



# MINNESOTA STATE

Board of Trustees

## AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

**NAME:** Board of Trustees

**DATE:** November 15, 2023

**TITLE:** Study Session: Workforce & Economic Development as an Ecosystem

Action

Review and Discussion

*This item is required by policy*

## **PRESENTERS**

Shannon Bryant, Executive Director of Workforce & Economic Development

Kevin McKinnon, Deputy Commissioner, Economic Development, DEED

Katie McClelland, Governor's Workforce Development Board Director

Matt Lewis, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives, Greater MSP

Michael Berndt, President, Dakota Community & Technical College, Inver Hills Community College

Joy Bodin, President, Hennepin Technical College

Jason Bruns, Executive Director, Minnesota State Engineering Center of Excellence

## **PURPOSE**

This board study session will focus on best practices of workforce and economic development through examples of two current state economic development initiatives: CHIPS and MedTech 3.0. The team will be joined by partners at Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED), Governor's Workforce Development Board (GWDB), and GreaterMSP. Additional examples of how this work occurs at our campuses will be shared by Presidents Berndt, Bodin and Executive Director Bruns.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Our colleges and universities have long traditions of serving local, regional, and statewide workforce needs through our credit and non-credit programs. However, we know that the very nature of work is evolving and that many of the future jobs do not even exist yet. To prepare students for those future jobs to be contributors to our state's economy, the nature of education must also evolve. This can be demonstrated in continuing to work closely with employers to develop more short-term and just-in-time credentials that ladder into advanced credentials over time as the economy grows. Minnesota State has a remarkable opportunity to be a thought leader in workforce and economic development. Together, we are better at serving our students, breaking the skills gaps, and enhancing the Minnesota economy through a

strong workforce for our employers. Minnesota State's mission is to be a catalyst for positive change through partnership, collaboration, innovation, and leadership. Being the third largest system of higher education in the country, it is our obligation to be that North Star and achieve that vision of future state.

We cannot do this work alone. A robust Minnesota workforce and economic development ecosystem includes employers, industry, government, and education partners working in partnership to develop the diverse, multi-talented, learning-agile workforce needed to grow Minnesota's economy now and in the future. The discussion will include introductions of Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED), the Governor's Workforce Development Board (GWDB), and GREATER MSP.

### Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED)

The Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) is the state's principal economic development agency. The unique role of DEED is to empower businesses and workers to grow our economy by building partnerships, planning for long-term growth, and creating opportunities for workers from all backgrounds and experiences.

DEED programs promote business recruitment, expansion, and retention; international trade; workforce development; and community development.



## All About DEED

The Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) is the state's principal economic development agency. The unique role of DEED is to empower businesses and workers to grow our economy by building partnerships, planning for long term growth, and creating opportunity for workers from all backgrounds and experiences.

### MISSION:

To empower  
the growth of  
the Minnesota  
economy, for  
everyone.



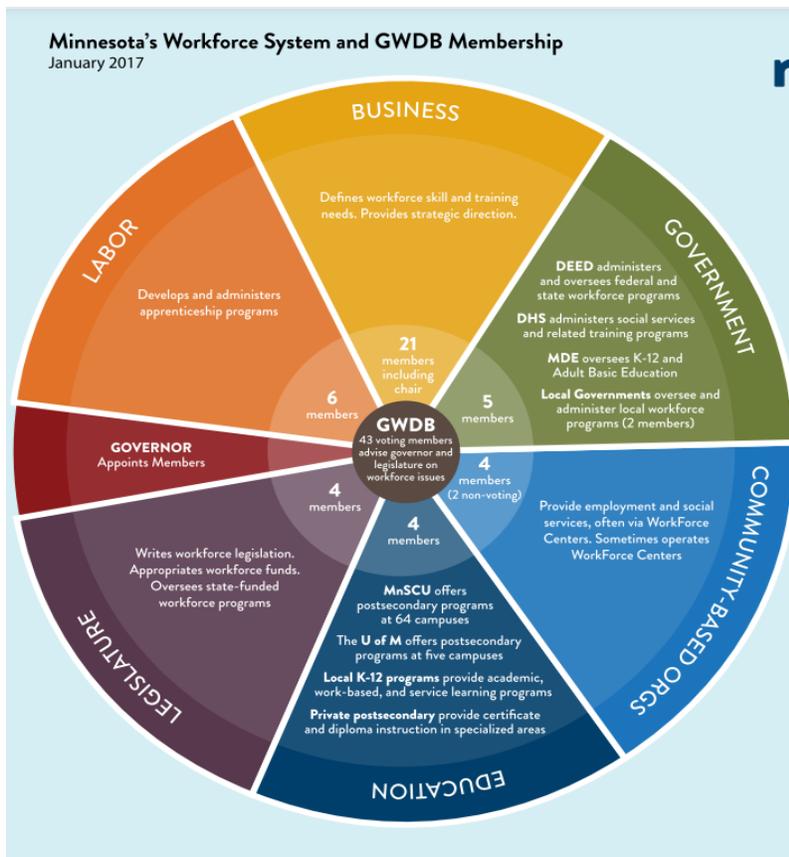
DEED's work is accomplished through its four divisions:

- **Economic Development** supports the growth of businesses and communities through grants and loans, consultations, education sessions, employment and economic information, and other programs and services.
  - › Broadband Development
  - › Business Development and Finance
  - › Minnesota Trade Office
  - › Research
  - › Small Business and Innovation
- **Workforce Services and Transformation** encompasses a range of key programs that help people who have been laid off, are unable to work or face other challenges to employment.
  - › Disability Determination Services
  - › State Services for the Blind
  - › Unemployment Insurance
  - › Vocational Rehabilitation Services
  - › Paid Family and Medical Leave
  - › Performance and Technical Management
- **Workforce Development** strives to ensure that businesses have the talent they need to be competitive and that workers have the skills they need to compete.
  - › CareerForce
  - › Economic Opportunity
  - › Employment and Training Programs
  - › Governor's Workforce Development Board
- **Operations** includes a range of internal and external services at DEED that help the agency run smoothly.
  - › Administrative and Fiscal Functions
  - › Communications and Marketing
  - › Diversity and Equal Opportunity
  - › Minnesota IT Services

## Governor's Workforce Development Board (GWDB)

The Governor's Workforce Development Board works to strengthen the skills of Minnesota's greatest asset — its workforce. The GWDB has a responsibility to advise the Governor on Minnesota's workforce system.

The Board represents key leaders from business, education, labor, community-based organizations, and government. The GWDB has statutory responsibility under the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), which provides leadership on opportunities and key workforce strategies for the state. The Board provides a venue for workforce stakeholders building on a shared vision and mission.



## GREATER MSP

GREATER MSP is a partnership of more than 4,500 individuals from more than 300 leading businesses, universities, cities, counties, and philanthropic organizations working together to accelerate the competitiveness and inclusive growth of our 15-county regional economy.

The GREATER MSP Partnership brings together individuals and organizations in support of [strategic initiatives](#) that strengthen our region's competitiveness and inclusive economic growth. Each initiative tackles top economic priorities by assembling a coalition of partners from across the region who take action together informed by the data. By working together through these initiatives, the Partnership is developing solutions for some of the greatest challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

## Current State Economic Initiatives

### CHIPS Coalition

In August 2022, the \$52 billion federal [CHIPS And Science Act of 2022](#) was signed into law. It will strengthen American manufacturing, supply chains, and national security, and invest in research and development, science and technology, and the workforce of the future to keep the United States the leader in the industries of tomorrow, including nanotechnology, clean energy, quantum computing, and artificial intelligence.

The CHIPS and Science Act provides **\$52.7 billion** for American semiconductor research, development, manufacturing, and workforce development. This includes \$39 billion in manufacturing incentives, including **\$2 billion** for the legacy chips used in automobiles and defense systems, **\$13.2 billion** in R&D and workforce development, and \$500 million to provide for international information communications technology security and semiconductor supply chain activities.

In Minnesota's semiconductor industry ecosystem has come together around the funding opportunity created by the federal CHIPS and Science Act. The Minnesota CHIPS Coalition is a statewide coalition, formed by Greater MSP, of more than 35 organizations, including manufacturers and supply chain partners, education and training providers, trades, and state and local government. We have a vision for Minnesota's semiconductor industry to be a top-10 national hub and leader in the Midwest for semiconductor learning, development, and manufacturing.

### Minnesota MedTech 3.0

On October 23, 2023, the Greater MSP region was designated as the country's center for next-generation medical device technologies in the U.S. through a national competition run by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

The federal [Tech Hubs competition](#) is a national innovation effort to ensure the United States leads the world in the most important technologies of the 21st century. More than 20 organizations collaborated through the GREATER MSP Partnership to develop a shared strategy that will enhance U.S. economic and national security by advancing the country's global leadership in medical device technology.

The "Minnesota MedTech 3.0" effort builds on existing strengths to create a medical device ecosystem that is even more connected, more strategic, and "smarter" by incorporating cutting-edge technologies, such as artificial intelligence, machine learning and data science. It will deliver results that matter to patients, hospitals, insurers, and medical-device manufacturers, such as faster innovation, new products, and better health outcomes, in ways that manage rising costs.

Building MedTech 3.0 in Minnesota will deliver thousands of good-paying jobs, spur a new generation of start-ups, and attract billions of dollars in private capital. The Tech Hub will deliver equitable outcomes through an intentional focus on access to economic opportunities for all Minnesotans, including underrepresented groups in the region and across rural areas of the state.

## **TRUSTEE DISCUSSION**

- Minnesota State has an opportunity to build the future framework of workforce and economic development with projects like CHIPS and MedTech 3.0. What ideas or thoughts do you have to craft that vision?
- How do we best approach this work as a system while at the same time supporting the autonomy of the campuses?
- What insight can be shared as to how we achieve transformation to meet the needs of employers through a collaborative mindset?