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Legislative Points:
* HB1175 — Incentive for finishing HS in 3 years
* HB1222: 1% sales tax dedicated to education
* SB 152 — keep mil levies the same but change cut from 10% to 5.6%
* HB 1250 — Repeal of CTE credit from Opp. Scholarship
* HB 1228 — increase bonding authority for 4-year inst.

Keynote Speakers
Kevin Honeycutt
Malcolm Chapman
Pat Bortnem

Region V Conference - Annika Russell SDACTE President

South Dakota has the privilege of hosting the 2011 Region V Conference in April and I want to personally invite each Region V member to attend the conference. We are excited to be able to provide you with this wonderful professional development experience. Not only will the conference have keynote speakers, breakout and round table sessions, but you will also have the opportunity to choose from five tours that will allow you to explore the Black Hills. Then the closing session will be at Mount Rushmore on Saturday morning where we will enjoy brunch and the awards winners will be named. An added bonus to the conference will be the opportunity to network with fellow educators from across the United States.

If you register for the conference before March 1st you will only have to pay $375. This registration fee includes: all educational programs at the Rushmore Plaza Holiday Inn; materials and breaks plus 2 breakfasts, 1 brunch, 2 lunches, 1 dinner, and 1 tour/dinner. If you register after March 1st, the registration fee will be $425.

Make your travel plans to come to Rapid City, South Dakota, April 6-9,
SDACTE Members:

South Dakota has the privilege of hosting the 2011 Region V Conference in April and we are excited to be able to provide the participants with this wonderful professional development experience.

The Planning Committee has been working hard to finalize the details surrounding the conference. The five tours to explore the Black Hills are all set, and the conference program includes 20 breakout sessions and 19 roundtable sessions coming from 15 different states.

The committee believes the attendees will be impressed with the closing session at Mt. Rushmore on Saturday morning. Our own Pat Bortnem will keynote and the awards winners will be named. An added bonus to the conference will be the opportunity to network with fellow educators from across the United States.

Remember South Dakota members receive a special rate of $325 if you register for the conference before March 1st. This registration fee includes: all educational programs at the Rushmore Plaza Holiday Inn; materials and breaks plus 2 breakfasts, 1 brunch, 2 lunches, 1 dinner, and 1 tour/dinner.

If you register after March 1st, the registration fee will be $425.

Make your travel plans to come to Rapid City, South Dakota, April 6-9, 2011!!!
Happy February!!! Hopefully, you are surviving all the snow and cold weather. Despite the extreme weather your SDACTE Board of Directors have been keeping busy the last couple of months. In January, we met in Pierre for our board meeting and began summer conference planning. The Division Presidents are working hard to plan a conference that will bring you insightful materials to start your school year with. Also in January, several Board of Director members attend the Legislative Dinner to spread the importance of CTE to each student in our state's schools.

The Legislative Committee is working hard to get the word out about bills that will affect programs in your local districts. Please take the time to contact your representatives when your respective Division Presidents send out a request. It’s important that we make our voices heard and every one of those voices do count!!!!

The Region V planning committee is putting the final touches on the conference which is April 6-9 in Rapid City. We look forward to hosting this conference and hope all of you can join us.

Don’t forget that February is CTE month. Governor Daugaard has signed a proclamation declaring that for South Dakota. Use every opportunity available to promote, promote, promote the benefits of CTE for your students.

Think Spring,
Annika Russell
SDACTE President

You Can’t Win Unless You Enter

The deadline has come and gone for the Region V and National Policy Seminar Stipend applications. Please join me in congratulating our (3) $400 Region V stipend winners: Lori Christensen of MTI; Sherrie Kafka of Gregory High School; Trent Theye of LATI. The $300 stipend to attend the National Policy Seminar goes to Lori Christensen of MTI. Unfortunately we received very few applications for these stipends. The stipends are available to all SDACTE members so please take the time to fill out the forms for your chance to attend these very important events with the help of SDACTE.

Jon Severson—Past President

Spring Thaw for CTE

As the winter and the discussions of budgets drag on, it can be easy to fall into the trap of believing that things might never warm up. It’s true education is experiencing some difficult times right now; I wouldn’t begin to downplay the seriousness of the decisions being made in the statehouse or school board room. However, I do think those of us in the CTE world have a few things to be proud of and plenty to look forward to. In the last school year our CTE concentrators graduated at a rate of 97%. Those same students were placed at a rate of more than 96%, with 75% going on to postsecondary education (more than half of those at 4 year universities). Those are big numbers to be proud of. That’s not to say we don’t still have work to do, especially when it comes to the math and reading attainment of our students, but nonetheless we’re proving again that CTE works for students.

You say, “That’s great, but who is listening?” Well those who listened to Governor Daugaard’s State of the State Address would have heard a lot of things that sounded very familiar. He spoke of his commitment to expanding technical education opportunities, and ensuring that students are prepared to enter and graduate from college. He talked about increasing student exposure to STEM, and the need for healthcare workers with a range of educational experiences. With last year’s graduation requirement changes, and comments like that from our Governor, we’re in a better position now to come out of the challenges facing us than we’ve ever been before.

As we come out of this downturn CTE is well placed to grow and reach even more students. As a way to help lay that ground work I’m happy to announce that we’ll be making funds available to cover one administrator’s registration per school to attend conference with their teachers. Space is limited, watch for more registration information in the next few months. Keep warm; Spring is on the way.

Brad Bies, OCCTE Asst. Director

Wow—This is sure a busy time of year for the Ag Division. Contests at the Secondary and Post-Secondary Levels, State Convention, Applications, etc. We all know how well you take care of your students, but how about yourself? When was the last time you were given the recognition you deserved? Give yourself some credit by filling out the ACTE and NAAE award applications! You deserve it. We are so excited for summer conference to recognize YOU as the teachers. We can’t wait to share ideas, share our stories, and share our friendships! We would love to see you there. If you have ideas or suggestions, send them my way!!

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Lori Christensen—Ag Division
Hello members-- Spring semester is underway and it (hopefully) won’t be long until we have some warmer weather! Several folks have been busy planning summer conference and one goal is to get better attendance from administrators across the state. Please encourage your administrator(s) to attend conference and join SDACTE. I believe that every administrator that has an approved program in their school should be a SDACTE member.

There has been considerable discussion about what summer conference can offer administrators and what topics would be most relevant for this group. Session ideas at this point include: implementing Project Lead the Way, program funding and grant opportunities, integration of core content and CTE classes, safety and liability issues in the CTE lab, recruiting highly qualified CTE teachers, what do employers really want, and post-secondary connections through articulation and dual credit. Please let me know of any other conference topics that would be of interest to members of this division. Our goal is to double the attendance at conference in the admin. division.

The SDACTE Conference will be held in Pierre at the Ramkota from July 31 to August 3. Please mark your calendars and make plans to attend. The planning committee is working very hard to make this conference even bigger and better than ever.

Jim Kayl, Administration Division

Planning. How do you do it? Do you make a list? Do you make a schedule to make things run smooth? Do you look at what you are planning for and try to get the most bang out of your buck to make your event successful? Do you bring in people around you that may make that event one no one will ever forget? Well if you look at those questions, that is exactly what your SDACTE Board of Directors is doing in reference to planning the Summer Conference to be held in Pierre July 31 - August 3. We are in the process of getting our schedule down and we are looking to you all for planning directions. Maybe you could share a presenter you would like to see. Maybe you could ask a sponsor if they would be so kind to donate some money to our conference. Maybe you could just give us some input or direction you would like to see done this year at the conference. Whatever input you may have, please forward it on to us and we will put it to use the best way and in the best spot we can find. You can email me at theye@lakeareatech.edu or contact any of the current BOD and I encourage your all to plan on coming to the SDACTE Summer Conference.

Trent Theye, T&I Division

The dates are set, the location is booked, the theme has been picked and the SDATFACS officers along with Deb Wenzel have been working to bring you a great SDACTE/SDATFACS conference. The SDATFACS theme will be “FACS: It’s a Lifesaver”. With all the gloomy news about cuts to education, your officer team is hoping to bring some “personal time” to your conference. Watch for details as they become available. Remember to use your Perkins funds to attend conference and network and learn with your FACS cohorts.

The legislative session is currently half over as I write this column. We have much to be alert to as members of the CTE community. Please pay attention to the e-mails from our legislative committee person Jean Clarke and the SDACTE legislative chair, Coleen Keffeler. When they call for action to contact your legislators take the time to fire off a letter. It could mean the future of CTE as we (and our students) know it. I am still looking for CTE success stories of the FACS variety. We know that we have some very good programs available to our students, we must market them to our administrators and legislators now more than ever. Please feel free to share the SDACTE Career and Technical Education with your administrators and school boards. They need to know that we are indispensable and our courses necessary for the economic future of our state.

SDATFACS Division, Mary Jo Parker

Eeney, Meeney, Miney, Moe...

"...My mom told me to pick the very best, and you are IT!"
That’s right, YOU are it and that’s why we need you. Summer conference planning is in full swing and the Business/Marketing & IT Division is calling for presenters. What can you present? Well, what do you teach? What activity/project have you used in the classroom that motivates you and the students, encourages the students to meet and exceed your expectations, and produces the results you need? That’s what we want! As a growing division with a career cluster that is quite varied, your presentation just may be the information someone, a colleague, was looking for. There are two available formats in which to present: the 15 minute short (round-table discussion style) or the 40 minute long (presentation style with Q & A). To help you in the process, please go to the SDACTE Business Division website: https://sites.google.com/site/sdactebusinessdivision/home/2011-conference and click on the Call for Presentations form. Please submit them to lenessa.keehn@k12.sd.us by March 15. You may also use the form that is attached to the newsletter.

Lenessa Keehn, Business & Marketing Division
March 7-9, 2011
Attending from SD: Dodie Bemis, Coleen Keffler, Annika Russell, Lori Christensen

GOVERNOR DAUGAARD ISSUED
EXECUTIVE PROCLAMATION IN HONOR
OF CTE MONTH IN FEBRUARY

President Annika Russell and President Elect Terry Rieckman with the Proclamation.