

EDUCATORS in ACTION SPOTLIGHT

Who or what originally inspired you to get involved as a volunteer with ACTE?

After completing my Educational Specialist degree in Leadership, I was looking to become more involved with Career & Technical Education. The Fellowship program was a perfect fit, so I applied and have become much more involved with Region 1 and became a MI ACTE Board member as part of my time in the fellowship.

What's one big issue you want to help resolve or improve (in your career, in the field or in ACTE)?

Our county does not have a Career Center, so 13 high schools share nearly 65 CTE programs. The challenge involves the different district schedules where nearly 45% of the total days in the school year involves some sort of scheduling conflict. I would like to see improvement with more common schedules shared between districts (i.e., start and end times, etc.).

What are some of the major challenges facing this issue?

Currently, our Regional CTE Director is working on the scheduling conflicts and we're hopeful that some of the proposed solutions can help with students traveling to other district CTE programs.

What do you hope to accomplish through volunteering?

I hope that my time as a volunteer helps grow attendance at the Region 1 conference. It would also be great to see MI ACTE membership and professional development opportunities increase as part of my volunteer commitment.

What's your greatest 'useless talent'?

Hmmm...I'm digging here...I do have an ear-piercing whistle.

What are you reading right now?

Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance, by Duckworth

What's your favorite food?

Silver Beach Pizza in St. Joseph, Michigan

What's your favorite travel destination?

Mackinac Island

What's your favorite quote or motto?

"Great Moments are Born from Great Opportunities," - Herb Brooks, USA Olympic Hockey Coach



Jim Berry

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