

SDACTE Viewpoint

South Dakota Association for Career and Technical Education, Inc.

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Issue 62

CTE has good legislative session -Erik Person

Education was a hot topic in the South Dakota legislature this year, and SDACTE was at the table. The SDACTE Board of Directors made a change this year from past years in that they did not hire a paid lobbyist. To stay on top of education, and specifically CTE issues, the Board of Directors asked the Legislative Committee to take a more active role. Committee members included Co-Chairs Coleen Keffeler and Erik Person, Kent Frerichs, Charlotte Mohling, and Dodie Bemis.

The committee worked well together and accomplished two main objectives: 1) enter into cooperative agreements with other educational organizations, 2) actively support HB 1190, a bill that would change requirements for the SD Opportunity Scholarship. The reasons that the committee pursued cooperative agreements were to add to our lobbying strength and to throw in our support for K-12 education funding in general. HB 1190 was a priority because with its passage, students will be able to pursue the Opportunity Scholarship *and* take CTE courses.

HB 1190 passed, so there will be changes to the SD Opportunity Scholarship. The changes will affect next year's freshmen, so we will see a delayed implementation. However, students will see benefits immediately because next year's freshmen will not have to choose between shooting for the scholarship and pursuing CTE courses that fit with their personal learning plans. The change will be realized due to new language that allows the option of two years of foreign language **or** approved CTE courses, or a combination thereof. Our legislators did get this one right, as the Opportunity Scholarship now provides more opportunities for kids. Representative Jason Frerichs was instrumental in getting this language changed as he co-sponsored the bill and fought tirelessly for its passage.

Overall, CTE had a good legislative session. Although K-12 funding took a hit, the Opportunity Scholarship changes represent a huge victory for CTE.



Conference speakers chosen

Plans are underway for another exciting, information-packed annual conference. Brian Mendler will keynote the opening session on Monday morning, August 2nd.

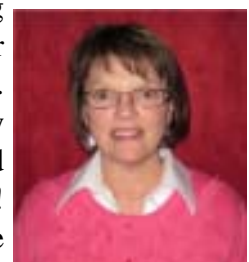
Mendler is a certified K-12 and special education teacher with extensive experience working with challenging students in general ed, self-contained, and inclusion settings. As an Adjunct Professor at St. John Fisher College in Rochester, NY, he teaches Behavior Management and Introduction to Special Education. He also provides staff development training for K-12 educators and youth service workers throughout North America with the focus on how to be successful with even the most difficult students. Mendler has recently authored a book titled, *The Taming of the Crew*. The book provides educators

with easy to use strategies for preventing and responding to difficult, disruptive, defiant and unmotivated behavior.

Mendler comes on a recommendation from one of our very own Ag instructors, Sarah Stratmeyer;

Pat Bortnem, Director of Health at Southeast Technical Institute, has chosen "Managing Your Morale & Making Positive Changes" as the title for her keynote at Wednesday's closing session. Using her unique sense of humor, Bortnem will identify ways for participants to look at their career from a difference perspective and identify ways to turn negatives into positives in the workplace. In addition, she will help her audience recognize opportunities to contribute to an emotionally healthy workplace and demonstrate ways to use humor to manage one's own attitude and morale. As those of you who have heard Bortnem speak know, the audience is in for a treat!

In addition to two great speakers, each division will have lots to offer in their respective breakout sessions.



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The SDACTE Viewpoint: published in September, November, February and April. The contents can be used by all news media.

The SDACTE Home Page: located at <http://www.lakeareatech.edu/sdacte/> Submit news or other pertinent CTE data to SDACTE Executive Director Dodie Bemis at bemisd@lakeareatech.edu

from Dodie's desk . . .

First of all, kudos to the Legislative Committee! Thanks to their efforts, the Opportunity Scholarship will now allow students to be able to pursue the Scholarship **AND** take CTE courses.

Next, congratulations, Kris Brockhoft, FACS educator from Winner! My, what a fine young man you've raised. We had the distinct pleasure of meeting and working with Chris at the National Policy Seminar last month. He certainly represented his office, his state, and his family with unequalled poise. . . a class act! Read his article in this month's newsletter insert.

The SDACTE Board of Directors has been working hard to plan a conference that is well worth the time and expense. They know that your time is valuable in the summer so they are doing everything they can to insure that this is a conference worth attending, starting with two dynamic keynote speakers.

When: August 1-4, 2010

Where: Ramkota River Centre, Pierre

What will it cost and how do I register: A registration form is enclosed for your convenience. Conference fees have been set at \$125 if registered prior to July 10th, and \$175 if registered after that date. Please check the website for more information as it becomes available, or feel free to contact me at bemisd@lakeareatech.edu.

Network and Learn

Josh Christiansen – SDAAE President

In addition to family time and relaxation, summer is also the time to think about improvements to our program. The annual SDACTE conference is a great opportunity to network and learn. The SDACTE Board of Directors and the SDAAE officers are putting together a variety of experiences for you at conference on August 1 – 4, 2010.

First of all, I should mention that there is **NO** pre-conference this year. Everything on the agenda is for everyone to attend. You don't want to miss a bit of the action. We will start conference at 3:30 on Sunday, August 1. After the opening session for SDAAE, we will split off and have our District Meetings.

On Monday, we will get updates from the SD FFA association, the SD FFA Foundation, and The Office of Curriculum, Career and Technical Education. SDACTE has also invited a strong keynote speaker based on a recommendation from one of our very own Ag instructors, Sarah Stratmeyer; so you know he will be good! Kelly O'Donnell is again setting up the wine tasting social to take place before the SDACTE Awards Banquet on Monday evening.

Tuesday brings many exciting breakout sessions. The descriptions of the sessions will be posted on the conference website soon, but here is a titles preview of some that will pertain specifically to AFNR teachers: "You want me to keep these kids how long?? - Yeah, but..." Integration. Yes, it's our job! - Offering Capstone Experiences through CTE Programs - Advanced Science Activities for AFNR Programs - Are you listening to me? I'm trying to make you like my program! - Get a Haircut and Get a Real Job."

We have set up an interesting tour at Morris Enterprises on Wednesday that will fit right in with everyone who teaches Ag Mechanics, Structures, and Landscaping. We will end conference by 2:00 pm on Wednesday with door prizes.

I look forward to seeing each of you at conference because I know it will be a fun time and we will all learn from the activities and networking.

Scholarship Opportunities

4 \$500 - Secondary and Post Secondary

Applications due May 15th

2 \$500 - Professional Development

Applications due August 2nd

Forms can be found online: lakeareatech.edu/sdacte.

Take advantage of these opportunities!!!

T & I Wants Your Input

Trent Theye, T & I / Tech Ed President

Hello once again, T & I members. As the school year draws to a close, it is one day closer to our SDACTE summer conference in Pierre. Sunday and Monday will be the norm for the T & I Division with the Ag picnic on Sunday evening and keynote speaker on Monday morning. There will be a postsecondary showcase that afternoon. We currently have a good list of presenters lined up for the Tuesday afternoon sessions. We have a presentation on CDX automotive software, Moss solar energy, green building, and building houses on a small scale. We have some pretty interesting and vast subjects this year and hope everyone will find a presentation that will relate to their field of study. We are also trying to line up a session on project-based learning and also trying to line up another session or two to fill in the empty time slots.

We are having a T & I business meeting on Tuesday morning at 10:15, so please try to attend, as there are a few changes that need to be discussed.

For our social activity this year, we are going to try to do a golf outing/tournament with a meal to follow. This will take place on Tuesday evening. If you do not wish to play golf, you may come just for the dinner portion of the evening. Details will come out as they are confirmed.

To wrap up, we plan on touring Oahe Dam on Wednesday morning with a brunch speaker to follow.

We may have additional items to follow so pay attention to any changes in our division. If there are still any other changes or suggestions anyone has, please contact me at theyet@lakeareatech.edu, and I will try to make this conference the best one you have attended. I hope to see you all in August!

Bookmark Me!

Lenessa Keehn, Business/Marketing President

Who is the featured speaker? What are the breakout sessions? Where can I find this information? These are great questions and we have the answers just for you! SDACTE's Business/Marketing/Information Systems Division now has a new website devoted to just us. On the site, you will be able to find a variety of information including:

Current Division Officers and contact information as well as the Cluster Specialist contact information from the OCCTE Office in Pierre. Links to the National ACTE, State SDACTE, and State OCCTE websites are easy to find and use.

Another important feature to business teachers is the Standards and Cluster Information page. This has all updated standards for our division as they come hot off the press from the Office of Curriculum, Career, & Technical Education in Pierre. In our world of Career Clusters and Pathways, this information will be valuable as you design your approved programs at your school or in your district.

Of course, the website has all the information regarding the upcoming 2010 SDACTE Conference in Pierre. Confirmed speakers and presenters are highlighted to showcase what you'll be able to partake in as well as contracts that are still in the works. This website is updated regularly and constantly changing as we prepare for the annual state conference. Please bookmark us in your Delicious file, on your Google Bookmarks, or simply put us into your Favorites on your computer. The website can be found at: <http://sites.google.com/site/sdactebusinessdivision/home>. There is also a link to our division site right off of the State SDACTE website: <http://www.lakeareatech.edu/sdacte/>. Have a wonderful spring, begin counting down the days until school dismisses for summer, and look forward to the annual Conference.

Opportunities You Want to Experience!

Janelle Weatherly, FACS President

Update your electronic and paper calendars to make sure you attend the 2010 Summer SDACTE Conference starting Sunday, August 1 through Wednesday, August 4, 2010 in Pierre. Encourage FACS teachers within your area to car pool and attend. Family and Consumer Sciences Division will offer valuable information for your classroom, as well as leadership opportunities for you as a professional, and provide networking time to discuss current issues in education.

Trainings being planned include: Project-Based Learning-Part II, Career Clusters-the next Phase, and a session just for FACS teachers within their first 5 years of their teaching career. A restaurant tour is in the works along with Holly Swee from the SD Beef Council returning to serve up additional mouth-watering tricks of the trade. Michelle Obama may not show up but 'Wii' will get our students fit! The ever-popular Round Tables will have a new twist . . .

You will want to register EARLY so you don't miss out on anything – at the FACS Division!

CONFERENCE SCHEDULING CHANGE
SDACTE Awards Banquet: Monday evening
Division Banquets: Tuesday evening

**South Dakota Association for Career and
Technical Education**

Lake Area Technical Institute
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Watertown, SD 57201

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