

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ACTE Announces Georgia CTE Director as National Award Finalist

ALEXANDRIA, VA—The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) announces Cassandra Miller-Washington, a career, technical and agricultural education director for Bibb County Public Schools in Macon, Georgia, as the 2015 ACTE Region II Administrator of the Year. The ACTE Administrator of the Year award recognizes CTE administrators, program specialists/coordinators, and other CTE personnel who have made significant contributions toward innovative, unique and effective CTE programs.

Cassandra Miller-Washington received her doctoral degree in educational leadership in 2010, and she currently serves as the career, technical and agricultural education (CTAE) director for Bibb County Public School District in Macon, Georgia. In this role, Washington collaborates with industry and community stakeholders during a monthly advisory group luncheon with other CTAE personnel in order for them to learn more about CTAE and provide direction for their programs. Over the past two years, she has worked diligently to modernize and restructure the curriculum at William S. Hutchings College and Career Academy, and has secured a partnership with Central Georgia Technical College to obtain a \$3.11 million grant to create an industry-aligned facility.

In addition, Washington coordinates the county-wide CTAE Student of the Year annual scholarship program that provides over \$3,000 in scholarships to students. She spearheaded the creation of the FIRST Robotics team, a district-wide STEM initiative which brings together high school and university students with community mentors to meet challenges in robotics. The program has been successful at enhancing math and science performance of participating students. Washington has also invested in developing the leadership skills and potential of the county's CTSO students and advisors through the creation of a district CTSO leadership rally. Not only has the rally resulted in more elected leaders in the district, but it has helped boost CTSO membership in the district by 45 percent and resulted in the addition of two new CTSO chapters in county middle schools. Steven Smith, retired superintendent of Bibb County Board of Education, says, "I would rate Dr. Washington as one of the best educators with whom I have worked over my lengthy career."

Washington is one of five finalists for the 2016 national title. The national winner will be announced at the ACTE Awards Banquet, a dinner and award presentation recognizing the best CTE educators in the country. The event will take place on Thursday evening, November 19, during ACTE's CareerTech VISION 2015 in New Orleans, Louisiana. The Awards Banquet is sponsored by Express Employment Professionals, Kuder, CareerSafe, Certiport, and Stratasy.

For more information about the ACTE Excellence Awards, visit our webpage (www.acteonline.org/awards).

About ACTE

The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) is the nation's largest not-for-profit association committed to the advancement of education that prepares youth and adults for successful careers. ACTE represents the community of CTE professionals, including educators, administrators, researchers, guidance counselors and others at all levels of education. ACTE is committed to excellence in providing advocacy, public awareness and access to resources, professional development and leadership opportunities.

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