

# MISSOURI ACTE AWARDS

## Legislator of the Year Award



Senator Sandy Crawford represents District 28 in the Missouri Senate, which is comprised of Laclede, Dallas, Benton, Cedar, Hickory, Pettis, Polk and St. Clair counties. Sandy was elected to the Missouri Senate in a Special Election in August of 2017. She served in the Missouri House of Representatives from 2010 – 2017.

Sandy currently serves on the Insurance & Banking, Agriculture, Local Government and Veterans Committees.

Prior to being elected to the General Assembly, Sandy enjoyed a thirty-year banking career at O'Bannon Bank in Buffalo.

Sandy is a lifelong resident of Dallas County. She is a 1975 graduate of Buffalo High School. She received her B. S. in Finance from

Missouri State University in 1995, and she is a 1998 graduate of the Graduate School of Banking at Colorado.

Sandy is a member of Tabernacle Baptist Church in Lebanon, where she teaches a third-grade girls Sunday school class. Her other memberships include Dallas County Cattlemen, NRA, Farm Bureau, Buffalo FFA Alumni, State Fair Foundation and Lebanon Rotary (honorary member). In addition, she is a member of the Buffalo, Lebanon, Bolivar, El Dorado Springs and Stockton Chamber of Commerce. Sandy also serves on the advisory board for Lebanon Technical and Career Center.

Sandy and her husband John raise beef cattle near Buffalo where they reside.

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## Teacher of the Year Award



Jessica Wade is the marketing teacher/DECA advisor at Odessa High School. This past year, she took on the responsibility of Competitive Events Director for her DECA district. She encourages her students to participate in DECA activities, and believes everyone should have the opportunity to join DECA. In her 15 years of teaching, forty-one of her students have qualified for ICDC, two have won national DECA scholarships, and four have served as state officers. Jessica is particularly proud of her

marketing program, which she offers to students starting their freshman year. She believes that this four year program gives students “many more opportunities because of the simple fact that they have their whole high school career to explore all of the DECA activities.



Missouri ACTE is proud to recognize our President Gary Duncan. Gary has been a member of MOACTE for 23 years and has served as President-Elect, President, and Past-President for both his division, TEAM, and MOACTE. He teaches Industrial Technology at the Moberly Middle School.

When he was asked about his philosophy of career and technical education, he replied "Career & Technical education should be part of every student's education. I believe it should start early, certainly by middle school. At the middle school level, students should be given the opportunity to explore different career areas so they begin to have an understanding of what they are good at and what they like to do. Exploration of careers should continue at the early high school level. As students begin to decide what career they want to pursue, advanced level classes should be available for students during their last 2 or 3 years of high school. Career & Technical education should prepare students for jobs immediately after graduation, as well as preparing them to go on to a technical school or a four year institution. Career & Technical Education provides the opportunity for students to enter a career they will enjoy and be successful with for the rest of their life.