Career and Technical Education in Michigan

• At the secondary level, CTE is delivered through comprehensive high schools and area CTE centers, which provide high school students and adults with supplemental, half-day training programs in high-demand, high-wage technical careers. Career Education Planning Districts (CEPDs) typically parallel intermediate school district boundaries, facilitate regional planning and play a significant role in the collaborative delivery of CTE programs and services at the secondary level.

• At the postsecondary level, CTE is delivered through community colleges, four-year institutions that provide associate degrees and one tribal college.

• Learn more at www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-2629---,00.html and MIACTE.org.

Exemplary CTE Programs in Michigan

Michigan is investing $12.5 million to help students gain in-demand career skills, including:

• $7 million to be distributed equally to Career Education Planning Districts across the state to update equipment to result in training for high-wage, high-skill and high-demand occupations.

• $5 million in competitive grants to districts that demonstrate the commitment of local and regional partners, as well as employer demand; increase career awareness; and expand student and teacher work-based learning opportunities.

• $500,000 for a competitive grant for existing mechatronics programs.

The additional funding for CTE equipment was a recommendation from the Michigan Career Pathways Alliance, which was created by Gov. Rick Snyder. The alliance includes more than 100 education, business, economic development and labor organizations from across the state. The Michigan Career Pathways Alliance seeks to improve access to multiple pathways to good jobs in Michigan by:

• Elevating the productive use of educational development plans (EDPs) statewide.

• Implementing a career exploration and job readiness course before students begin to select their electives in high school.

• Enhancing career counseling by supporting districts with the hiring of “career development facilitators” that support school counselors, with the focus of helping students explore career options, be it early or middle college, an apprenticeship, community college or four-year degree.

• Showcasing flexibility within the Michigan Merit Curriculum to allow for more courses like geometry in carpentry, to allow computer science as a foreign language and to allow career health programs to count as health and/or physical education requirements.

• Expanding CTE statewide and starting the discussion to provide equitable opportunities for all students with additional funding to schools to operate CTE and professional trades programs.

• Continuing the Going PRO campaign designed to change the dated perceptions on the professional trades through a peer-to-peer approach aimed at students and those who influence them.

Data from the U.S. Department of Education Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education