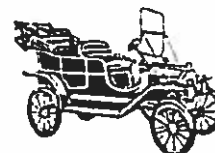


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Craig E. Allen · Superintendent

Jennifer L. Huotari · Director of Finance

March 10, 2018

Dear Representative Lafave,

I appreciate you taking the time to get the pulse of what employers are looking for in your District. I have read HB 4106, the bill you are co-sponsoring, regarding student internship or work experience opportunities for high school credit. This type of forward thinking is a step in the right direction. Conceptually, the intent of your bill is a good idea and is consistent with what we are currently trying to expand on in the area of student coops and work-based learning.

Being on the board of the newly formed Dickinson Area Economic Development Alliance, I know that our local employers would agree that this flexibility could be a catalyst to help solve the skilled workforce shortage we are experiencing in Dickinson County. Getting our students viable, relevant work experiences will certainly help them stay engaged in their schooling and build connections through real world experiences.

As I mentioned, conceptually I am in full support of HB 4106. I do have some concerns, perhaps you could consider, as you move it forward in the process. I see this type of program being ripe for fiscal abuse, particularly in the shared time and virtual sectors. To minimize pupil accounting issues, ensure accountability and provide a high quality experience, this program should be limited to students attending school in a traditional or blended environment.

I support what you are trying to accomplish, and I wish you success with moving this bill through the necessary channels.

Respectfully,

Craig Allen, Superintendent
Breitung Township Schools