Wednesday, April 22, 2020

ACTE Work-Based Learning Conference

7 am  Registration opens

7 am – 8 am  ACTE Work-Based Learning / Youth Apprenticeship members meeting

8 am – 9:30 am  Opening General Session

- Presentation of Colors
- Welcome – Kristen Bandy, Iowa Work-Based Learning President
- Welcome remarks – Rob Denson, Des Moines Area Community College President
- Greetings (Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds invited)
- Keynote Speaker – Dr. Casey Sacks, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Community Colleges in the Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education at the US Department of Education

9:45 am – 10:45 am

- ACTE High-Quality CTE Framework – Kelli Diemer, ACTE Work-Based Learning Consultant
- Iowa’s High Quality Work-Based Learning – Kristy Volesky, Iowa Department of Education, Work-Based Learning Consultant

11 am – 11:45 am

State Work-Based Learning Leaders Meeting

This will be an opportunity for state Work-Based Learning leaders to meet and share their progress. The reasons for creating and supporting a WBL Division will also be shared. This session is only for state-level work-based learning leaders.

Dwayne Hobbs, WBL Specialist, Georgia Department of Education  Griffin, GA

Overview of the Utah, Jordan School District Work-Based Learning Program

This presentation will give an in-depth look at the Work-Based Learning Program in the Jordan School District in the state of Utah, including K-12 programs, regional events, advisory boards, Chambers of Commerce support and industry participation.

Lori LeBeau, WBL Utah Division President, Oquirrh Hills/South Hills MS  Riverton, UT
Wheels in Motion-Mobile Access to Possibilities

M.A.P.s mission is to create access to ALL students in New Hampshire, expanding depth of knowledge in Career Technical Education programs and building WBL opportunities, along with strengthening statewide community partnerships.

Dean Graziano, Work-based Specialist & Apprenticeship Coordinator NH DOE
Eric Frauwirth, State CTE Director, New Hampshire DOE

Leveraging UDL to Support WBL For All

CAST is a nonprofit organization that believes learning should have no limits. We research and develop innovative solutions to make education more inclusive and effective. We are partnered with pre-apprenticeship programs, CTE schools, and industry organizations to design equitable and accessible WBL opportunities based on the principles of Universal Design for Learning (UDL). We will start this presentation by reiterating the impact WBL can have on student success, as well as information on the barriers to access. We will then share information on tools, programs, and strategies we have piloted to support special populations students. We will conclude with information on ways to fund these programs and strategies.

Amanda Bastoni, Educational Research Scientist, CAST Wakefield, MA

Essential Soft Skills Training for the Classroom and Beyond

Soft Skills Training session designed to empower participants with essential soft skills they can take back to the classroom, and/or workplace to empower others within their class and/or on their team.

Kimberly Tigner, Career Development Liaison
Duwanda Dorsey, Middle School Career Development Lead
Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools Pineville, NC

Strategic Work Based Learning Framework to Make Every Experience Count

Find out how to leverage student voice, partner feedback, and CTE program sequences to create a work based learning continuum that results in career ready students and engaged partners.

Lauren Hargrave, CTE Work Based Learning Coordinator / Carl Perkins Facilitator
Jennifer Boyd, Career and Technical Education Curriculum Specialist
Davenport Community Schools Davenport, IA
Work-Based Learning - A New Way of Thinking

Perkins V has challenged us to shift our thinking around work-based learning. Instead of the “one and done” model of the past, quality work-based learning incorporates multiple learning opportunities in a continuum of rigorous experiences. This presentation will explain how Michigan is incorporating work-based learning into a K-12 career development framework and how to lead teachers in building and setting up a continuum for their own CTE program. Attendees will receive a copy of Michigan’s model and an example of a program continuum.

Celena Mills, Education Consultant, Michigan Department of Education – Office of Career and Technical

Dana Hughes, Education Consultant, Michigan Department of Education – Office of Career and Technical Education

12 noon – 1:15 pm

- Lunch buffet
- Lunch Sponsor - Brett Pawlowski, Executive Vice President, NC3T/SeamlessWBL
- Rachel Hirsch, Senior Policy Analyst, NGA Economic Opportunity
- Introduction of Board members and special guests
- Visit exhibitors

1:30 pm – 2:15 pm

Iowa Intermediary Work-Based Learning Network

This session will provide an introduction to and overview of the work of the Iowa Intermediary Network, an approximately $1.4M program overseen by the Iowa Department of Education served by a 15-region network of educators. The Iowa Intermediary Network works statewide to prepare students for the workforce by connecting business and education to offer relevant work-based learning activities. The program has been successfully implemented since 2015. The presenters will share data and stories of the statewide impact of the work. Participants will also learn about Des Moines Area Community College’s approach to the initiative, including practical takeaways that can be replicated or adapted for other settings.

Stephanie F. Oppel, Ph.D., Director, Work Based Learning

Amy Steenhoek, Work-Based Learning Coordinator, Career Discovery Network

Des Moines Area Community College  Ankeny, IA
**Workplace Learning in a Career Academy Model**

Racine Unified School District in Southeast Wisconsin has been transforming it's three comprehensive high schools to career academy schools since 2015 as part of the Ford Next Generation Learning Network. Learn about the transformation work putting Career and Technical Education, including Work-Based Learning, at the forefront of ALL of our students learning and career development.

Dr. Christopher Neff, Director of Academies, Racine Unified School District

Alex DeBaker, Michael Lynch, Marna Langlois, and Jeff Bergman
Racine Area Manufacturers and Commerce (RAMAC) WI

**Identifying Great WBL Resources in Low Income Rural Communities**

Identify and develop quality Work-Based Learning placements in Rural Communities. We will highlight current best practices we are seeing in our 13 member WBL network of schools. Many are in small communities with high school enrollment of less than 50 students. The challenge is finding and developing quality and meaningful experiences for our students. Placements that support overall CTE learning objectives. We see many creative and innovative approaches to this issue.

David Chandler, WBL Program Manager, Southwest New Mexico Work Based Learning Consortium

Alli Heneghan, WBL Program Manager, Southwest New Mexico Work Based Learning Consortium

**The Career Advancement Center: Students Success Through Partnerships**

Under the leadership of Tony Trapp, Pre-Apprenticeship Coordinator, and Naomi Baker, Career Placement Specialist, The Career Advancement Center (CAC) at Upper Valley Career Center (UVCC) provides work based learning options for qualified students through UVCC’s three work-based learning programs; Pre-Apprenticeship, Advanced Placement and Early Placement. In addition, UVCC’s CAC offers lifelong career advancement assistance through partnerships with regional employers by connecting them with qualified job candidates from our pool of highly skilled students and alumni.

Tony Trapp, Apprenticeship Coordinator

Naomi Baker, Career Placement Specialist

Upper Valley Career Center Piqua, OH
Starting a Registered Apprenticeship

In this session registered apprenticeships will be discussed and how to find success for both educational institutions and business partners.

Sam Oppel, Cybersecurity Instructor, Central Campus, Des Moines Public Schools
Des Moines, IA

Dan Greteman, Chief Information Officer
Josh Benton, Associate Business Systems Analyst
Emily Burns, IT Operations Leader

Building Productive Relationships with Business and Community Partners - A Step-By-Step Approach

Learn about one community’s multi-faceted effort to strengthen ties with local businesses to increase work-based learning experiences for all students. We will share the story of how our high school is partnering with city government, community organizations, post-secondary institutions (both 4-year college and community college), and a wide variety of employers to meet the career readiness needs of our students.

Shelley Gates, EdD, CTE Department Chair, Evanston Township High School, IL

Tana Francellno, Career Partnerships Manager, Mayor’s Employer Advisory Council and Youth Job Center, IL

Lynn Weiss, Executive Director, The Forrest E Powell Foundation’s Evanston Work Ethic (WE) Program, IL

Soft Skills: The Missing Link

If we really want our high school grads to be successful in the workplace, then they need more than the high school diploma to prove they are ready for college, career and life. Come learn why soft skills ensure a productive, collaborative and healthy work environment - all vital attributes for organizations in an increasingly competitive world. You will learn from a principal who is now implementing the soft skills curriculum with success through the use of “Soft Skills High”, an online platform, to ensure his graduates will be career and life ready when they graduate.

Cindi Reiman, President of Soft Skills High

Michael Kuhn, Director of Career and Technical Education/Principal
Peoria Public Schools  Peoria, IL
2:30 pm – 3:15 pm

Commission on Strategic Partnerships and Work Ready Students: Policy Recommendations to Advance Work-Based Learning

The Southern Regional Education Board has convened a commission of state policymakers, educators, and industry leaders to examine how strategic partnerships between industry and education can better prepare students for the workforce. This session will provide insights into the work of the commission and the recommendations in the commission’s forthcoming report.

Dale Winkler, Vice President
Jon Schmidt-Davis, Senior Research Associate
Southern Regional Education Board (SREB)  Atlanta, GA

Everything I Need To Know I Learned Working In A Restaurant

The Food Network has created a culture of interest in restaurant industry careers, but is there any reality in reality television? The restaurant industry does require a set of trainable, specific skills, particularly in the kitchen--but the real learning in hospitality-focused work-based learning environments are the soft skills students can carry through life--personal communication, timeliness, attitude, teamwork, problem solving, and professionalism. We are the industry that trains America's workforce. One in three people found their first job in a restaurant. Half of America's workers have worked in our industry. So the transferable skills we teach in our workplace learning environments are virtual gold to any industry.

May Schaben, Executive Director Iowa Restaurant Association Education Foundation
Jessica Dunker, President/CEO Iowa Restaurant Association

What is Quality Work Based Learning for Our High Schools?

Constant questioning of what counts as WBL hours for CTE or CDOS. I will present on what are quality wbl experiences are for students per grade that can be evaluated through evaluations and employability skill profiles that will prepare for careers in training.

Estefany Carmona, Work Based Learning Manager
Urban Assembly  New York, NY
Internship/Career Practicum/Youth Apprenticeship (Work-Based Learning Options)

Work-based learning will have three options for students: Internship, Career Practicum, and Youth Apprenticeship. These courses include both classroom and work-site instruction. The work-based experience gives students the opportunity to obtain valuable work experience, make connections in professional fields, and it gives employers the opportunity to guide and evaluate talent. The classroom portion of the work-based learning courses focus on teaching students the soft skills required by all employers.

Mary Beck, Program Coordinator
Sonja Wright-McMurray, Associate Director
Arkansas Department of Education - Division of Career and Technical Education
Little Rock, AR

Scaling High Quality Work-Based Learning in Kansas

Scaling High Quality Work-Based Learning in Kansas is a comprehensive policy approach that ensures Kansas students have equitable access to high quality work-based learning experiences designed to prepare each student for postsecondary, and workforce success, in high wage, high demand and critical need occupations of our state and regions. Kansas State Department of Education has developed work-based learning resources for Kansas school districts.

The session will include the review of three work-based learning resources: Measuring and Reflecting Student Learning: Work-based Experience Portfolio and Employability Skills Rubric, Kansas Work-Based Learning: Personalized Learning Plan, and Kansas Geographic Information System (GIS)

Natalie Clark, Kansas State Department of Education, Education Program Consultant
Stacy Smith, Kansas State Department of Education, Assistant Director, CTE and IPS

Bridge the Worlds of Careers and Classrooms: Virtually!

Join leaders from Nepris and the District of Columbia’s CTE team for a discussion centered around embedded WBL standards and the partnership of education and business.

Richard Kincaid, CTE State Director, Office of the State Superintendent of Education
Washington, DC
Sabari Raja, CEO, Nepris
Melanie Flowers, Head of Technical Training, Samsung

HOLD FOR – US DOL Apprenticeship Session
3:30 pm – 4:15 pm

Finding and Engaging Employers

One of the biggest challenges in CTE is finding partners to support your work-based learning efforts and drive your advisory board. Most people feel uncomfortable making cold calls, and educators are no exception, so we put off that outreach work as long as we can. However, there are partnership development strategies that don’t involve those dreaded cold calls, and there is an established process for turning those prospects into committed partners and advocates. Join Brett Pawlowski of NC3T, lead author of The Employer Engagement Toolkit, to find out how you can build the partnerships you’ve always wanted.

Brett Pawlowski, Executive Vice President
National Center for College and Career Transitions
Columbia, MD

Building Strong Advisory Boards to Create Quality WBL Experiences

This session focuses on building strong advisory boards and subcommittees and creating quality WBL experiences, and how to provide teachers with resources and support to help increase the quality of WBL experiences. Which, in turn, increase advisory and subcommittee member’s involvement within CTE Pathways and Programs.

Jeff DeLong, Work-Based Learning Coordinator
Grady Lane, Manager of College & Career Readiness
Fresno Unified School District  Fresno, CA

Tiers 1-2-3: Double Employer Partnerships and Place All Qualified Students

Talent acquisition and placement is the life blood of Work-Based Learning. This presentation will focus on a tier system used to increase employer confidence, engagement and placements with your school district.

Mike Hassler, Work-Based Learning Coordinator
Washington County School District  St. George, UT
Work Ethic: The Building Blocks for the 21st Century Workforce

One of the biggest challenges in work-based learning programs is student readiness. While job skills are changing at a rapid pace, the foundational skills of job success remain unchanged. Sometimes called soft skills or foundational behaviors, employers simply call them Work Ethic. The challenge is that fewer than 1 in 5 students today have these skills, and almost all education is instead focused on academic and technical programs. While many believe work ethic is an innate trait, new strategies are showing that these skills can be developed at any age, and are the building block skills for student success!

Josh Davies, Chief Executive Officer
The Center for Work Ethic Development  Denver, CO

Standards, Metrics, and Teacher Training for Georgia's Work-Based Learning Program

Georgia's WBL program serves 22,000+ students annually and is based on a rigorous set of 24 standards. This presentation will cover the extensive data collection that is conducted each year to guide program improvements. In addition, this information will be tied to the initial training and on-going training that the WBL coordinators participate in. References and links for access will be shared.

Dwayne Hobbs, WBL Specialist
Georgia Department of Education  Griffin, GA

Projects, Problems, and Passion: An Authentic (WBL) Learning Blueprint

Come check out the latest resources Iowa developed in the quest for improving WBL experiences throughout the state. The Clearinghouse for Work-based Learning, Scaffold Career Pathways, and Career Cluster Industry-Sponsored Investigative Learning modules will be highlighted. See a variety of implementation strategies in use at different districts.

Craig Mohr, Instructional Designer  Iowa AEA Learning Online  Des Moines, IA