

**CONSIDERATION OF SENDING ASSIGNMENT TO AREA CAREER CENTERS –
DIAMOND R-IV SCHOOL DISTRICT**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY:

Section 161.092, RSMo

Consent
Item

Action
Item

Report
Item

DEPARTMENT GOAL NO. 1:

All Missouri students will graduate college and career ready.

SUMMARY:

5 CSR 60-120.050 authorizes school districts to request approval from the State Board of Education to change affiliation from one area vocational school to another based upon written application submitted to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, by November 1, for the next school year.

By letter dated October 15, 2013, the Diamond R-IV School District has made application to change the district’s affiliation from Franklin Technical Center in Joplin to the Crowder Technical Education Center in Neosho beginning with the 2014-15 school year. Accompanying this application is a letter from the Crowder Technical Education Center in support of the change in affiliation.

RECOMMENDATION:

Based on the information presented by the school districts involved, the Department is recommending that change in affiliation be approved.

DIAMOND R-IV SCHOOL DISTRICT



Dr. Trish Wilson, Superintendent
P.O. Box 68 - 401 South Main
Diamond, Missouri 64840
417-325-5186

Mr. Brian Lee, Principal
Diamond High School
417-325-5188

Mr. Danny Dewitt, Principal
Diamond Middle School
417-325-5336

Mr. Jeffrey Payne, Principal
Diamond Elementary School
417-325-5189

Dr. Marcia Bary
Director of Special Services
417-325-7321

Mr. Chris Gold
Athletic Director/Asst. Principal
417-325-5186

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October 15, 2013

State Board of Education,
Dr. Sharon Helwig, Assistant Commissioner, Office of College and Career Readiness
Dr. Dennis Harden, Coordinator of Career Education

Dear State BOE,

The Diamond R-IV School district would like to change our Area Career Center Assignment from Franklin Tech in Joplin to Crowder College in Neosho for the 2014-2015 school year and beyond.

There are several reasons for our request to change our career center assignment. One of the most important involves finances. Changing centers will greatly reduce our cost per student which will allow us to offer more students an opportunity to receive career training. We also feel that Crowder College will offer our students a more wide-ranging set of options that will serve their needs in a much better manner. One aspect of this is Crowder's program for special education students. We can send students to a survey program where they get to try all of the different course options offered by Crowder to find one that is the best fit. We feel that this ability will be a great benefit for students who may "fall through the cracks" if we were to stay with Franklin Tech.

Transportation would also be much more efficient for us in transporting our students to Crowder. Neosho is a much shorter drive for us than having to send our students through the city of Joplin. In addition, many of our students attend Crowder College after graduating from DHS. We feel that it is a great opportunity to get our students on that campus a couple of years early. This placement would really help the transition of our students from high school to college and may even encourage more of our students to advance on to post-graduate education because of their familiarity and comfort with the Crowder campus.

We hope that you will see the obvious advantages to our changing our placement for the upcoming school year. We feel that Crowder College will be a better fit and increase the opportunities for our students and lead to more of them taking advantage of this excellent opportunity to develop career skills. Please let us know if you need any additional information on our situation.

Sincerely,

Dr. Trish Wilson

Dr. Sharon Helwig
Assistant Commissioner, Office of College and Career Readiness
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
P.O. Box 480
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480

April 30, 2013

Dear Dr. Helwig,

I am writing this letter seeking DESE approval for the return of the Diamond R-IV Schools as a sending school district for Crowder College Technical Education Center, located on the campus of Crowder College in Neosho, MO. Until approximately nine years ago Diamond High School was one of our sending schools. Diamond had been one of our sending schools since Crowder College Technical Education Center (CCTEC) began.

At the time Diamond changed area career centers, the administration, counselor and high school principal was different. The School Board has also seen several changes through those years.

Crowder College Technical Education Center has several programs and advantages that Franklin Technology Center does not offer, this includes a Vocational Preparation Program. The Vocational Preparation Program is an exploratory opportunity for special needs/at-risk sophomore students. We accept around forty students each year. Nearly all of those students find success and attend school regularly and actually find a CTE program that fits their interests and ability.

CCTEC has partnered with Crowder College for dual credit opportunities beginning this year for each of our programs. Ten percent of our students have enrolled in dual credit with Crowder College and have found success.

Once Diamond's Board of Education voted to send students to CCTEC next year we began making hiring decisions based on the enrollment numbers we projected from all of our sending schools, including them. From a financial standpoint it will benefit us greatly to have them back with us. Another important benefit is that Diamond is in Crowder College's Service District. It is one of the small communities that make up our region. From the students' and parents'

standpoint they will be provided with opportunities not available at Franklin Technology Center.

I am hereby asking your understanding for this decision not meeting the November deadline but ask for your indulgence and help us to do the right thing for the Diamond community.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Rhuems

Associate Vice President for Career and Technical Education

Area Career Center Comparison Diamond R-IV School District

Franklin Technical Center	Crowder College
Tuition: \$2800.00	Tuition: \$1900.00
Miles to Area Career Center: 16	Miles to Area Career Center: 17
<u>Courses Offered:</u> Agricultural Education Air Conditioning, Heating, Refrigeration Auto Body Repair Auto Mechanics Business Education Carpentry Computer Servicing Technology Culinary Arts Drafting and Design Technology Electrical/Electronic Equipment Repairer Health Service Aide Marketing Radio/Television Broadcast Technology Welding	<u>Courses Offered:</u> Auto Body Repair Auto Mechanics Carpentry Cosmetology Drafting and Design Technology Early Childhood Professions Electrical/Electronic Equipment Repairer Health Service Aide Law Enforcement Training Welding Technology

Support Services	Support Services
Guidance/Placement Student Financial Assistance	Guidance/Placement