment of a postsecondary career and technical education center. However, the available funding for this project – while critically important – is just a step toward meeting much larger workforce development needs in the community and region.

Minot Public Schools is currently spearheading an effort to approach these needs for career and technical education in a very comprehensive and inclusive manner. This approach recognizes that there are multiple organizations that have resources and capabilities to further develop career and technical education in the community and region. In addition to Minot Public Schools, these organizations include Job Service North Dakota, Burdick Job Corps Center, the North Dakota Building and Construction Trades Council, Dakota College at Bottineau and Minot State University. By coordinating and leveraging the capabilities of these various agencies, the community of Minot would have access to a wide array of workforce development programs and support services. The establishment of a Career Academy in Minot would provide the framework for bringing all of these groups together to share programs, develop new programs, and establish career ladders that enable individuals to move from short-term training to college degrees. More importantly, having a Career Academy in Minot would help the community and region retain its talent, which in turn helps grow local businesses and industries.

Dakota College at Bottineau, in its affiliate relationship with Minot State University, is committed to providing the Career Academy partnership in Minot with postsecondary career and technical education programs and training.