

STATE OF DELAWARE



**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
DOVER**

EXECUTIVE ORDER
NUMBER Twenty-Two

TO: HEADS OF ALL STATE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

RE: ESTABLISHMENT OF A TASK FORCE TO STUDY VOCATIONAL
EDUCATION IN DELAWARE'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, public secondary/vocational education is provided through several delivery systems in Delaware; and

WHEREAS, there appears to be growing competition for students between vocational education and regular comprehensive schools; and

WHEREAS, the increased demand by students desiring a full-time vocational education school in some cases has distorted attendance patterns in regular comprehensive schools and has increased demand for additional new facilities in the vocational education district; and

WHEREAS, because of their focus on preparing students for employment, vocational education schools must be sensitive to changes in demand in the job market; and

WHEREAS, in delivering its report on Curriculum Reform to the State Board of Education in 1982, the Curriculum Review Committee of the State Board deferred comment on vocational education pending further study, which never has been completed; and

WHEREAS, both the comprehensive secondary and the vocational education schools serve essential purposes in Delaware's overall public education system; and

WHEREAS, in order to ensure that our children are served as well as possible, and to ensure that our scarce State education resources are utilized as effectively as possible, a comprehensive study is needed of vocational education from a statewide perspective;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL N. CASTLE, by the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Delaware, do hereby declare and order that:

1. A Task Force to Study Vocational Education in Delaware's Public Schools is hereby established under the aegis of the State Board of Education.

2. The Task Force shall comprise twenty members appointed by the Governor. The membership of the Task Force shall be broadly representative of the business and education communities, and shall include appropriate representatives from the legislative and executive branches of State government. The Chairperson of the Task Force shall be appointed by the Governor from among the private sector members of the Task Force.

3. The Task Force shall:

A. Compare the relative merits of various delivery systems for vocational education programs in public secondary education in Delaware;

B. Analyze vocational education program offerings to determine whether duplication exists between vocational school districts and regular comprehensive school districts;

C. Analyze the purpose of vocational education in public secondary schools as it relates to vocational training in other sectors of State government;

D. Compare vocational education program offerings with current labor market supply and demand information;

E. Assess student demand for full-time and shared-time vocational education delivery systems;

F. Analyze the facility requirements and costs of converting shared-time vocational education programs to full-time programs throughout the State;

G. Determine the suitability, and develop a cost-benefit analysis, of utilizing existing space in regular comprehensive school districts in lieu of constructing additional facilities for full-time vocational schools;

H. Determine the impact and utilization of Division I and Division II State funding on vocational education programs in the regular comprehensive secondary schools under House Bill No. 509 (1971);

I. Determine the impact on vocational enrollment in shared-time facilities resulting from the unit funding system, the .5 deduct, recruitment and guidance methods, and increased math and science requirements;

J. Analyze the extent to which services to disadvantaged and handicapped youth are being provided by the various delivery systems within public secondary/vocational education in Delaware; and

K. Review existing curriculum in terms of the "Content Standards for Vocational Education Courses" recently established by the State Board of Education.

4. The Department of Public Instruction and the State Council on Vocational Education shall provide staff support to the Task Force.

5. The Task Force shall submit its final report to the Governor, the General Assembly, and the State Board not later than December 1, 1986.



APPROVED this 16th day
of January, 1986.

Michael R. Castle
Governor

ATTEST:

MMH
Secretary of State