
AGENDA
Career Educational Advisory Council (CEAC)
A committee of the Workforce Development Board for Michigan Works! Southwest

Monday, March 16, 2026, from 1:00 – 2:30 PM
At Upjohn Institute, 300 S. Westnedge Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49007
In-person attendance is encouraged

If needed, the virtual meeting link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84052447151?pwd=hVIR2bJ7ra4XCyFydbIFuxwzgy01gj.1>
Meeting ID: 840 5244 7151 **Passcode:** 551586
Dial Toll-free: • 833-548-0282 • 877-853-5257 • 888-475-4499 • 833-548-0276

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| I. Call to Order / Introductions [5 min] | Tim Staffen, Chair |
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| II. Meeting Minutes (vote) [2 min] (<i>Exhibit A</i>) | |
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| III. CLNA/Perkins - Update - Budget and Activities [15 min]
A. Region 21 (<i>Exhibit B</i>)
B. Region 20 (<i>Exhibit C</i>) | Tim Staffen
Cindy Goss/Jim Berry |
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| IV. Business Updates [5 min]
A. Private Sector
B. MWSW Business Solutions | Business Representatives
Ashley Iovieno |
|
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| V. Education Updates [15 min]
A. Secondary Education
B. Post-Secondary Education
C. Adult Education
D. MiSTEM
E. Job Corps | Secondary Education Reps
Post-Secondary Ed Reps
Jerry Johnson
Lori Henrickson
Windy Rea |
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| VI. Other Updates, Upcoming Events & Announcements [10 min] | Members |
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| VII. Public Comments [5 min] | |

VIII. Next CEAC Meeting

Monday, May 11, 2026, from 1:00-3:00 PM

IX. Adjournment

Tim Staffen, Chair

Our Mission is to create and support a talent preparation system that will provide all students, youth to the adult learner, with the necessary academic, technical, and work behavior skills that will meet business and industry needs to maintain and enhance the economy of the Michigan Works! Southwest region.

METRICS

- * Establish Registered Apprenticeships for adults and youth.
- * Guide, establish and/or participate in career development, pathway, and exploration events
through workforce preparedness programs P-20 through lifelong learning.
- * Promote and positively impact the Governor's post-secondary credential attainment goal of 60% by 2030.

Career Educational Advisory Council (CEAC)

Meeting Minutes

December 8, 2025

CALL TO ORDER – Committee Chair, Tim Staffen, called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. at the Upjohn Institute, 300 S. Westnedge Avenue, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

MW SOUTHWEST CEAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Bobby Beauchamp (KCC) [∨]	Sue Quiter (BACC) [∨]
James Berry (SJC ISD/CTE) [∨]	Dustin Scharer (BACC/CTE) [∨]
Cindy Goss (KRESA/CTE)	Jim Sertic (PS-Sertic Consulting) [∨]
Lori Henrickson (MISTEM)	Tim Staffen (CISD/CTE)
Jerry Johnson (ISD-Calhoun)	
David Maurer (PS-Humphrey Products)	

[∨] Attended virtually

STAFF PRESENT

Debbie Horn (MWSW)
 Ashley Iovieno (MWSW)

OTHERS PRESENT

Allecia Lamb-Ridge (MI LEO-WD) [∨]	David Prellwitz (Labor) [∨]
Anita Lopez-Schlabach (GOCC)	Kristine Stevens (GOCC)

MW SOUTHWEST CEAC MEMBERS ABSENT

Lanre Ajayi (GOCC)	Sarah Mansberger (KRESA ISD)
James Callahan (Labor-Trades)	Rebecca Murphy (BC Public Schools)
Jonathon Current (Labor)	Windy Rea (Job Corps)
Dr Mark Dunneback (KVCC)	Ken Willcutt (Labor-Plumbers & Pipefitters & HVACR Local Union 357)
LaToy Green (Parent)	

INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Individuals who attended in-person and virtually introduced themselves and the agency/company they represented.

MINUTES (*Exhibit A*)

Motion by Cindy Goss and supported by Jerry Johnson to approve May 12, 2025, CEAC meeting minutes. Motion carried.

2026 Draft Calendar (*Exhibit B*)

The CEAC meeting schedule for 2026 was approved by consensus of members present.
CLNA & Perkins Updates

- Tim Staffen has announced that this year there is a required reporting cycle for Michigan schools

operating State Approved Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs and a Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment (CLNA) must be completed, as mandated by Perkins V. The CLNA supports the use of data to guide planning, funding, and accountability for Perkins funds, ensuring CTE programs are high-quality, equitable, and aligned with workforce needs. It also serves as the foundation for the local Perkins funding application.

- Perkins applications must align with the Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment (CLNA), as well as other specific requirements. The process also involves collecting performance scores from the Michigan Merit Exam (MME) and an analysis of relevant data to yield constructive feedback. A focus is placed on core performance metrics, with any adjustments being strategic to ensure targeted improvements.

BUSINESS UPDATES

Humphrey Products—Dave Maurer reported that Humphrey Products has successfully engaged with the new Career Connect Center (CCC) in Kalamazoo. They have onboarded interns and are in the process of expanding their team with additional new hires. Their recruitment efforts have been fruitful, and the overall outlook remains robust.

MW Southwest Business Services - Ashley Iovieno reported:

- *MiCareerQuest™ events* – Branch County’s career exploration event was held on October 16 and has now been recognized as an official MiCareerQuest™ event. Similarly, the MiCareerQuest™ in Kalamazoo, held on October 28 and 29, was a success. MWSW contributed to the event by providing virtual reality headsets for career exploration, a feature that consistently engages and excites students.
- *Layoffs* –In Mendon, International Automotive Components (IAC) has proactively organized events to support employees affected by the IAC layoff in securing new opportunities. A job fair was conducted on December 10, ahead of the scheduled layoffs on December 20. Meanwhile, Post in Battle Creek plans to close one of its production lines. The impact of the WARN notice is less severe than initially anticipated, as some employees have opted for early retirement, and others have transitioned to different roles within the company. Originally, 71 employees were expected to be affected, but this number has significantly decreased due to these changes.
- *Job Fairs* – MWSW organized a job fair in Kalamazoo on November 18, which saw an impressive turnout of 350 attendees. A comparable event was held in Battle Creek on December 12. In Coldwater, an English on Demand (EOD) session was held to accommodate the significant number of non-English-speaking participants. This event was well attended, and EOD sessions are increasingly popular.
- *Going PRO Talent Fund (GPTF)* – The State budget for the GPTF was reduced from \$55 million to \$29 million, representing a significant decrease. This reduction has heightened the urgency of submitting applications promptly. The candidates for Cycle 1 of FY26 have been submitted to the state, with award announcements scheduled for mid-December. Preparations for Cycle 2 applications are currently underway. The program’s renewal, albeit with a reduced budget, was largely due to strong advocacy from employers.
- *Race to Talent* – MWSW hosted a Race to Talent event at the Michigan Works! Annual Conference in Kalamazoo on September 8, 2025. The event recognized local employers and organizations, including Bronson Healthcare Group, Better World Builders, and Ripple Effects, for their commitment to registered apprenticeship programs.

EDUCATION UPDATES

Secondary Education

St. Joseph County ISD – James Berry reported the following:

- The CTE Teacher Academy classes now participate in Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA). Recently, students attended the fall conference, where CTE teachers delivered presentations to all student attendees during a breakout session.

- The CTE Mobile Career Lab visited numerous middle school parking lots across St. Joseph County this fall, aiming to engage 7th grade students in advanced manufacturing careers through interactive, hands-on activities. These middle school visits are scheduled to continue in the spring of 2026.
- In the fall, the St. Joseph County CTE Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) program received a generous donation from American Axle, which included various pipe wrenches and related tools valued at approximately \$1,500. Mr. Berry extended his gratitude to Randall Page for his invaluable assistance with this donation prior to his retirement.
- In the fall of 2026, two alumni of the CTE Public Safety program will be sworn in as deputies for the St. Joseph County Sheriff's Department. We are proud to witness these successful transitions into fulfilling careers that align with the objectives of the CTE programs.
- For the upcoming school year, St. Joseph County is pleased to announce a new partnership with the Southwest Michigan Beauty School in Sturgis. This collaboration will provide eight student seats for the next CTE Cosmetology class.
- A recent graduate of the CTE Aviation program has successfully obtained his Private Pilot License and intends to further his aviation studies at Northwestern Michigan College.

Branch County CTE – Dustin Scharer reported the following:

- MiCareerQuest in Branch County took place on October 16 at the Coldwater Recreation Center. The event featured participation from 49 businesses, institutions, and organizations representing five distinct career pathways. Approximately 411 ninth-grade students from Branch County attended. The students engaged in hands-on activities and were organized into three groups, rotating through various sessions throughout the event.
- On Tuesday, November 4, the Branch Area Careers Center (BACC) welcomed approximately 470 tenth-grade students from Bronson, Coldwater, Colon, Pansophia, Quincy, and Reading. Each student had the opportunity to explore two BACC programs, allowing them to assess alignment with their career and academic aspirations.
- Ongoing projects include CLNA and follow-up surveys.
- BACC is currently hiring for Health Sciences, Auto Body Instruction, and Construction Trades Paraprofessional roles. Additionally, there is a strong likelihood of an upcoming Welding Instructor position.

Kalamazoo RESA (KRESA) – Cindy Goss reported the following:

- The Career Connect Campus is currently at two-thirds of its enrollment capacity.
- Discovery Lab presented an engaging educational experience titled “Mission to Space,” where students collaborated in small groups to navigate an escape room-style lesson. This initiative is conducted in partnership with Air Zoo, whose educators contribute by offering a class period dedicated to experiments that highlight careers in aerospace. This fall, approximately 1,500 students from grades four to eight were successfully engaged in this project. In the spring of 2026, the plan is to expand outreach to all KPS, Portage, and Comstock schools. Additionally, they participated in the Air Fair at AZO Airport, which attracted around 500 attendees. Recruiting has already begun for the 2026-27 academic year.
- All 10th-grade students have been invited to tour the CCC, with visits scheduled from now until February, including a presentation and building tour. Additionally, KPS is arranging for 11th-grade students to participate.
- An Open House is scheduled for February 10th from 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM for students and parents. Attendees will have the opportunity to engage with instructors, teaching assistants, and current students to learn about all CTE programs, as well as Education for the Arts (EFA) and Early Middle College (EMC) opportunities. Additionally, there will be three evening Zoom Q&A sessions dedicated to CTE, EFA, and EMC.

- KRESA is enhancing student support through three Work-Based Learning (WBL) coordinators and three counselors who deliver in-class Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) assistance. Additionally, a Student Success Coordinator is responsible for overseeing accommodation for all students with an individualized Education Program (IEP) or a 504 plan.
- Lastly, KRESA has job openings for the positions of Electrical Technology Technical Assistant, HVAC Technical Assistant, and Aviation Technical Assistant that will be posted soon. Additionally, an Interim Principal has returned from retirement to support the first year. A permanent position for the principal will be advertised in late winter or early spring.

Calhoun Intermediate School District (CISD) – Tim Staffen reported the following:

- In October, CISD participated in the MiCareerQuest™ event in Kalamazoo and the event was highly successful.
- CACC actively promotes pre-apprenticeship programs, establishing a partnership with Geislinger to recruit candidates from mechatronics and welding programs. The vetting process is underway, and they plan to offer two students a summer position. From these candidates, one will be selected for an ongoing apprenticeship. CACC is seeking to collaborate with additional employers to expand this program.

Post-Secondary Education

Kellogg Community College (KCC) – Bobby Beauchamp reported the following:

- KCC successfully hosted Articulation Day in Calhoun, Barry, and Branch County schools.
- They participated in MiCareerQuest™ in Kalamazoo, emphasizing trades, business, and public safety.
- The institution is expanding its trades and Hospitality certificate programs, incorporating field trips and introducing event planning into the Business Management Curriculum next year.
- In partnership with Ford Blue Oval, KCC will launch a training program in the spring, featuring two cohorts with an EV curriculum to maintain a robust employee pipeline.
- Additionally, they conduct Trade Center Tours and continue to engage youth through the “Crayons to Careers” program.

Glen Oaks Community College (GOCC) – Kristine Stevens reported the following:

- GOCC is dedicated to providing customized training programs to establish a pipeline for careers in CDLA and floor covering installation.
- They are actively supporting IAC and similar companies in assisting dislocated workers.
- They are coordinating with KRESA to arrange tours of the new Career Center in Kalamazoo, fostering greater connectivity and involvement.
- Workshops on Excel and QuickBooks are currently being scheduled.
- GOCC is contributing to the EV Jobs Academy Grant in collaboration with Michigan Works! Southwest.
- Looking ahead, they are developing training programs in personal finance, leadership, and sales.

Adult Education

Jerry Johnson reported the following:

- The State Budget resulted in an 18% reduction in funding for Adult Education in the region, amounting to a decrease of \$500,000. Despite these financial constraints, adjustments have been implemented, and several notable success stories have resulted.
- One of the 15 approved providers will cease operations after this year. In the spring of 2027, a Request for Proposal (RFP) process will be initiated to solicit bids for this opportunity.

MI Job Corps

No reports, as no representatives from this sector were present.

MiSTEM

Lori Henrickson reported the following:

- A short introduction, including her experience as a classroom teacher in Las Vegas. Originally from Michigan, she applied for her current position over the summer and returned to Michigan in the fall.
- Despite the defunding of MiSTEM due to state budget constraints, her salary is secured through September 2026, although the outlook beyond that remains uncertain. Efforts are underway to secure philanthropic funding, and a grant has been received from General Motors, which could significantly impact the fiscal years 2026 and 2027
- Each region will benefit from the GM grant to sustain innovative STEM learning initiatives using the 3 P's approach.
- Lori is committed to contributing in any capacity and is eager to facilitate connections among individuals across various sectors.

OTHER UPDATES

“Crayons to Careers” – Tim Staffen presented a PowerPoint highlighting the program's success. The Crayons to Careers (C2C) is a K-5 initiative focused on early and equitable STEM and career development, in alignment with Michigan's K-12 Career Development Model. The program introduces elementary students to diverse career pathways through classroom lessons, hands-on activities, employer partnerships, and educational field trips, while actively engaging parents and the broader community.

Through collaboration with teachers and local industries, C2C integrates STEM concepts into the curriculum and builds teacher capacity to connect learning to real-world careers. The project emphasizes that career development should begin early and involve strong partnerships between educators and employers, leading to increased student awareness, stronger community engagement, and meaningful real-world learning experiences.

Calhoun County ISD – a video was shown highlighting the achievements of Chef Ella from Calhoun County.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jim Berry announced that Tim Staffen is being recognized with an ACTE Administrator of the Year award. He will be accepting this in front of approximately 1200 people. Tim responded if is very humbled and grateful for the recognition.

NEXT CEAC MEETING

The next CEAC meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 16, 2026, from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at the Upjohn Institute, 300 S. Westnedge Avenue, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Horn, CEAC staff support

Tim Staffen, Chair CEAC

Barry/Branch/Calhoun - Region 21 Secondary Career and Technical Education Perkins Grant

- I. **Program Name:** Secondary CTE Perkins V Grant
- II. **Program Dates:** July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027
- III. **Program Source:** Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act
- IV. **Tentative Allocation: \$463,887**
- V. **Grant Purpose:** Funds from this grant support state-approved career and technical education (CTE) programs that provide students with academic and technical knowledge and skills in Grades 9-12 for further education and careers. Specific emphasis is given to at-risk special populations in CTE programs including disabled, economically disadvantaged, nontraditional, single parent, homeless, in or aged out of foster care, migrant workers, students with a parent in the armed forces, and limited English proficiency.
- VI. **Program Description:** Seven core performance indicators have been identified by the state and federal governments as a guide for CTE program development, improvement, and enrollment; and also for program evaluation. The region's CTE Perkins funds will be used to address the needs of special populations students in these areas.
- 1S1: Four-Year Graduation Rate
 2S1: Academic Proficiency in Reading
 2S2: Academic Proficiency in Math
 2S3: Academic Proficiency in Science
 3S1: Post-Program Placement
 4S1: Non-traditional Program Concentration
 5S1: Program Quality - Attained Recognized Postsecondary Credential
- VII. **Funding Formula:** Five percent of the total grant **(THESE ADMIN FUNDS MAY BE REMOVED AND ALLOCATED ELSEWHERE FOR 26/27)** may cover administrative expenses for Barry (\$4,181), Branch (\$4,878) and Calhoun ISDs (\$14,169). Approximately \$1,000 will be directed to regional planning and professional development for CTE staff in the region. **The remainder** of the grant will be allocated according to this agreed-upon formula:
- 50% will be distributed to CTE programs with 20% to Barry ISD, 20% to Branch ISD, 60% to Calhoun ISD.
 - 50% will be distributed to CTE programs in each ISD based upon the previous year's student hours from the X0506 Funding Report (Barry 18%, Branch 21%, Calhoun 61%)
- VIII. **Activities: Barry ISD** will use Perkins funds in the following ways:
- Funding for 1 part-time paraprofessional at Hastings High School to increase support for math skills for all CTE students (*2S2: Academic Proficiency in Math - \$24,674*).
 - Provide Supplies for CTE curriculum integration (*2S2 Academic Proficiency in Math - \$25,000*).
 - Provide Professional Development opportunities in the area of Mathematics to Instructional Staff (*2S2 Academic Proficiency in Math - \$4,000*).
 - Provide Professional Development opportunities in the area of Mathematics to Non-Instructional Staff (*2S2 Academic Proficiency in Math - \$1,000*).

- Provide Professional Development opportunities in the area of Mathematics and attendance for Non-Instructional staff at the MI Career Ed Conference (*Academic Proficiency in Math - \$2,400*).
- Continue funding career resources for Delton Kellogg H.S. (*3S1: Post-Program Placement - \$4,356*).
- Hastings will provide additional staff time to administer CTE follow-up surveys, and to record, retrieve and analyze the data. (*3S1: Post-Program Placement - \$10,000*).
- Hastings High School will partially fund the cost of a Career Development Coordinator to assist students in all CTE areas including those in programs non-traditional to their gender (*4S1: Non-traditional Program Concentration - \$5,252*).
- Hastings High School will provide supplies and materials for industry standard certification testing (*5S1: Attained Recognized Postsecondary Credential- \$6,983*).

TOTAL ALLOCATION: \$87,846

Branch ISD, The Branch Area Career Center will use Perkins funds in the following ways:

- Continued support for a Special Populations Coordinator to work with special populations students to help plan their academic plans and future plans for education, training and employment (*1S1: Four-Year Graduation Rate - \$19,600*).
- Continued support for an Attendance Coordinator to work with students, parents, teachers and counselors to improve student attendance (*1S1: Four-Year Graduation Rate - \$9,000*).
- Continued support of an ELA Consultant to co-teach with the CTE instructors to increase student proficiency in reading (*2S1: Proficiency in Reading - \$20,500*).
- Continued support for a Special Populations Paraprofessional to work in a CTE program with a high special populations enrollment to help students develop necessary skills for academic and technical success (*2S1: Proficiency in Reading - \$1,070*).
- Continued support for a Math Consultant to co-teach with the CTE instructors to increase student proficiency in mathematics (*2S2: Proficiency in Math - \$20,500*).
- Continued support for a certified school Counselor to provide study skills training and assistance to help 30 at-risk students succeed in their CTE programs (*3S1: Post-Program Placement - \$19,600*).

TOTAL ALLOCATION: \$95,148

Calhoun ISD, The Calhoun Area Career Center will use Perkins funds in the following ways:

- Partial salary/benefits (18.75%) for a Special Populations Coordinator to assist with identifying special population students in CTE programs at risk of not graduating and making sure they get the support they need to be successful (*1S1: Four-Year Graduation Rate - \$23,895*).
- Partial salary/benefits (18.75%) of a Student Services Academic Consultant to assist CTE students in the area of reading language arts (*2S1: Proficiency in Reading - \$28,657*).
- Partial salary/benefits (18.75%) of a Student Services Academic Consultant to assist CTE students in the area of math (*2S2: Proficiency in Math - \$28,657*).
- Partial salary/benefits (18.75%) of a Student Services Academic Consultant to assist CTE students in the area of science (*2S3: Proficiency in Science - \$28,657*).
- Partial salary/benefits (37.5%) of a Career Development Coordinator to assist CTE students with career development activities in their CTE programs (*3S1: Post-Program Placement - \$47,790*).

- Cost of career development resource tools for CTE students grades 9-12 (3S1: *Post-Program Placement - \$18,588*).
- Partial salary/benefits (18.75%) of an Articulation Coordinator at CACC to coordinate and manage current and future articulation agreements with post secondary partners for CTE programs (3S1: *Post-Program Placement - \$23,895*).
- Partial salary/benefits (18.75%) of a Student Services Academic Consultant to assist CTE students in programs non traditional for their gender to be successful (4S1: *Non-traditional Program Concentration - \$28,657*).
- Partial cost of ESL Consultants (Burmese and Spanish) to support ESL CTE students at CACC (5S1: *Program Quality-Attained Recognized Postsecondary Credential - \$26,928*).
- Certification test preparation materials and testing in the CTE Aviation Exploration program and the Allied Health programs to obtain industry standard certifications (5S1: *Program Quality-Attained Recognized Postsecondary Credential - \$10,000*).
- Regional professional development activities for staff to enhance CTE programs for students in CEPD 36 (5S1: *Program Quality-Attained Recognized Postsecondary Credential - \$1,000*).

TOTAL ALLOCATION: \$280,893



Kalamazoo/St. Joseph County -- Region 20 Secondary Career & Technical Education Perkins V Grant

- I. Program Name:** Secondary CTE Perkins V Grant
- II. Program Dates:** July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027
- III. Funding Source:** Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act
- IV. Tentative Allocation:** \$627, 732
- V. Grant Purpose:** Funds from this grant support state-approved career and technical education (CTE) programs that provide students with academic and technical knowledge and skills in Grades 9-12 for further education and careers. Specific emphasis is given to at-risk special populations in CTE programs including disabled, economically disadvantaged, nontraditional, single parent, homeless, in or aged out of foster care, migrant workers, students with a parent in the armed forces, and limited English proficiency.
- VI. Program Description:** Seven core performance indicators have been identified by the state and federal governments as a guide for CTE program development, improvement, and enrollment; and also for program evaluation. The region's CTE Perkins funds will be used to address the needs of special populations students in these areas.

1S1: Four-Year Graduation Rate
 2S1: Academic Proficiency in Reading
 2S2: Academic Proficiency in Math
 2S3: Academic Proficiency in Science
 3S1: Post-Program Placement
 4S1: Non-traditional Program Concentration
 5S1: Program Quality - Attained Recognized Postsecondary Credential

Academic proficiency is measured by the Michigan Merit Exam results, which usually students take in April of their junior year. Technical skills are measured by various certification tests, which are currently being re-defined by the Michigan Department of Education's Office of Career & Technical Education.

VII. Funding Formula: Twenty-six percent of the Region 20 Perkins grant funds are distributed to St. Joseph County (\$163,210). The remaining seventy-four percent of Region 20 Perkins funds are distributed to Kalamazoo County (\$464,522). For both Kalamazoo and St. Joseph, the K-12 public school districts make up the CTE Consortium with the superintendents serving as the Executive Board and the Intermediate School District as the operating and financial agent. All funds are directed to the Consortium and not to individual programs or schools.

The plans to distribute Perkins Grant funds in 2026-27 in **St. Joseph County** will be as follows:

- Continue partially funding a Career Awareness Coordinator position to sustain efforts to assist nontraditional students to complete the program and provide those students with an industry mentor/employer with the goal of transitioning non-trad students to a post-secondary *(4S1 Non-Traditional Completion)*
- Continue partial funding and growing the use of Xello in the county, a career-exploration software that provides the opportunity for students to explore nontraditional careers through the use of career exploration software with the goal of helping all students K-12 relate career goals to their educational experience, high school schedule, etc. *(4S1 Non-Traditional Participation)*
- Continue partially funding a CTE Administrative position to implement Reading strategies and online curriculum in CTE classes and analyze follow-up results with CTE instructors and staff. *(2S1 Reading attainment)*
- Continue and expand funding to provide testing for students to attain industry-recognized credentials and increase awareness of student skills as related to employment qualifications, credentials, and availability for related employment opportunities. *(5S1 Program Quality)*
- Partially fund a new CTE Special Populations Consultant position to support CTE special populations students in achieving proficiency or higher in mathematics as measure by the 11th grade academic assessment adopted by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESSA). *(2S2 Academic Proficiency in Mathematics)*
- Fund a contract employee to evaluate and improve programs to increase student placement by working on CTEIS Follow-Up surveys, enrollment, credit coordination, and CTE course credential testing. *(3S1 Post-Program Placement)*
- Professional Development: Non-instructional staff will receive industry training that demonstrates technical knowledge and skills as well as integration of credentials and competencies to improve placement rates to meet state determined levels of performance. *(5S1 Program Quality)*

TOTAL ALLOCATION: \$163,210

The plans to distribute Perkins Grant funds in 2026-27 in **Kalamazoo County** will be as follows:

- CTE Special Population Coordinator will provide services to assist CTE SPOPS students for successful completion through activities involving monitoring of attendance. *(1S1 Graduation rate)*
- CTE Coordinator will review, analyze, implement and monitor math activities for CTE programs. *(2S2 Academic proficiency math)*
- CTE Work-Based Learning Coordinator will partner with advisory committees and regional B & I to place CTE students in high intensity work-based learning opportunities as well as partnering in regional career fairs for potential CTE students. *(5S1 Post-program placement).*
- CTE Coordinator will lead continuous improvement efforts to ensure course curricula are aligned to recognized post-secondary credentials so that students are prepared to earn said credentials through their CTE courses. *(5S1 Program quality).*

TOTAL ALLOCATION: \$464,522