

Recommendations of the
MFB State Promotion & Education Committee
From the March 4, 2022 meeting

Each year, the committee reviews education policies for relevant adjustments that should be considered by the membership.

Recommendation No.1

Career & Technical Education (CTE) Clusters

The State Promotion & Education Committee is concerned about losing the integrity of agriculture in national CTE Clusters. In February, Advance CTE, the national advisory board that reviews Career Technical Education clusters proposed removing the word “agriculture” from the Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources education cluster and replacing it with Food, Living Systems, and Natural Resources cluster. Without a clear definition that connects the CTE program to the agriculture industry that it serves, students may seek other program options. While our members and other agricultural advocates were able voice concerns and the renaming process has been suspended, the committee wants to be assured there is clear policy direction in the future.

Current MFB Policy #39, Agriscience, Food, and Natural Resources Education & The FFA Organization states:

Michigan Farm Bureau commends the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) Office of Career and Technical Education on its support and recognition of food and agriculture as a greater than \$100 billion industry in the state through the adoption of the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Cluster. This cluster will enable the future leaders of agriculture to obtain foundational knowledge that will help shape their careers and ultimately promote the sustainability of the agriculture industry.

Current AFBF Policy 146, Career and Technical Education states:

We support: 2.1. Career and technical education and post-high school job training and retraining for youth and adults seeking jobs in farming, ranching and logging;

The State P&E Committee supports the following:

“We support maintaining the integrity of the name agriculture in the CTE cluster titles”

For Policy Development

Recommendation No.2

Common Core Standards

The State Promotion & Education Committee recognizes that Common Core Standards have been adopted by 41 states including Michigan, since inception in 2010. While we don’t believe that organizationally we would support Common Core, it does appear that the national

standards are here to stay and curriculum to teach the standards present a greater opportunity to affect change.

Current MFB Policy #40, Educational Reforms states:

- We oppose: Common Core Standards.

The State P&E Committee supports striking the language on lines 71-72, MFB Policy #40: “*We oppose: Common Core Standards.*”

For Policy Development