

## 2020-21 Newsletter e-Blasts

October 6, 2020

### **President's Message**

WELCOME TO THE ACTEN WEBSITE!

### **Steven Woodside, 2020-2021 President**

On behalf of the Association for Career and Technical Education of Nebraska (ACTEN) Board of Directors, we welcome you to our organization. Since 1946, ACTEN continues to be the professional organization for career and technical education in Nebraska. We welcome all to our organization who support and advocate for career and technical education in Nebraska including teachers, administrators, teacher educators, career counselors, teacher candidates, business partners and other professionals.

As members of ACTEN, you are key to the advancement of career and technical education in Nebraska. Your commitment to ACTEN as professionals is vital to the sustainability of our organization. Be proud as integral members of the career and technical education community as we share in our proven history of preparing students for high skill, high wage and high-demand careers. We cannot do this alone and in isolation. Networking opportunities abound as members of ACTEN through collaboration at the national, state and local levels. The mission of ACTEN is to educate, advocate, and lead with a unified voice for Nebraska Career and Technical Education. By working together we will grow professionally as CTE leaders and educators. ACTEN supports members by providing networking and professional development opportunities. ACTEN celebrates program successes and new innovations in instructional methodology while providing a platform to assist those new to career and technical education to grow professionally in support of career and technical education.

### **Virtual Region V Conference October 29**

As many of you know, the Region V conference in Lake Tahoe this past April was cancelled. Nevada has agreed to host a Virtual Region V Conference on October 29, in place of the traditional April Conference.

You may register for the conference using the link below. The cost of the one-day conference is \$100.

<https://www.acteonline.org/region-page/region-v-events/>

October 21, 2020

## **Meet Your 2020-21 ACTEN Officers**

### **Meet the 2020-21 officers for ACTEN**

Steven Woodside is serving as your ACTEN president. Steven is a retired administrator from Columbus Public Schools. (Email-- [Stevenwoodside33@gmail.com](mailto:Stevenwoodside33@gmail.com))

Dan Phillips is your past president. Dan is the director of the Innovation for College and Career Readiness for Grand Island Public Schools. (Email—[dphillips@gips.org](mailto:dphillips@gips.org))

Samantha Lavene is the president-elect for ACTEN. Samantha is the Agricultural Education teacher for Bertrand-Loomis Schools. (Email-- [samantha.lavene@loomiswolves.org](mailto:samantha.lavene@loomiswolves.org))

Mallory Mohr is your newly elected ACTEN secretary. Mallory is an FCS teacher at Omaha Central High School. (Email— [mallory.mohr@ops.org](mailto:mallory.mohr@ops.org))

DeLayne Havlovic is the treasurer of our organization. DeLayne is a Supervisor for Business, Marketing and Management/Communication and Information Technology, Health Sciences for Omaha Public Schools. (Email—[delayne.havlovic@ops.org](mailto:delayne.havlovic@ops.org))

The officers are serving for your organization. If you have any questions for them, please don't hesitate to contact them.

## **A Great Time to Attend the National ACTE Convention**

If you have never been able to attend a national ACTE conference, this might be the year to do so. One, registration is only \$250. Two, you don't have travel expenses to incur. Three, you don't have to sit by your computer to 'attend' the sessions. They will be available after the event for you to access, but you have to register.

Discounted Advance Rates for Virtual VISION End Friday!

ACTE is excited to offer [CareerTech Virtual VISION 2020](#) on a dynamic virtual platform, bringing you hundreds of sessions in a mixture of live-streamed, simulive and on-demand formats, all of which you will be able to access post-event! Happening **Nov. 30–Dec. 4**, Virtual VISION will offer immersive and expanded programming that addresses cutting-edge CTE issues during these unprecedented times. Be sure to register by **Oct. 23** to secure the discounted advance rate of \$250 for members.

October 22, 2020

## **In Case You Missed It—News Resources for CTSO Advisers**

If you are a CTSO adviser, this resource might be worth checking into.

### **New Resource for CTSO Advisors**

Rachael Mann, author of *The CTSO Competition Companion*, offers CTSO advisors and CTE educators specific components of winning strategies and approaches in this easy-to-read book, covering such topics as: how to excel in competitions and win at life, building skills that will open doors and opportunities, and how to prepare for unknown variables and predict worst-case scenarios. Member price is \$19.95. [Purchase your copy.](#)

*October 29, 2020*

### **In Case You Missed It – New CTE Lesson Plan for Remote Learning**

#### **New CTE lesson plan for remote learning**

We are pleased to share the latest August edition of the CTE Distance Learning publication, featuring sector-specific lesson plans, webinars and resources. The California Department of Education's Career and College Transition Division has partnered with ACTE, CTEOnline.org and the San Diego County Office of Education's Office of College and Career Readiness to produce these monthly publications. [Access the latest lesson plan publication.](#)

### **ACTE Voting Begins December 4—Make sure your membership is up-to-date!**

Don't Miss Your Chance to Vote: Renew Your ACTE Membership!

The 2021 ACTE board of directors election will be held this year **Dec. 4–Jan. 4!** Be sure your ACTE membership is current by **Nov. 4** to vote. Voting will open during [Virtual VISION](#) on **Dec. 4** and run through **Jan. 4**. Winners will be announced in early January 2021.

*November 1, 2020*

### **Spotlight School: Dual Enrollment Program for Kearney Public School Students**

#### **Dual-enrollment program trains students for auto work**

Janssen Auto Group in Nebraska helped establish a dual-enrollment program to develop a pipeline of trained automotive technicians. The program includes 11 courses that are available to high-school juniors and seniors.

**Full Story:** [Kearney Hub \(Neb.\) \(tiered subscription model\)](#) (10/20)

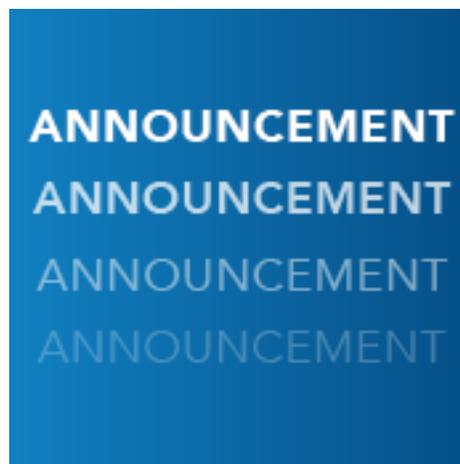
*November 2, 2020*

### **Share your COVID 19 Innovations**

Knowing my Nebraska educators, you have some great ideas you have implemented for Remote learning. Share them with other educators through ACTE!

## Share Your COVID-19 Innovations!

Whether your school, institution or district is open with social distancing, using a blended approach or continuing remote learning, ACTE wants to hear about the innovative ways you are coping with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on CTE and career development. Please fill out this short form to share your innovations. ACTE may publish your innovative practices on our website, in our blogs and/or in print.



*November 9, 2020*

### **In Case You Missed It—Sign a Petition to Tell Congress to Invest in Skills Training Tell Congress to invest in skills training to jump-start the economy**

Join ACTE in signing a petition from our partners at Voices for Skills, and tell Congress that skills training should be a critical piece of our country's inclusive economic recovery plan in order to support individuals' real career aspirations, support employers' need for skilled workers and kick-start our country's economy. [Read more.](#)

*November 10, 2020*

### **In Case You Missed It: Kearney Ranked One of Top Stem Centers**

#### **Neb. city joins ranks of top STEM centers**

Insurify has named Kearney, Neb., as the state's top STEM location because of its business sector and job opportunities. This article notes the city's University of Nebraska campus recently opened its Discovery Hall, which offers state-of-the-art programs in computer science, cybersecurity and other STEM fields.

**Full Story:** [Kearney Hub \(Neb.\) \(tiered subscription model\)](#) (11/3)

*November 12, 2020*

### **Spotlight School—Holdrege High School**

#### **Program Trains Future Technicians**

A longtime automotive technician teaches an automotive class to Central Community College as well as Holdrege High School students two nights a week. Click on the link below to find out more information about the program.

[https://journalstar.com/eedition/page-a4/page\\_706e8bf8-00c3-55fe-a358-6cb6ee10caa2.html](https://journalstar.com/eedition/page-a4/page_706e8bf8-00c3-55fe-a358-6cb6ee10caa2.html)

November 16, 2020

## 2021 ACTEN Awards—Apply Today

Please encourage one of your colleagues to apply for the ACTEN awards--or consider applying yourself. The application only requires answering three questions in 500 words or less.

**ACTE/ACTEN Educator Awards**

The ACTE Member Awards recognize excellence and dedication within the field of career and technical education among ACTE members. Recipients of these awards are exceptional individuals who have contributed to the success of CTE through the quality of their work and their involvement in the CTE community.

There are eight Member Awards presented:

- ACTEN Teacher of the Year
- ACTEN Outstanding Teacher by Division
- ACTEN Postsecondary Teacher of the Year
- ACTEN Teacher Educator of the Year
- ACTEN New Teacher of the Year
- ACTEN Administrator of the Year
- ACTEN Career Guidance of the Year
- ACTEN Carl Perkins Community Service Award

Candidates begin the application process by nominating themselves (or being nominated by a peer) for their state award. Candidates must hold the appropriate position at the time of initial nomination. Applicants may be full- or part-time educators. **Award winners will receive a one-year membership in ACTE/ACTEN dues.**

Candidates should submit their applications on the ACTE Awards Portal at [actonline](#) by March 1, 2021.

Applicants will be applying for the **2023** ACTE Member awards on the ACTE Portal. Candidates for the 2023 Member Awards will undergo their review in Nebraska in 2021, Region V and National review in 2022, and National winners will be announced at ACTE's CareerTech VISION 2023. State award recipients will have an opportunity to update their applications prior to their application being advanced to the regional level of competition.

Applicants will need to create an account and password before he/she starts the application. He/she will also want to remember his/her password so that he/she can save the application and go back to work on it again later. The deadline to apply for ACTEN awards is March 1, 2021. If you have any questions, please contact the ACTEN office (402-525-8742 or [actenebraska@gmail.com](mailto:actenebraska@gmail.com)) for assistance.



November 17, 2020

## Division Representatives to the ACTEN Board

### Representatives on the 2020-21 ACTEN Board

Please welcome the CTE educators who represent your specific discipline. These representatives are your voice for CTE in Nebraska. Please don't hesitate to contact them should you have questions, concerns, or comments on how the Association for Career and Technical Education of Nebraska can better serve you and your program.

Jon Cerny serves as the Administration Division representative. Jeremy is the superintendent at Bancroft-Rosalie Public Schools. (Email – [jcerny@esu2.org](mailto:jcerny@esu2.org))

Casey Carriker and Alex Cumming serve as the Agriculture Education Division representatives. Casey is the Ag instructor at Crete High School. (Email—

[casey.carriker@creteschools.org](mailto:casey.carriker@creteschools.org)) Alex is the Ag instructor at St. Edward High School. (Email-- [acumming@sted.esu7.org](mailto:acumming@sted.esu7.org))

Angie Chittick is the division representative for Business Education. Angie is a Business and Technology Instructor at Mid-Plains Community College in North Platte. (Email— [chitticka@mpcc.edu](mailto:chitticka@mpcc.edu))

Anne Schmall and Alicia Beck serve as the Family and Consumer Sciences Division representatives. Anne is a FCS teacher at Bluffs Middle School in Scottsbluff. (Email— [aschmall@sbps.net](mailto:aschmall@sbps.net)) Alicia is a FCS teacher at Lincoln High School. (Email-- [abeck@lps.org](mailto:abeck@lps.org))

Rick Painter is the division representative for School Counseling and Career Development. Rick is a counselor at Paddock Road Elementary School in the Westside School District in Omaha. (Email—[painter.richard@westside66.net](mailto:painter.richard@westside66.net))

Debra Ziegler serves as the Health Science Technology Education division representative. Debra is a former Health Sciences teacher at Ralston High School. (Email-- [eglerd230@gmail.com](mailto:eglerd230@gmail.com))

Brittany McPhillips serves as the Marketing Division representative. Brittany is a Business and Marketing teacher at Central City High School. (Email— [bmcphillips@centralcityps.org](mailto:bmcphillips@centralcityps.org))

Jodi Dierks is the representative for New and Related Services division. Jodi is the department chair for the Business/Marketing/Technology Department at Omaha Central High School. (Email-- [jodi.dierks@ops.org](mailto:jodi.dierks@ops.org))

Stan Haas is the division representative for Trade and Industrial Education. Stan serves as the Curriculum Specialist for Skilled and Technical Sciences at Lincoln Public Schools. (Email-- [shaas@lps.org](mailto:shaas@lps.org))

Kathleen Kennedy represents Nebraska Career Education Innovation Foundation on our board. Kathleen is a FCS teacher at Central Valley Schools. (Email— [kathleen.kennedy@centralvps.org](mailto:kathleen.kennedy@centralvps.org))

Deb Wolken serves as our web master. Deb is a retired educator for Lincoln Public Schools. (Email— [debwolken@gmail.com](mailto:debwolken@gmail.com))

Katie Graham and Sydney Kobza are the Nebraska Department of Education representatives to the ACTEN board. (Email— [katie.graham@nebraska.gov](mailto:katie.graham@nebraska.gov) and [Sydney.kobza@nebraska.gov](mailto:Sydney.kobza@nebraska.gov))

We currently have three divisions that do not have a representative to the board. Those divisions are Adult Workforce Development, Engineering and Technology, and Special

Populations. If you are interested in serving as a representative to the board, please contact me.

November 18, 2020

### **Candidate Information for ACTE Elections**

From Dec. 4, 2020, to 11:59 p.m. ET on Jan. 4, 2021, members of the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) will elect officers for the following board of directors positions:

- **President-elect:** Serves a one-year term beginning in July 2021, followed by one year as president and one year as past president
- **Region V Vice President:** Serves a three-year term beginning July 2021
- **Agriculture Education Division Vice President:** Serves a three-year term beginning July 2021
- **Health Science Education Division Vice President:** Serves a three-year term beginning July 2021
- **Region II Vice President-elect:** Serves a three-year term beginning July 2022
- **Region III Vice President-elect:** Serves a three-year term beginning July 2022.
- **New and Related Services Vice President-elect:** Serves a three-year term beginning July 2022

All ACTE individual professional, retired, educational institution members, and national affiliate organizations whose membership dues are received at ACTE headquarters by Nov. 4, 2020, are eligible to vote. Please review the biographical information and platform statements for the nominees and exercise your right to vote for ACTE's leadership. This information is also posted online at <https://www.acteonline.org/about/get-involved/board-election/board-election-candidates/>.

December 4, 2020

### **In Case You Missed It: Encouraging Career Development in the Early Grades**

#### **New brief encourages career development in the early grades**

"Starting Early: Career Development in the Early Grades," a new brief produced by ACTE and sponsored by Xello, offers promising strategies to help educators ready students for curricular and early career choices. Hands-on, experiential learning encourages students to take agency over their education. And students may begin to connect the dots between academic standards and career competencies. [Read more.](#)

December 5, 2020

### In Case You Missed It—Achieve 100 Award

#### Achieve 100 Award



Showcase your institution's dedication and commitment to CTE! Schools and institutions that have achieved 100% ACTE membership across their CTE staff and faculty will receive this distinguished award. All faculty members must be active ACTE members as of **Dec. 31**. Fill out the online application by **Feb. 1** to participate and recognize your educators!

### ACTE of Nebraska Recognized for Highest Membership Retention

During the virtual ACTE VISION conference November 30 to December 4, ACTEN received two national awards at the State Leadership Gathering session.

Nebraska was recognized as one of the states receiving the Quality Association Standard award. The more prestigious award ACTEN received was the Highest Membership Retention Percentage Award with a retention of 97% might I add. A huge thank you to you, our member! Without your membership and commitment to ACTE/ACTEN, this would not be possible. Your membership is indicative of your belief in the value of being a member of these career and technical associations and how ACTE/ACTEN are working on your behalf.

Thank you for your membership in ACTE/ACTEN. If there is anything we can do for you, let us know.



Virtual VISION Nov. 30-Dec. 4 #VISIONCTE20 VISION 2020

### State Membership Awards

- Largest number of new national members- Georgia
- Highest percentage of new national members- California
- Highest percentage retention rate- Nebraska

**Congratulations!**



Virtual VISION Nov. 30-Dec. 4 #VISIONCTE20 VISION 2020

### 2020 Quality Association Standards



REGION	STATE
I	Maine
I	Ohio
I	West Virginia
II	Georgia
II	Kentucky
II	North Carolina
II	South Carolina
III	Illinois
III	Indiana
III	Iowa
III	Missouri
IV	Arkansas
IV	Mississippi
IV	Oklahoma
IV	Texas (CTAT)
V	Arizona
V	California
V	Colorado
V	Kansas
V	Montana
V	Nebraska
V	North Dakota
V	South Dakota
V	Utah
V	Washington
V	Wyoming



December 16, 2020

### **Advocate for CTE Virtually**

In usual circumstances, the ACTE National Policy Seminar is held in March in Washington, DC. This Seminar allows state CTE members the opportunity to meet with the Nebraska members of Congress to advocate for CTE. Of course, as are most conferences this past year, the NPS has gone virtual. I hope you consider registering for this year's virtual NPS. If you have never been able to travel to D.C. to participate in NPS, this is a great opportunity for you to participate where you can show them the value of CTE and encourage them to support CTE through the funding of Perkins, belonging to the CTE Caucus, and other legislation involving career and technical education.



Advocate for CTE Virtually at NPS!

Join CTE professionals from across the nation to engage virtually on key education policy topics, hear best practices for influencing federal policy related to CTE advocacy and messaging, and participate in virtual Capitol Hill and school visits. Happening the week of **Feb. 22**, and during CTE Month®, ACTE's National Policy Seminar 2021 will feature an official welcome from the new Biden Administration with a preview of education policy priorities.

January 6, 2021

### **What do you do to Promote CTE During CTE Month®**

I would love to receive ideas of what you do to promote CTE during CTE Month® in February. Please send me your ideas. Once I receive the ideas, I'll create a document to share with the entire membership. Please send any ideas by January 15.

### **ACTE 2021 Election Results**

#### **ACTE Announces Board of Directors 2021 Election Results**

January 6, 2021/in Press Releases 2021 /by Hannah Neeper  
*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

*January 6, 2021*

Media Contact: Hannah Neeper  
hneeper@acteonline.org; 703-683-9327

#### **ACTE Announces Board of Directors 2021 Election Results**

**Alexandria, VA** – The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) is pleased to announce the results of the recent election for several spots on its Board of Directors. The

election was open to ACTE's membership of roughly 25,000 educators, administrators and other CTE professionals. The following members were elected:

**Scott Stone, President-Elect**

*Mr. Stone is an Agricultural Instructor at Centralia R-VI School District in Centralia, Missouri. His one-year term will begin in July 2021 and will be followed by one-year terms as president and past president, respectively.*

**Shani Watkins, Region V Vice President**

*Ms. Watkins is the Director at West Sound Technical Skills Center in Bremerton, Washington. She will serve a three-year term beginning July 2021.*

**Robert Torres, Agricultural Education Division Vice President**

*Dr. Torres is a Professor and Department Head at University of Arizona in Tucson, Arizona. He will serve a three-year term beginning July 2021.*

**Holly Strand-Rysgaard, Health Science Education Division Vice President**

*Ms. Strand-Rysgaard is a Health Sciences Instructor at West Fargo Public Schools in West Fargo, North Dakota. She will serve a three-year term beginning July 2021.*

**Beth Parks, Region II Vice President-elect**

*Ms. Parks is the Director of CTAE at Oconee County Schools in Watkinsville, Georgia. She will serve a three-year term beginning July 2022.*

**Brandon Russell, Region III Vice President-elect**

*Mr. Russell is the Director of Career, Technical and Adult Education at Columbia Public Schools in Columbia, Missouri. He will serve a three-year term beginning July 2022.*

**Susan Leon, New and Related Services Division Vice President-elect**

*Ms. Leon is an Instructional Specialist at West-MEC in Glendale, Arizona. She will serve a three-year term beginning July 2022.*

Additionally, the vice president-elects whose election occurred last year will join the Board as vice president in July 2021. Eric Ripley will assume the position of Administration Division Vice President and Gibby Gibbons will assume the position of Counseling and Career Development Division Vice President. The Board of Directors appointed Kristina Ropos to begin her term as Postsecondary, Adult and Career Education Division Vice president early in July 2020 due to a vacancy in the position; her term for this position is will conclude June 30, 2024.

ACTE congratulates the winners, and thanks all of the candidates for their willingness to serve and their hard work, dedication, and commitment to the Association. ACTE also thanks all of its members who had their voices heard by voting in the election.

January 8, 2021

**In Case You Missed It—Freeman Students Trained to Test Water Quality**

**Neb. program trains students to test water quality**

High school students in Nebraska are learning how to collect and test water samples to identify potential water quality concerns in their communities through the "Know Your Well" program. The program empowers students and community members to take a bigger role in identifying nitrates and other pollutants in their water, says University of Nebraska graduate student Christopher Olson, who works with the program.

**Full Story:** [NET \(Nebraska\)](#) (1/1)

January 12, 2021

### **Fwd: 2021 ACTE Region V Conference Call for Presentations**

Please consider being a presenter for the Region V Conference April 15-17. Be watching for additional information on registering for the virtual conference.

### **ACTE National Policy Seminar Week of February 22**

I am attaching a tentative agenda for the National Policy Seminar. For those unfamiliar with NPS, this is a time for ACTE members to advocate for CTE with their state congressional members. NPS is held in Washington, DC in February or March when during that time attendees can meet with members of Congress. Because of COVID, NPS will be virtual. If you have always wanted to advocate for your CTE programs but could not attend the seminar, now is your chance. Registration is only \$125.

If you are planning to attend, please let me know. I will need to set up the times to meet with our five members of Congress. Monday, February 22 is set aside for orientation and preparation for the Hill visits. February 23, 24, and 25 are reserved for Hill visits. I love the flexibility of the meeting times allowing us to best meet the schedules of all attendees. Depending on the Congressman/woman, the meeting could be via a phone conference or Zoom. Generally, the Hill visits are 15-30 minutes.

Please let me know by Friday, January 22 if you plan to attend NPS. This will allow me time to start setting up the meetings.

### **Congratulations to Ayanna Boykins**

Congratulations to Ayanna Boykins for being selected as a mentee of the new ACTE IAED Mentorship Program.

*ACTE 2021 IAED Mentorship Program Participants Announced, Alexandria, VA –*

The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) has announced the selection of 32 mentors and 36 mentees to participate in its inaugural year of the IAED (Inclusion, Access, Equity, and Diversity) Mentorship Program.

The goals of the IAED Mentorship Program are:

- To provide mentors to ACTE members interested in IAED
- To encourage ACTE members interested in IAED to pursue leadership roles in ACTE
- To advise existing leaders in ACTE on IAED issues

The IAED Mentorship Program is a one-year commitment from VISION 2020 through VISION 2021. ACTE would like to thank IMAGO for their generous support of the IAED Mentorship Program.

### **Mentors:**

Sandra Adams—Fort Wayne, IN  
Rahsaan Bartet—Glendale, AZ  
Ramona Beck—Cincinnati, OH  
Snehal Bhakta—Las Vegas, NV  
Kalyn Botz—Valley City, ND  
Felicia Latoya Brown—Trenton, NJ  
Tammy Caesar—Austin, TX  
Jill Cohen—Hertford, NC  
Jeffrey Crapper—Hillsboro, OR  
Janine Duncan—Manhattan, KS  
Jessica Howard—Lone Tree, IA  
Bruce Ingraham—El Cerrito, CA  
Patrick Irvin—Grants Pass, OR  
Del Johnson—Brooklyn Park, MN  
Kevin Johnson—Austin, TX  
Glenn Killebrew—Marietta, GA  
“AL” Long—Cincinnati, OH  
Charlie McAdoo II—Decatur, GA  
Kevin McCaskill—Roxbury, MA  
Laci McCool—Fort Cobb, OK  
Rana McVay—Tulsa, OK  
Elsie Morris—Joplin, MO  
Chaney Mosley—Murfreesboro, TN  
Aaron Parsons—Glendale, AZ  
Linda Romano—Newburgh, NY  
Holly Strand-Rysgaard—West Fargo, ND  
Shelly Thome—Glendale, AZ  
Susan Timm—Elgin, IL  
Stephen Weltsch—Glendale, AZ  
Kimberly Wilson—Alexandria, VA  
Latasha Wilson—Pflugerville, TX

### **Mentees:**

Melanie Allen—Layton, UT  
Shelsi Barber-Carter—Baton Rouge, LA

Valerie Beachley—Huntington Beach, CA  
Ayanna Boykins—Omaha, NE  
Teresa Broadnax—Washington, DC  
Shae Bruursema—Townsend, MT  
Denise Burton—Las Vegas, NV  
Brian Cashman—Red Wing, MN  
Regine Childs—Redmond, OR  
Sara Cobb—Bridgeton, NJ  
Julie D’Aliberti—Elyria, OH  
Carrington Faulk - Newport News, VA  
Dominique Footes—Washington, DC  
Jennifer Fowler—Phoenix, AZ  
Emma Godfrey—Cincinnati, OH  
Micah Goins—La Puente, CA  
Cori Gray—Stillwater, OK  
Anna Hall—Xenia, OH  
Shereena Johnson—Pflugerville, TX  
Chris Juarez—Denver, CO  
Dana King - Normal, IL  
Amy Lorenzo—Boise, ID  
Brandon Macrafc—Rochester, MN  
Elina Medina—Denver, CO  
Aaron Meyer—Newport News, VA  
Jim Michlig—Muskego, WI  
Tina Miller—Vermillion, SD  
Candice Mott—Washington, DC  
Amy Perreault—Lexington, MA  
Kristin Petrunin—Coppell, TX  
Nadine Robertson—Harvey, LA  
Cristina Sanchez Serrano—Denver, CO  
Sue Schultz—Madison, WI  
Sara Shaw—Las Vegas, NV  
Dana Wallace—Stillwater, OK  
Robert Wright—Keller, TX

ACTE would also like to recognize the members of the IAED Mentorship Program Advisory Group for their leadership in crafting this program.

For more information regarding the application and requirements, please visit the [ACTE IAED Mentorship Program Page](#).

January 13, 2021

## **In Case You Missed It—Techniques Digital Issue for January**

### **Techniques Turns 25 with an All-digital Issue**

"As *Techniques* turns 25 in 2021," wrote [Brian Noller](#), director of Northland Career Center, "I celebrate the impact this publication has had on my career and on the careers of many of my colleagues." The January all-digital issue will explore those themes that remain the same and discover what must change as we endeavor to prepare the CTE leaders of tomorrow.

Featured articles include:

- A dream realized: In celebration of *Techniques* turning 25
- An interview with Sandra Adams on *Next Level: Classroom Instructions for CTE Teachers*
- Driving the next generation in trucking
- Summer program provides authentic CTE experiences for migrant students & English-language learners
- Oklahoma CTE students selected as finalists in NASA's App Development Challenge
- Professional Prep Academy offers virtual internships during & after the pandemic

### READ TECHNIQUES

#### **COVID-19 Innovations: Virtual Tri-state Event**

*Techniques* is excited to present COVID-19 Innovations. In this new digital series, we will chronicle the innovative ways that CTE continues to engage students as lifelong learners and prepare them for rewarding careers, even as the pandemic has upended the 2020–21 school year. This first article describes how COVID-19 restrictions spurred the creation of a virtual FCCLA Tri-state Officer Development event. [READ MORE](#)

#### **Do you have a COVID-19 innovation to share?**

ACTE wants to hear about it! Please fill out this [short form](#), and you could be featured in COVID-19 Innovations.

January 14, 2021

## **In Case You Missed It—WNCC Plans New Diesel, Truck Program**

### **Neb. college plans new diesel, truck program**

Western Nebraska Community College is moving forward with a new diesel, truck and heavy equipment program that already has support from high-school students and area businesses. If the program receives final approval, the goal is to launch in August 2021.

**Full Story:** [Star-Herald \(Scottsbluff, Neb.\) \(12/16\)](#)

January 17, 2021

## In Case You Missed It—Nebraska Schools Expand Collaboration

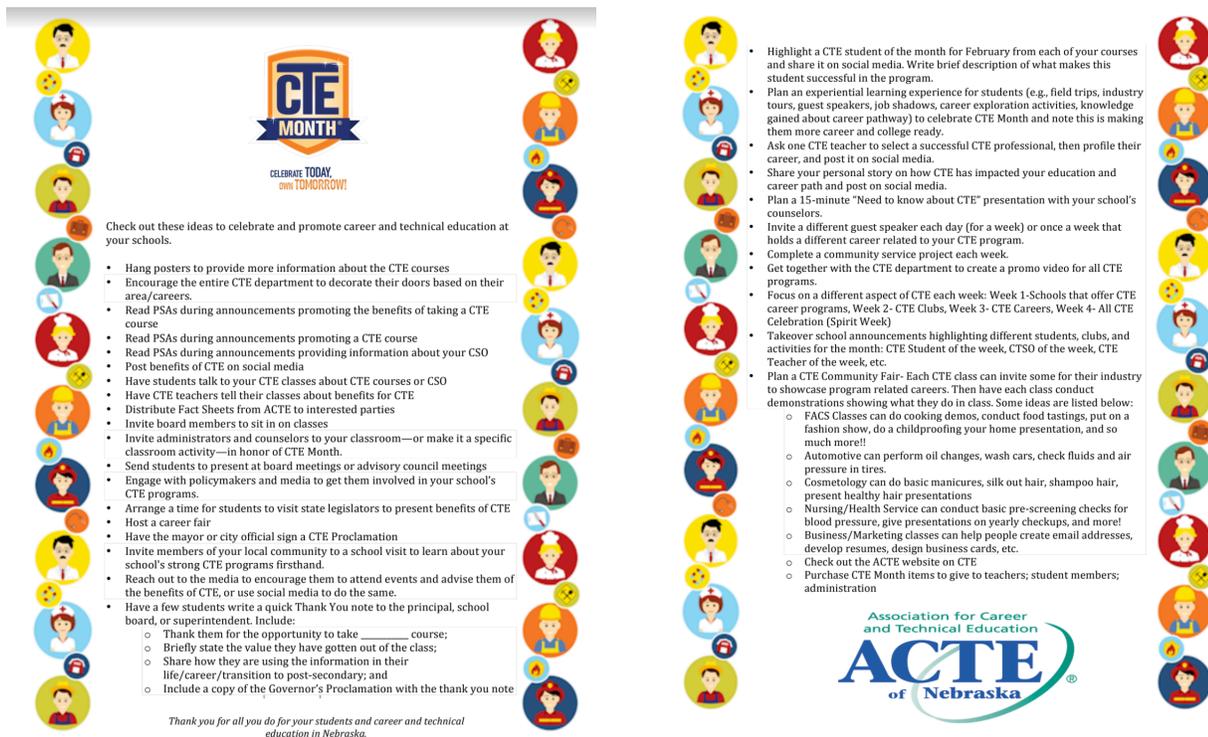
### 2 Neb. schools expand collaboration

A new, overarching agreement between Hastings College and Central Community College in Nebraska expands the number of courses of study available through a joint program that allows Hastings students to supplement their majors with minors from CCC and lets CCC students transfer to Hastings to complete bachelor's degrees. The availability will begin in the 2021-22 academic year and will be helped further by the block scheduling created through Hastings' new College 2.0 initiative.

**Full Story:** [Hastings Tribune \(Neb.\)](#) (1/7)

## CTE Month®--A Document is attached for ideas to help you celebrate!

February is CTE Month!



Check out these ideas to celebrate and promote career and technical education at your schools.

- Hang posters to provide more information about the CTE courses
- Encourage the entire CTE department to decorate their doors based on their area/careers.
- Read PSAs during announcements promoting the benefits of taking a CTE course
- Read PSAs during announcements promoting a CTE course
- Read PSAs during announcements providing information about your CSO
- Post benefits of CTE on social media
- Have students talk to your CTE classes about CTE courses or CSO
- Have CTE teachers tell their classes about benefits for CTE
- Distribute Fact Sheets from ACTE to interested parties
- Invite board members to sit in on classes
- Invite administrators and counselors to your classroom—or make it a specific classroom activity—in honor of CTE Month.
- Send students to present at board meetings or advisory council meetings
- Engage with policymakers and media to get them involved in your school's CTE programs.
- Arrange a time for students to visit state legislators to present benefits of CTE
- Host a career fair
- Have the mayor or city official sign a CTE Proclamation
- Invite members of your local community to a school visit to learn about your school's strong CTE programs firsthand.
- Reach out to the media to encourage them to attend events and advise them of the benefits of CTE, or use social media to do the same.
- Have a few students write a quick Thank You note to the principal, school board, or superintendent. Include:
  - Thank them for the opportunity to take \_\_\_\_\_ course;
  - Briefly state the value they have gotten out of the class;
  - Share how they are using the information in their life/career/transition to post-secondary; and
  - Include a copy of the Governor's Proclamation with the thank you note

*Thank you for all you do for your students and career and technical education in Nebraska.*

- Highlight a CTE student of the month for February from each of your courses and share it on social media. Write brief description of what makes this student successful in the program.
- Plan an experiential learning experience for students (e.g., field trips, industry tours, guest speakers, job shadows, career exploration activities, knowledge gained about career pathway) to celebrate CTE Month and note this is making them more career and college ready.
- Ask one CTE teacher to select a successful CTE professional, then profile their career, and post it on social media.
- Share your personal story on how CTE has impacted your education and career path and post on social media.
- Plan a 15-minute "Need to know about CTE" presentation with your school's counselors.
- Invite a different guest speaker each day (for a week) or once a week that holds a different career related to your CTE program.
- Complete a community service project each week.
- Get together with the CTE department to create a promo video for all CTE programs.
- Focus on a different aspect of CTE each week: Week 1-Schools that offer CTE career programs, Week 2- CTE Clubs, Week 3- CTE Careers, Week 4- All CTE Celebration (Spirit Week)
- Takeover school announcements highlighting different students, clubs, and activities for the month: CTE Student of the week, CTSO of the week, CTE Teacher of the week, etc.
- Plan a CTE Community Fair- Each CTE class can invite some for their industry to showcase program related careers. Then have each class conduct demonstrations showing what they do in class. Some ideas are listed below:
  - FACS classes can do cooking demos, conduct food tastings, put on a fashion show, do a childproofing your home presentation, and so much more!!
  - Automotive can perform oil changes, wash cars, check fluids and air pressure in tires.
  - Cosmetology can do basic manicures, silk out hair, shampoo hair, present healthy hair presentations
  - Nursing/Health Service can conduct basic pre-screening checks for blood pressure, give presentations on yearly checkups, and more!
  - Business/Marketing classes can help people create email addresses, develop resumes, design business cards, etc.
  - Check out the ACTE website on CTE
  - Purchase CTE Month items to give to teachers; student members; administration

Association for Career and Technical Education  
**ACTE**  
of Nebraska

Check out additional ideas on the ACTE website--

<https://www.acteonline.org/why-cte/cte-awareness/cte-month/>

January 19, 2021

## **National Policy Seminar**



Voice Your CTE Needs at NPS!

Join CTE professionals from across the nation to learn about and engage virtually on key education policy topics that impact your CTE programs, including:

- An official welcome from the Biden administration with a preview of education policy priorities
- Outlook and news from Members of Congress working on CTE issues for key committees
- Best practices in influencing federal policy related to CTE advocacy and messaging
- Virtual Hill and school visits

January 26, 2021

## **In Case You Missed It—Partnership Between HS and Community Colleges**

### **Neb. high schools team with colleges on math skills**



Jobs such as farming require strong math literacy, notes University

of Nebraska-Lincoln professor Allan Donsig. (Pixabay)

Thirty-five Nebraska high schools and six community colleges have partnered to ensure students are mastering the math skills needed for college while, in some cases, collecting college credits while still in high school. The Nebraska Math

Readiness Project varies by school, with lessons often focused on what's best for studying a particular trade at the nearest community college.

**Full Story:** [Omaha World-Herald \(Neb.\)](#) (1/10)

January 27, 2021

### **In Case You Missed It—NE Students Learn About HVAC**

#### **Neb. high-school students learn about HVAC**

North Platte Community College recently gave students at Hershey Public Schools in Nebraska the opportunity to try out an HVAC simulation. Construction teacher Will Winchester said he hoped the experience would help his students learn about a different area of the construction industry.

**Full Story:** [North Platte Telegraph \(Neb.\)](#) (1/12)

### **30 Ways to Share CTE Month Document**

Many of you have received this document the last couple of years. I am resending it for those of you who would like to use it document again to celebrate CTE Month® in February.

Many of these ideas may be repeats of the document I sent last week.

Have fun celebrating and promoting your program!

February 1, 2021

### **CTE Works**

Happy CTE Month®!

I hope you have found some great ways to celebrate CTE Month®. Attached is a document that you may use to share information with your administration, school board members, and other interested parties to promote CTE.



### CTE Works for High School Students

- The average high school graduation rate in 2017 for CTE concentrators was 95%, compared to the national adjusted cohort graduation rate of 85%. (Perkins Collaborative Resource Network, customized Consolidated Annual Report data; U.S. Department of Education, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Consolidated State Performance Report, 2010-11 through 2016-17)
- CTE is associated with reduced rates of dropout and higher rates of on-time graduation, particularly CTE courses taken in 11th and 12th grades. (Gottfried and Plasmann, Linking the timing of CTE coursetaking with high school dropout and college-going behavior, *American Educational Research Journal*, 2017)
- Arkansas high school students with more exposure to CTE are more likely to graduate, enroll in a two-year college, attain employment and earn higher wages and are just as likely to pursue a four-year degree as their peers. (Dougherty, *CTE in high school: does it improve student outcomes?*, Thomas B. Feidham Institute, 2016)
- CTE high school students in Florida who earn an industry certification are more likely to graduate on time, enroll in postsecondary education and earn higher wages. (ExcellinEd and Burning Glass, *Where the Credentials Meet the Market*, 2019)
- Employers overwhelmingly say that the most valuable employee skills are soft or employability skills such as professionalism, teamwork and

written and oral communication. The blend of technical, academic and employability skills that CTE programs provide best prepare students for fast-growing and high-earning jobs. (Orrell, *STEM without fruit: How noncognitive skills improve workforce outcomes*, American Enterprise Institute, 2018)

- CTE students and their parents are three times more likely to report being "very satisfied" with the real-world learning component of their education than non-CTE students and parents. (Advance CTE, *The Value and Promise of CTE: Results from a National Survey of Parents and Students*, 2017)
- Advanced CTE coursetaking in high school is associated with higher wages. Workers see a 2% wage increase for each upper-level CTE course taken. (Krisman and Stange, Depth over breadth: The value of vocational education in U.S. high schools, *EducationNext*, 2019)

### CTE Works for Postsecondary Students and Adults

- There are about 30 million "good jobs" — jobs that pay a median income of \$55,000 or more and require education below a bachelor's degree. Postsecondary CTE programs enable many people to earn associate degrees, postsecondary certificates and industry credentials that qualify them for these good jobs. (Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, *Good Jobs*

*that Pay Without a BA*, 2017; Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, *Three Educational Pathways to Good Jobs: High School, Middle Skills, and Bachelor's Degrees*, 2018)

- About 17 million workers nationwide use science and engineering expertise and technical knowledge, which can be gained through postsecondary CTE programs, in their occupations, but do not possess a bachelor's degree. (National Science Board, *Science and Engineering Labor Force, Science & Engineering Indicators 2020*, 2019)
- Individuals with associate degrees in CTE fields can earn up to \$10,000 more per year than those with associate degrees in other fields. (Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, *The Overlooked Value of Certificates and Associate's Degrees*, 2020)
- Shorter term CTE credentials can be as valuable as bachelor's degrees. According to research in Texas, Colorado and Virginia, graduates with technical or applied science associate degrees out-earn bachelor's degree holders by \$2,000 to \$11,000. This is a high return on a modest investment—average tuition and fees for U.S. public two-year institutions are less than half of tuition and fees for four-year colleges. (Schneider, *Higher Education Pays*, College Measures, 2013; College Board, *Average published undergraduate charges by sector, 2019-20*)
- Adults who complete Washington State's Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training (I-BEST) program, which teaches basic skills in a CTE context, are significantly more likely to enroll in college courses, complete core college math and English classes and earn twice as many college credits than those in other basic skills programs. (Pathways for Advancing Careers and Education, *Washington State's I-BEST Program in Three Colleges: Implementation and Early Impact Report*, 2018)

### CTE Works for Businesses and the Economy

- Occupations in the skilled trades, sales and marketing, driving and logistics, construction, customer support and health care are some of the top jobs employers are having trouble filling in the United States. CTE plays a critical role in training workers in these areas. (MarpowerGroup, *Talent Shortage 2020: U.S. Data Edition*, 2020)
- The skills gap may leave an estimated 2.4 million manufacturing jobs unfilled between 2018 and 2028, while many of the almost 17.2 million workers employed in infrastructure jobs are nearing retirement. (Deloitte and The Manufacturing Institute, *The Skills Gap and Future Work Study*, 2018; Kane, *Ageing and In need of attention: America's infrastructure and its 17 million workers*, *The Atlantic*, 2019)
- Many of the 30 million good jobs available without a bachelor's degree are found in the skilled trades, health care and hospitality. (Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, *Good Jobs that Pay Without a BA*, 2017)
- Communities across the nation benefit from CTE. Oklahoma's economy reaps a net benefit of \$3.5 billion annually from graduates of the CareerTech System. Wisconsin taxpayers receive \$12.20 in benefits for every dollar invested in the technical college system. Colorado Community College System alumni in the workforce contribute \$5.1 billion annually to the state economy. (Snead, M. C., *The Economic Contribution of CareerTech to the Oklahoma Economy: Cost-Benefit Analysis of Career Majors (FY11)*, 2013; Wisconsin Technical College System, *The Technical College Effect*, 2016; Colorado Community College System, *Fact Sheet: The Economic Value of the Colorado Community College System*, 2017)

March 2020

February 2, 2021

## Fwd: ACTE Region V Winter Quarterly Newsletter

Region V Update--Conference, Awards, and much more!

February 6, 2021

## In Case You Missed It—8<sup>th</sup> Graders Study Small Engines

### 8th-graders study small engines in new class

Eighth-graders at Waverly Middle in Nebraska are learning about small engine safety and operations. The final exam asks that students completely disassemble and then properly reassemble an engine.

**Full Story:** [Wahoo Newspaper \(Neb.\) \(1/13\)](#)

February 8, 2021

## Nebraska Fact Sheet and CTE Today

As you celebrate CTE Month®, here are two more Fact Sheets providing more information to 'sell' your CTE program whether to your students, administration, school board members, community, legislators, etc. (*Fact sheets were attached to email*)

February 9, 2021

### **ACTEN Awards**

Just a reminder that the ACTEN award applications must be submitted by March 1. That means you still have three weeks to complete an application. Please consider applying!

Access the awards portal at <https://acte.secure-platform.com>.

If you have questions, let me know.

February 11, 2021

### **Fwd: Rich Katt Outstanding NCE Educator Award**

As you are filling out the Rich Katt Educator Award, you might as well fill out the ACTEN award application at the same time. :)

If some information about the ACTEN awards--

### **ACTE/ACTEN Educator Awards**

The ACTE Member Awards recognize excellence and dedication within the field of career and technical education among ACTE members. Recipients of these awards are exceptional individuals who have contributed to the success of CTE through the quality of their work and their involvement in the CTE community.

There are eight Member Awards presented:

**ACTEN Teacher of the Year**  
**ACTEN Outstanding Teacher by Division**  
**ACTEN Postsecondary Teacher of the Year**  
**ACTEN Teacher Educator of the Year**  
**ACTEN New Teacher of the Year**  
**ACTEN Administrator of the Year**  
**ACTEN Career Guidance of the Year**  
**ACTEN Carl Perkins Community Service Award**

Candidates begin the application process by nominating themselves (or being nominated by a peer) for their state award. Candidates must hold the appropriate position at the time of initial nomination. Applicants may be full- or part-time educators. **Award winners will receive a one-year membership in ACTE/ACTEN dues.**

Candidates should submit their applications on the ACTE Awards Portal at [acteonline](https://acteonline.com) by March 1, 2021.

Applicants will be applying for the **2023** ACTE Member awards on the ACTE Portal. Candidates for the 2023 Member Awards will undergo their review in Nebraska in 2021, Region V and National review in 2022, and National winners will be announced at ACTE's CareerTech VISION 2023. State award recipients will have an opportunity to update their applications prior to their application being advanced to the regional level of competition.

Applicants will need to create an account and password before he/she starts the application. He/she will also want to remember his/her password so that he/she can save the application and go back to work on it again later. The deadline to apply for ACTEN awards is March 1, 2021. If you have any questions, please contact the ACTEN office (402-525-8742 or [actenebraska@gmail.com](mailto:actenebraska@gmail.com)) for assistance.

The Horatio Alger Association is now accepting student applications for its CTE scholarships until **April 15**. This year, the association will award 1,020 scholarships at up to \$2,500 each depending on the length of the CTE program at an accredited postsecondary institution and the need of the student.

February 12, 2021

### **In Case You Missed It--Gering High School**

#### **Chickens offer high-school math, science lessons**



Two chickens raised from egg by an agricultural science class at Gering High School in Nebraska will soon teach geometry students some lessons, too. The math students have used geometry skills to build a coop for the young chickens and now are designing steps and a landing as they learn about slope, rise and run.

**Full Story:** [Star-Herald \(Scottsbluff, Neb.\)](#) (2/9)

(Pixabay)

February 15, 2021

### **Career Readiness Fact Sheets for CTE Month®**

I hope you were all able to stay home during this coooollllllldddd winter day! I also hope you are able to showcase your CTE program, classes, and CSO to interested parties. Attached is another couple of 'fact sheets' with more information about CTE specifically about career readiness. These can all be found on the [acteonline.org](http://acteonline.org) site. You are welcome to use/print/share what you would like.

February 16, 2021

### **Fwd: Call for NCE Conference Presenters**

We need presenters and input for sessions for the NCE conference June 7-9 2021. If you have a topic you'd like to present on OR you want to suggest a topic, please fill this form out by February 19. We will follow up with you after that.

February 17, 2021

### **Shout Out to North Star High School in Lincoln**

The following article shows how aviation classes are opening students up to high-demand careers. Hopefully, you can open it without having to login to *Lincoln Journal Star's* website.

[https://journalstar.com/news/local/education/north-star-aviation-classes-opening-students-up-to-high-demand-careers/article\\_a74c0431-f10d-5e90-a556-7ad8e5944f30.html?utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=email&utm\\_campaign=user-share](https://journalstar.com/news/local/education/north-star-aviation-classes-opening-students-up-to-high-demand-careers/article_a74c0431-f10d-5e90-a556-7ad8e5944f30.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share)

### **New ACTEN Member Benefit—CTE Learn!!!**

The Association for Career and Technical Education of Nebraska (ACTEN) is happy to inform you that ACTEN is now part of the CTE Learn community. Check out our promotional video:

<https://youtu.be/i1UPbRTgShI>

What is CTE Learn? CTE Learn offers over 170 self-paced online courses for CTE professionals. Whether you are looking for engaging professional development or a more convenient way to obtain continuing education credits and advance your career, the online courses are designed for you. CTE Learn offers an array of topics that focus on effective and proven teaching and leading strategies. The credit courses have been designed to support CTE institutions with a comprehensive, virtual professional development program.

You can access the Nebraska CTE Learn site through our ACTEN website at [actenebraska.org](http://actenebraska.org) or directly through this link-- <https://ne.ctelearn.org>.

What an exciting membership benefit this is for you. The courses are open to all CTE educators. Many courses are free but if you are a member, you will receive a 10% discount on courses that require a fee.

Check out CTE Learn now. This is a great site to obtain those professional growth points required by your school district. Many of the courses may help you earn credits to move across the district's salary schedule. You do need to register to access the courses.

CTE Learn is an outstanding resource for professional development. I ask you to share the CTE Learn site/information with your colleagues, through your school bulletin boards, listservs or staff group emails.

Eventually, our hope is to include courses on the website from postsecondary institutions in Nebraska that our CTE educators can access through CTE Learn and receive credit for those courses offered through our local colleges.

February 18, 2021

## **In Case You Missed It—Monthly Webinars**

ACTE's Innovation Webinar Series

Plan to attend these free webinars, covering innovative best practices in CTE.

- Innovation Through Virtual Fundraising on **March 4 at 3:00 p.m. ET**
- Cooking with Canvas on **April 8 at 4:00 p.m. ET**
- Innovative Connections: STEM + CTE at Home or School on **May 4 at 4:00 p.m. ET**
- Pivoting to Practice: Making Your Work-based Learning Experiences Meaningful on **June 8 at 2:00 p.m. ET**

## **Learn More and Sign Up Here**

February 21, 2021

### **CTE: Education for a Strong Economy**

As you finish up celebrating CTE Month®, I am sharing one last document that might list more information beneficial in promoting your classes/program.

Thank you for all you do as educators of career and technical education. As a former CTE instructor, I certainly see the value of all our courses and all the work that goes into making it a success.

February 27, 2021

### **Spotlight School: Grand Island Public Schools**

Many great things are happening within the Grand Island Public Schools. Check out the links provided to see what innovations are being implemented within the CTE area at GIPS.

Forty students are currently enrolled in the Aviation-Flight pathway program at GIPS. The students recently took flight for the first time. Can you imagine--flying lessons at No Charge.

In addition, Grand Island Public School is partnering with CHI Health to provide students an opportunity to receive training and exposure in the medical field.

<https://www.aviationpros.com/education-training/press-release/21211509/grand-island-public-schools-students-at-a-nebraska-public-school-district-can-now-experience-flying-lessons-at-no-charge>

<https://nebraska.tv/news/local/you-can-fly-at-grand-island-senior-high>

<https://nebraska.tv/news/local/grand-island-high-schools-students-will-have-learning-opportunity-in-the-medical-field>

### **ACTEN Working for You**

Steven Woodside, Dan Phillips, Dawn Lindsley, and myself completed a week advocating for career and technical education with Nebraska's members of Congress. You certainly should be thankful for the support our members of Congress have for career and technical education.

The National Policy Seminar is held in a February/March timeframe in Washington DC. Unfortunately, we were not able to travel to DC, but as you know, Zoom is our new best friend. We had great discussion and felt good about the responses we received either through visiting with a member of Congress or one of their staff members.

I have included pictures to show how ACTEN and your dues dollars are working for you. If you have never attended the National Policy Seminar, you might consider doing so. This is an event sponsored, hosted, and organized by ACTE. This is a great way to showcase your program with our members of Congress and an opportunity to let them know how important CTE is to our students and economy.

*March 2, 2021*

### **Lakeview FFA Celebrates School and Community's Rural Roots**

As many of you promoted your CTE programs/classes during CTE Month® as well a week celebrating your CTSO, I want share an article on how Columbus Lakeview FFA celebrated during FFA Week.

[https://columbustelegram.com/news/lakeview-ffa-celebrates-school-and-communitys-rural-roots/article\\_448f42a9-8b78-5030-ac4d-1298cb6d9f5e.html#tracking-source=home-top-story](https://columbustelegram.com/news/lakeview-ffa-celebrates-school-and-communitys-rural-roots/article_448f42a9-8b78-5030-ac4d-1298cb6d9f5e.html#tracking-source=home-top-story)

Now I hope you can "March Into Spring" and have a great finale to another challenging year. Kudos to all CTE educators!

*March 9, 2021*

### **Fwd: Work-Based Learning Office Hours – Today!**

This might be something several of you would be interested in as we all teach some form of work-based learning.

If you or your school is looking to learn more about Work-based Learning consider joining for NDE's WBL Office Hours from 3:00-4:00pm CST TODAY, Tuesday March 9. This week's topic will focus on "Student Readiness for WBL" and will be recorded. There is built in time for Q&A. Consider joining us to learn more about WBL for your HS&E and FCS programs!

March 10, 2021

### **Louisville High School SkillsUSA Students Take Part in Community Service Projects**

Check out the community service projects the SkillsUSA students at Louisville High School have been doing this year. Kudos to the students at Louisville!

[https://fremonttribune.com/community/cass-news/news/lhs-students-take-part-in-skillsusa-projects/article\\_9ca5de96-2be9-5781-8f27-721c1bb809b1.html](https://fremonttribune.com/community/cass-news/news/lhs-students-take-part-in-skillsusa-projects/article_9ca5de96-2be9-5781-8f27-721c1bb809b1.html)

March 17, 2021

### **Updates for CTE Learn**

I hope many of you have had a chance to check out [Nebraska's CTE Learn](#) site. I just received an email from the national office about two of the newest credit courses for CTE Administrators:

[LC160 – Spending and Managing Carl D. Perkins Grant Funds](#)

[LC170 – CTE Advocacy: Policymakers and the Press](#)

I am also pleased to announce the catalog of courses is now above 170 titles that have seen an increasing number specifically directed at topics CTE Teachers can benefit from. If you haven't seen all of the new offerings please do look at the lineup in the [Essentials for CTE Teachers](#) category.

I also want to remind you that as an ACTEN member, you will receive a 10% discount on courses through our state's portal.

If you have any questions, let me know.

March 18, 2021

### **Bylaw Changes for ACTEN**

Below you will see changes to our ACTEN bylaws that will be voted on at the Assembly of Delegates held during the week of the NCE Conference. You will be notified at a later date if you are a delegate for the Assembly of Delegates. Please make sure you have looked over the changes to the bylaws allowing you to make an informed decision should you be a delegate.

With the change in the name of the Guidance and Career Development Division to the Counseling and Career Development Division by ACTE, the ACTEN board of directors proposes the following changes in the ACTEN bylaws to reflect the change made by the national office.

### Article III

#### MEMBERSHIP

- A. Active membership shall be defined as persons actively employed in the teaching or administration of programs of career, vocational, technical, **counseling**, and practical arts education.
- B. Student memberships are for students preparing for a career in ~~guidance and~~ **counseling** or teaching career, vocational, technical and practical arts subjects.
- E. New members are persons actively employed in teaching or administration of programs of career, vocational, technical, **counseling**, and practical arts education who have just joined the Association for Career and Technical Education of Nebraska and were not previously affiliated with the organization as an active member.

### ARTICLE IV

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIVISION REPRESENTATIVES (BOARD OF DIRECTORS)

Sec. 1: The officers of this association shall consist of the President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer and Past-President. These officers and the Division Representatives representing the career and technical divisions shall constitute the voting members of the Board of Directors. The Career and Technical Divisions include:

Administration  
Agriculture Education  
Business Education  
Adult Workforce Development  
**Counseling** and Career Development  
Health Science Technology Education  
Family and Consumer Sciences Education  
Engineering and Technology Education  
Marketing Education  
New and Related Services  
Special Populations  
Trade and Industrial Education

March 26, 2021

### **New Course Launch for CTE Learn**

ACTE recently launched a new course in the Nebraska CTE Learn Online Learning Center – EC130 – Remote CTE Teaching that Works, 2020 and Beyond.

CTE teaching and learning have experienced considerable transformation since the COVID-19 pandemic began in March 2020. This course highlights lessons learned since CTE teaching transitioned to remote and hybrid models. We discuss the initial disruption phase, the challenges faced, and how CTE teachers have experienced success in developing their own remote lessons and learning experiences. The course examines five modes of delivery that have been successful and student supports needed to make this happen. Finally, the course looks to a future beyond 2020 to identify ways in which our practice will continue to transform during the 21st century Knowledge Age.

EC130 – Remote CTE Teaching that Works, 2020 and Beyond is in the ‘CTE Teachers’ category under the ‘Essentials for CTE Teachers’ tab.

March 31, 2021

### **ACTE Region V Conference**

Register today or tomorrow to receive the early registration fee! See the attached flyer for more information about the conference schedule.

Nevada ACTE is excited to host the 2021 ACTE Region V Leadership Conference in the virtual world from April 15th – April 17th. Early registration at \$199 for members ends on April 1st. Advanced registration runs from April 2, 2021, to April 14th, 2021, for \$299 for members. Attendees can register [here](#).

We have some exciting speakers lined up including Ken Sheldon and Gerry Brooks! There will also be a separate student conference on Saturday, April 17. Please encourage your students to attend and learn about leadership and other fun topics.

We are excited to “see” everyone online and catch up. As always if you have any questions or concerns you can contact Jennifer Fisk at [fiskje@nv.ccsd.net](mailto:fiskje@nv.ccsd.net).

#### **Registration Due Dates:**

Early Registration – **April 1**

Advance Registration – **April 14**

April 3, 2021

**Fwd: Lorrie Mowry Named NBEA Post-Secondary Teacher of the Year**

Congratulations to Lorrie Mowry who was named as the NBEA (National Business Education Association) Post-Secondary Teacher of the Year. Lorrie is an instructor at Mid-Plains Community College-McCook Community College Campus.

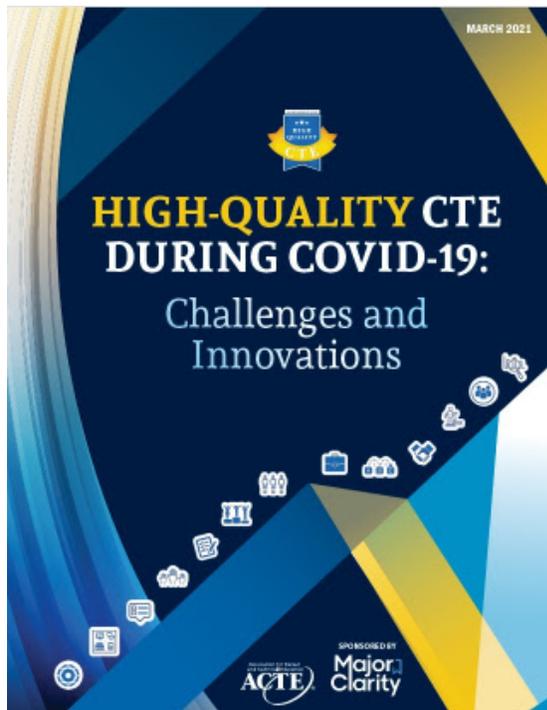
**Fwd: CTE Policy Watch: A Blog for CTE Advocates**

CTE Policy Watch: A blog for CTE advocates

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ACTE Releases Report on CTE During and After COVID-19

Posted: 27 Mar 2021 03:57 AM PDT



While COVID-19 has led to many challenges for CTE over the past year, the pandemic has also created opportunities for experimentation and innovation in delivery of CTE programs and programs of study. ACTE's latest publication, *High-quality CTE During COVID-19: Challenges and Innovations*, generously sponsored by *MajorClarity*, describes these challenges, shares examples of innovative practices, and provides recommendations for how CTE leaders can better prepare the post-COVID-19 workforce and embrace lessons learned during the pandemic.

In response to surveys fielded to ACTE members in January and February 2021, CTE professionals report that the biggest challenges they are facing during the 2020-21 school year are **motivating and engaging learners** and **providing hands-on learning and lab hours**. Providing work-based learning experiences and preparing students for industry

certifications and other performance assessments are also significant challenges. And about one-fifth of CTE professionals identified internet/technology access and supporting special and underserved populations as major issues.

In addition to these delivery challenges, CTE administrators report significant enrollment declines in many CTE programs this year as well as possible funding declines and CTE instructor shortages in the years to come.

In the face of these challenges, CTE educators have risen to the moment with flexibility, creativity and perseverance. This report describes many innovative practices in CTE from the past year, including but not limited to:

- The outdoor CTE classroom at Rockbridge County High School in Lexington, Virginia, enabled students to complete performance assessments and check off competencies in an open-air, socially distanced setup.
- YouthForce Internship, a project of New Orleans-based YouthForce NOLA, developed virtual "consultancies" in which students worked together to solve a business problem identified by an employer.
- Adult nursing students at Assabet Valley Regional Technical School in Marlborough, Massachusetts, are gaining experience and earning clinical hours by administering COVID-19 vaccines.
- Kansas DECA is organizing virtual challenges to continue to develop students' technical, employability and leadership skills.
- High school students at the Teacher Academy of Renton School District 403 in Renton, Washington, have been working remotely one-on-one with elementary students who need extra emotional or academic support.

As COVID-19 moves into a new phase, CTE educators are considering how lessons learned from this past year can support teaching and learning that is more equitable, more flexible, more diverse in its delivery and more focused on competencies in order to meet an anticipated surge in demand for CTE programs that prepare youth and adults with the skills and credentials needed in the post-pandemic workforce.

To make the most of this moment, ACTE recommends that CTE leaders pursue the following recommendations, which are further elaborated in the report:

- Reassess labor market alignment
- Skill and reskill the workforce
- Commit to equity
- Embrace innovative tools and delivery models
- Develop and support CTE professionals
- Advocate for CTE

April 6, 2021

## **Upcoming Webinars**

Upcoming (Free) Innovation Series Webinars

Plan to attend these free webinars, covering innovative best practices in CTE.

- Cooking with Canvas on **April 8 at 4:00 p.m. ET**
- Innovative Connections: STEM + CTE at Home or School on **May 4 at 4:00 p.m. ET**
- Pivoting to Practice: Making Your Work-based Learning Experiences Meaningful on **June 8 at 2:00 p.m. ET**

Don't forget, webinar space is limited to 500 and is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

April 8, 2021

### **Submit a Proposal for CareerTech VISION**

Interested in presenting at CareerTech VISION. Submit your proposals by April 16.

#### **VISION 2021 Call for Proposals open**

ACTE is seeking your expertise on innovative learning, teaching and more. Please consider submitting a presentation proposal to ACTE's Hybrid CareerTech VISION, the premier event for CTE professionals, Dec. 1 to 4, online and on-site in New Orleans, La. Submit your proposals by April 16.

April 12, 2021

### **ACTE Region V Conference**

The ACTE Region V conference starts on Thursday. I hope many of you are taking advantage of this opportunity to attend a regional conference. This virtual conference will help keep costs down, but still allow you the opportunity to attend a great conference. Even though I would rather be in Lake Tahoe!!!

I previously sent out the agenda for the conference. I attached the agenda again for those that did sign up to attend. I needed to let you know that the times on the agenda are for the Pacific time zone--not Central nor Mountain.

If you have not yet registered, I am sure they would still accept your registration.

April 13, 2021

### **Spotlight School—Lexington High School Students Construct Breaching Doors for NSP**

Lexington High School Welding and Automotive students were part of a project to custom build (Weld) metal door frames for the Nebraska State Patrol training in breaching doors. On the day the students presented the doors to NSP, they demonstrated the process of breaching a door and explained the career opportunities in the Nebraska State Patrol. An amazing project for the students at Lexington High School!

[https://lexch.com/news/lexington-high-school-students-construct-breaching-doors-for-the-nebraska-state-patrol-s-swat-teams/article\\_477209fa-993e-11eb-92f2-733641b4f5ff.html?utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=email&utm\\_campaign=user-share](https://lexch.com/news/lexington-high-school-students-construct-breaching-doors-for-the-nebraska-state-patrol-s-swat-teams/article_477209fa-993e-11eb-92f2-733641b4f5ff.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share)

*April 16, 2021*

The website is now open to register for the NCE Conference that will be held virtually Jun 7-9. The link to register is <https://nce.events.education.ne.gov/>.

As we near the NCE Conference, now is the time to renew your membership in ACTE/ACTEN. Many of you pay your dues during the conference. Several of you have expiration dates coming up the end of April, May, or June, so it is a great time for you to submit your membership dues.

If you are an Ag instructor, please submit your dues to Rich Douglass. If you need his contact information, let me know.

If you are an FCS instructor, I am attaching a form for you to fill out and return to me. Please make your check payable to ACTEN. You may also renew your dues online through ACTE. ACTE has it set up allowing you to make your FCSTN dues payment while you renew your ACTE/ACTEN membership. A great benefit for you!

For all other disciplines, I am attaching another membership form if you prefer to pay through me. Otherwise, the online renewal is the most timely option.

You might also find when joining online you are able to make installments for your membership dues. A great option for those feeling strapped for cash at this time.

If you will be retiring, please let me know. You definitely are still able to join by paying the retirement dues of only \$31. You will need to join online for the retirement amount.

Here is the link to make your payment online  
[https://web.acteonline.org/ACTE/Join/Join\\_ACTE.aspx](https://web.acteonline.org/ACTE/Join/Join_ACTE.aspx).

If you have any questions, please let me know.

## **Fwd: New IAED Webinar Series Now Available**

Inclusion, Access, Equity and Diversity Webinar Series 2021

Join us for ACTE's new monthly webinar series, addressing inclusion, access, equity and diversity (IAED) best practices.

### ***The IAED Webinar Series:***

1. Confronting Isms in the Classroom held on **April 28 at 2:00 p.m. ET**
2. Equity for Remote Learning held on **June 3 at 2:00 p.m. ET**
3. Empowering Girls and Women in CTE held in **July (date TBD)**
4. Ensuring your classroom is providing equity for all CTE Students held on **August 5 at 2:00 p.m. ET**

More information on each webinar including descriptions, presenters and Zoom can be found here.

If you have any questions regarding the upcoming webinar series, please contact Megan Kmiotek, director of Leadership & Awards.

[Learn more and register](#)

*April 19, 2021*

### **Miranda Bright - ACTE Region V Outstanding New Teacher of the Year**

Congratulations to Miranda Bright, FCS teacher from Crete High School. Miranda was named the outstanding ACTE Region V New Teacher of the Year during the Region V Conference that was held this past week. Miranda's application will now move on to national competition.



**Fwd: Wayne State College to offer CED 650 Curriculum Development in Career and Technical Education in June Summer session**

If you are a CTE educator in the areas of Ag, Business/BMIT, Family and Consumer Sciences FCS, Guidance and Counseling, and Skilled/Technical Sciences (Industrial Technology), you may be interested in enrolling in CED 650 during our June session. This course could serve as an elective in a MSE program, as well as a course to boost you perhaps to the next level on your salary ladder.

This 5-week course consists of all hands-on curriculum development lessons, strategies, and resources useful in CTE and Work-Based Learning high school programs. Although the course officially begins in June, I will have the syllabus ready, containing all of the assignments, so that you could get a 'jump start,' if you desire, on the assignments. The assignments created will be posted to Canvas, after they have been submitted and graded, so that your peers may benefit from the "sharing" of lessons and resources.

Questions? Please feel free to email [paarnes1@wsc.edu](mailto:paarnes1@wsc.edu) or call my office at 402-375-7255!

I know it is difficult to sign up for classes when you've barely left your own classroom in late May or early June, but while you are still in the groove, it's time to 'get your groove on' and earn 3 graduate credits!

Dr Patricia Arneson, Wayne State College  
402-375-7255  
[paarnes1@wsc.edu](mailto:paarnes1@wsc.edu)

April 21, 2021

**Fwd: 2021 Nebraska Career Education Virtual Conference – Registration now Open!**

Join hundreds of Career and Technical educators across the state at the 2021 Nebraska Career Education Conference! This professional learning opportunity will feature national and state CTE leaders offering over 75 rotational breakout sessions. Don't miss your opportunity to collaborate, engage, learn, and reconnect with your CTE colleagues!

**DATE:** Monday, June 7–Wednesday, June 9

**WHEN:** 9:00am–1:00pm CST daily

**WHERE:** Virtual

For more information and to register please visit: <https://nceconference.com/>, or simply click the button below.

April 27, 2021

### **In Case You Missed It: Early Bird Registration for Hybrid VISION**

The premier event for career and technical educators, ACTE's Hybrid CareerTech VISION happens **Dec. 1–4** in New Orleans, Louisiana. Featuring keynote speakers Kevin Brown, author of *The Hero Effect: Being Your Best When It Matters the Most*, and Anne Grady, entrepreneur and author of *Mind Over Moment: Harness the Power of Resilience*, VISION will provide unparalleled networking and concurrent program sessions covering best practices in remote, hybrid and in-person learning environments.

April 28, 2021

### **CTE Innovation Summit Set for June 1**



#### **CTE Innovation Summit Set for June 1**

Are you ready to prepare your learners for the rapidly changing workplace with cutting-edge tools and techniques? Attend the CTE Innovation Summit taking place virtually on **Tuesday, June 1**. Presenters from the Consumer Technology Association, Microsoft, Google, Brookings Institution and a host of others will share their insights on the new innovations that will change the way you teach and how your students learn.

April 29, 2021

### **In Case You Missed It—Dual Courses for WNCC and Gering HS**

#### **Neb. college expands dual-enrollment program**

Western Nebraska Community College will offer 33 new dual-enrollment courses for students at Gering High School in the next school year. Officials also announced that in addition to attending the courses on the high-school campus and online, students will have an opportunity to learn at the college.

**Full Story:** [Star-Herald \(Scottsbluff, Neb.\) \(4/19\)](#)

April 30, 2021

### **Columbus High School Expands Construction Program**

Columbus High School has expanded its building construction program to assist a local building contractor in building a house onsite.

[https://columbustelegram.com/news/watch-now-columbus-high-students-help-build-home-for-class/article\\_3261fdcf-ffb9-5706-b819-33ffd8a3ce8c.html](https://columbustelegram.com/news/watch-now-columbus-high-students-help-build-home-for-class/article_3261fdcf-ffb9-5706-b819-33ffd8a3ce8c.html)

### **Fwd: New Course Launch in Your Online Learning Center!**

CTE Learn has launched a new course in the Nebraska CTE Online Learning Center – EC116 – Integrating Career Readiness Into Your Courses: Part II.

This course will provide a brief review of career readiness and provide additional skills to incorporate into your courses. This course is Part II of a two (2) part series of courses. Therefore, this course will provide details about four (4) additional specific career readiness skills. These skills include leadership, professionalism/work ethic, career management, and global/multicultural fluency. Further thoughts and resources will also be provided to allow instructors to consider additional ways to incorporate these skills into their courses.

EC116 – Integrating Career Readiness Into Your Courses: Part II is in the ‘CTE Teachers’ category under the ‘Essentials for CTE Teachers’ tab.

Yours in Learning,  
Tarlon

May 11, 2021

**ACTEN Voting Closes May 20**

If you have not yet voted for the 2021-22 ACTEN board members, please do so today. Below are the links you can access for your area. If you do not have a representative up for a vote, you will access the General Election Ballot.

**2021**

**Survey Monkey Links for eBallots**

General Election

Agricultural Education Election

Family and Consumer Sciences

Counseling and Career Development

Health Science Technology Education

Engineering and Technology Education

**Fwd: Wayne State College to Offer CED 650 Curriculum Development in CTE**

Attention Career Ed and Work-Based Learning educators!

Just a reminder that the deadline for June enrollment for CED 650 Curriculum Development in CTE, to be offered through Wayne State College during the 5-week June session, is rapidly approaching. Please register in the next week or two for the course, in order for the course 'to make'/meet registration deadlines.

Approximate cost for this graduate-level course is approximately \$1,040. It is offered entirely online. The course starts June 7 and ends by July 8th.

I am working on updating the course syllabus and finalizing the assignments, all of which will have an emphasis on curriculum development as well as curriculum sharing of lessons and resources with your fellow CTE educators. When I have the syllabus finalized, I will email it to you so that you can, if you so desire, get a 'jump start' on assignments (although you will not be allowed to submit anything until June 7 start date).

If you want a practical course related to Career Education and Work-Based Learning, regardless of your teaching discipline, then this is the course for you! It also makes a great elective course in a graduate program or for salary advancement, not to mention teacher certification renewal or just personal enrichment.

The course is open to educators in any teaching discipline or administrative role, but is primarily designed for BMIT, FCS, AG, STS, GUIDANCE/COUNSELING, disciplines.

If you are a first-time WSC enrollee, or a former WSC student who has not recently taken courses for a while, you will need to start your enrollment process with the WSC Admissions Office. For "reason for enrolling," most of you would answer for "teacher certification" or "personal enrichment."

Questions?

Contact Dr Patricia Arneson, Professor  
Wayne State College  
402-375-7255 office OR [paarnes1@wsc.edu](mailto:paarnes1@wsc.edu) (preferable contact method)

### **Fwd: New Free Resources in Your OLC!**

2 FREE Resources have been added to the Nebraska CTE Online Learning Center:

#### **1. SD103 – Unifying Your District**

*This lesson explores the shared responsibilities of school counselors and CTE professionals related to CTE student career development.*

#### **2. SD104 – Connecting Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) to Career Success**

*In this lesson, learners will be able to define social-emotional learning and identify concrete strategies to incorporate SEL principles into practice within school-based programs.*

These resources can be found in “CTE Lessons” under “Early Career Development” in the “Free Resources” tab.

Yours in Learning,  
Tarlon

May 12, 2021

### **In Case You Missed It: Upcoming Webinars**

Please plan to join ACTE for the upcoming free innovation webinar series events to discuss best practices in WBL, CTE recruiting and entrepreneurship; bring a friend or colleague as a bonus for networking participation on the webinars. We look forward to seeing you and your colleagues there:

- Pivoting to Practice: Making Your Work-based Learning Experiences Meaningful on **June 8 at 2:00 p.m. ET**
- Anytime, Anywhere, Anyplace: Recruiting and Marketing CTE in a Virtual World on **July 22 at 2:00 p.m. ET**
- Driving Student Ownership in the Classroom Through Entrepreneurship, Teamwork and Cross-Curricular Collaboration on **Aug. 3 at 2:00 p.m. ET**

May 19, 2021

### **Professional Development for Nebraska ACTEN Members**

As you plan your summer and courses you may need to take to stay current in your field or move across the salary schedule, don't forget to check out the [Nebraska CTE Learn](#) site.

May 20, 2021

### **Construction and Architecture Sector Sheet**

Good information for those wanting to know more about construction and architecture in the CTE world. (*Attached the sector sheet for the members.*)

May 29, 2021

### **Fwd: Inclusion, Access, Equity and Diversity**

Inclusion, Access, Equity and Diversity Webinar

Do not miss next week's Inclusion, Access, Equity and Diversity (IAED) Webinar on Equity for Remote Learning!

Please join us on **June 3 at 2:00 p.m. ET** for the second IAED Webinar in what is a yearlong series:

### **Equity for Remote Learning**

How to ensure all students are getting their needs met in a virtual or hybrid learning environment. In this workshop, attendees will learn a tool to assist with quickly providing clarity of roles, rules, expectations, expected timeframe, and identified topics for any type of engagement.

### **Additional IAED Webinars**

ACTE invites all members and nonmembers to attend the upcoming IAED webinar series (one per month), the series works to identify best practices and topics of discussion in IAED relevant content to career and technical education (CTE). Plan to attend one of the upcoming webinars today (email Megan Kmiotek for the official calendar invitation for any or all of the events):

1. Equity for Remote Learning held on **June 3 at 2:00 p.m. ET**
2. A Movie About Ambition: Pioneers in Skirts held on **July 14 at 4:00 p.m. ET**
3. Ensuring Your Classroom is Providing Equity for All CTE Students held on **Aug. 5 at 2:00 p.m. ET**
4. Making CTE Classrooms More Inclusive for LGBTQ+ Students to be held in **September (date TBD)**
5. Part 2: Confronting Isms in the Classroom held on **Oct. 5 at 2:00 p.m. ET**

## **Showcase Your ACTE Membership**

I'm happy to share with you the ACTE membership graphic #IamCTE. Include the graphic in your email signature, website and social media.

June 1, 2021

## **New Course Added to CTE Learn**

A new course has been added to the Nebraska CTE Learn Online Learning Center – HQ101 – CTE High-quality Framework: Standards-aligned and Integrated Curriculum.

Standards-based, collaboratively developed curriculum is the backbone of high-quality CTE programs of study. For this reason, Standards-aligned and Integrated Curriculum is one of ACTE's 12 elements of high-quality CTE within the Quality CTE Program of Study Framework.

The Standards-aligned and Integrated Curriculum element of ACTE's quality framework includes seven criteria that address the development, implementation, and revision of program of study curriculum, including the relevant knowledge and skills taught in the program and the standards on which they are based.

This course discusses the seven criteria as well as practical strategies in applying the criteria to develop standards-aligned and integrated curriculum. The course also includes success stories and curated resources to help CTE practitioners develop and implement high-quality curriculum.

HQ101 – CTE High-quality Framework: Standards-aligned and Integrated Curriculum is in the 'High-Quality CTE' category.

Yours in Learning,  
Tarlon

June 2, 2021

### **Assembly of Delegates Meeting Information—Tuesday June 8, 1:30pm**

Thank you for agreeing to serve as a delegate for the Assembly of Delegates. During this annual meeting, the delegates will be voting on a variety of items during the meeting. The most important of those include the delegate that will be attending the national conference in December to attend the AOD during the conference. If you or one of your division members would like to be considered a delegate for the national AOD, please make that nomination during the meeting on Tuesday. Other items to be voted on include the 2021-22 budget, the 2021-22 Program of Work, and the bylaw changes as previously sent out to the membership.

The meeting will take place on Tuesday, June 8, via Zoom starting at 1:30pm. The Zoom link will be sent in a separate email.

I am attaching the meeting documents. Please preview the documents and have them available to you during the meeting.

The documents include--

Agenda

Minutes from June 8, 2020 board meeting

Reserved Funds and Office Expenses Report

General Operating Account Document

Auditor's Statement for 2019-20 Audit

Proposed budget for 2021-22

Membership as of April 30, 2021

Program of Work for 2021-22

Bylaw changes

### **Check out the Winning NASA videos! Your students can do it just as well!!!**

Presenting the Student Video Challenge Winners

ACTE and NASA HUNCH extend a warm congratulations to the winning videos of the 2020-21 CTE Month-NASA HUNCH Student Video Challenge, "Advancing Space Exploration Through Manufacturing:"

**Most Educational:** Oliver Ames High School, Massachusetts

*Honorable Mentions:* Passaic County Technical Institute, New Jersey, and Crawford Middle School, Kentucky

**Most Creative:** Passaic County Technical Institute, New Jersey

*Honorable Mentions:* Hopkins Homeschool, Virginia, and Ballard High School, Kentucky

**Most Inspiring:** The Academies at Jonesboro High School, Arkansas

*Honorable Mentions:* Lorenzo Walker Technical College, Florida, and Dade Middle School, Georgia

Each winning school will receive a stunning NASA HUNCH plaque with flown International Space Station patch and a check for \$200. Each student and supporting teacher will receive a \$25 Amazon gift card. Special thanks to all the students and teachers who contributed to our video challenge — all the entries showcased the tremendous talent of our nation’s students and educators!

June 10, 2021

### **Fwd: CTE Policy Watch**

Contact your representatives today encouraging them to support CTE funding for 2022. It really takes less than one minute of your time. Find out if your representative is on the House Appropriations Committee (FYI-Rep. Fortenberry is the only rep from Nebraska on the committee), click on the appropriate link, and then click send. The letter is already written for you.

### **Congratulations to the ACTEN Award Winners**

#### **2021 ACTEN Award Winners**



#### **ACTEN CTE Teacher of the Year and Trade and Industrial Education Teacher of the Year**

#### **Ronald Haefner, Trade and Industrial Education Teacher, Columbus Public Schools**

Ronald Haefner grew up on a dairy farm in northeast Kansas. It was in this environment that he developed his early mechanical and electrical skills which greatly assisted in the maintenance and operation of the farm. Ronald attended Fort Hays State University with an emphasis in industrial technology and industrial education. He graduated in 1989, with the following areas of concentration: automotive, machining, and woods. He completed his Master of Science in Industrial Education at Fort Hays State University in 1991. In 1989 he began teaching automotive technology at Columbus High School.

Mr. Haefner was named Nebraska Valvoline Teacher of the Year in 1993. He led the Columbus High School students to the National Automotive Skills Contest 14 out of 28 years, with a 5<sup>th</sup> place national win in 1999. He has authored three different automotive text books, *The Car Care Book*, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> editions, and *Automotive Technology: For General Service Technicians* and was named Columbus Public Schools Teacher of the Year in 2014.

Ron’s principal says, “As an educator, Mr. Haefner is one of the most knowledgeable educators in his field. He is constantly looking for ways to increase the knowledge of the students through techniques and technology. With the help of local industry partners and Columbus Public Schools, Mr. Haefner was able to design an automotive lab that houses

some of the most advanced technology and equipment available to automotive education. Because of his leadership and innovation, the Columbus High School Automotive Department is second to none.”



**ACTEN Family and Consumer Sciences Education Teacher of the Year**

**Michelle Galles, Family and Consumer Sciences Education Teacher of the Year, Wakefield Community Schools**

Michelle Galles has been teaching at Wakefield Community Schools for seven years. Michelle graduated from Wayne State College with a Bachelor’s Degree in Family and Consumer Sciences Education and has also earned a Master’s Degree from Wayne State College in Curriculum and Instructional Leadership.

In addition, Michelle holds an endorsement in Health Sciences.

Michelle has served in various leadership roles including; FCCLA District Adviser (5 years), FCCLA District STAR Coordinator (3 years), Nebraska FCCLA Board of Directors (current) and serves on a committee for Family Consumer Sciences Teachers of Nebraska FCSTN. Michelle has a successful FCCLA chapter of 70 members who are actively involved in school and community service projects. Wakefield FCCLA members have competed at the district, state and national level along with receiving numerous awards and recognition from Nebraska State FCCLA. Michelle also serves on numerous school committees and is the school’s NHS sponsor.

Michelle has received the FCSTN 1-5 Teacher of the Year Award, Nebraska FCCLA Master Adviser Award, Nebraska Spirit of Advising FCCLA Award, and Nebraska Career Educator Outstanding FCCLA Advisor.

Michelle has a strong passion for Family and Consumer Sciences education and loves working with a variety of high school and pre-service college students. Michelle has continued to work with pre-service college students from Wayne State College (WSC), Wayne, Nebraska. She has supervised three student teachers and over 10 FCS students competing observation hours. In addition, Michelle taught as an adjunct professor for WSC Family & Consumer Sciences department for three years.



### **ACTEN Post-Secondary Teacher of the Year**

#### **Eric Knoll, Associate Professor of Practice; Skilled and Technical Sciences, University of Nebraska-Lincoln**

Eric Knoll earned his bachelor's degree in Industrial Technology and his master's degree in Vocational Education at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He was the District Curriculum Specialist for the Skilled and Technical Sciences program in the Lincoln Public School system for seven years. Additionally, he taught Industrial Technology for 24 years at Lincoln High School in Lincoln, Nebraska before serving at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln. He currently serves as an Associate Professor of Practice in charge of the Skilled and Technical Sciences Teaching Option. The STS teaching option is a 2+2 program where the students gain 60 credits towards this bachelor's degree program at the community college and combine those with 60 credit hours earned at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln. Eric serves as the advisor and coordinator for this unique teacher preparation program.

A colleague writes, "A significant strength of Eric's is his strong relationship and commitment with business and industry which aligns with the *Quality CTE Program of Study Framework* in the emphasis on Business and Community Partnerships and Work-based Learning. Eric has singlehandedly raised over \$125,000 from local businesses and industries to support STS pre-service teacher scholarships and paid internships. In my 32-year career as a CTE teacher, teacher educator, and university administrator, I can think of no one else who embodies the passion for teaching and learning in the context of career and technical education combined with the vision of 'CTE for All' as much as Eric Knoll."



### **ACTEN CTE Administrator of the Year**

#### **Daniel Phillips, Director of Innovation for Career and College Readiness for Grand Island Public Schools**

Daniel Phillips is the Director of Innovation for Career & College Readiness for Grand Island Public Schools, responsible for the Academies of Grand Island Senior High, all career and technical education programs, and dual education partnerships within the district. He is responsible for all curriculum implementation as well as managing partnerships for all CTE programs. Prior to his current role, he was an Academy Principal for the Academy of Technical Sciences, which received NCAC National Model Status in 2019, and Director of the Career Pathways Institute since its inception. Before moving into administration with Grand Island Public Schools, Daniel taught Drafting and Architecture for 10 years in Wichita, Kansas.

In addition to his responsibilities within GIPS, Daniel is active on several local and state boards. He currently serves as the past-president of the Association for Career and

Technical Education of Nebraska. He also serves on the Nebraska Career Academy Advisory committee to help establish and monitor Career Academy standards statewide. Daniel has presented at numerous state and national conferences about the formation and successes of the Career Pathways Institute, the Academies of Grand Island Senior High, and Registered Apprenticeships.

The Grand Island Public Schools superintendent states, “Mr. Phillips is very skilled at working with various organizations from Economic Development Cooperation, Chamber of Commerce, and higher education institutions. For years the district had looked to negotiate different AP/Dual credit options for students once I handed this charge off to Mr. Phillips, he was able to do the research and get the data needed that ultimately led to all students receiving dual credit classes at no cost. He is able to clearly understand the vision of the school district, industry partners and the greater community. He is relentless about finding solutions. Mr. Phillips is a hardworking, data-analyzing, and top-performing administrator and GPIS is indebted to having him on our team.”



**ACTEN Counseling and Career Development Professional of the Year**

**Ronda Ras, School Counselor at Bancroft-Rosalie Community Schools**

Currently in her twenty-seventh year at Bancroft-Rosalie, Ronda Ras joined the faculty as the high school English teacher. After fourteen years in the classroom, she began the transition into her current role as school counselor. She continues to teach two dual-credit English courses, along with junior high career readiness and senior advisory classes. She serves on the Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports Team, the High School Multi-Tiered System of Support Team, the regional Psychological First Aid for Schools Committee, the Pathways 2 Tomorrow Counselors’ Group, the Habitudes for Career Ready Students Leadership Committee, and the Career Readiness School Improvement Committee.

She also assists with program coordination for the school’s EducationQuest College Access Grant and coordination of dual-credit course offerings. Ras is the head competitive one-act play and varsity speech coach and advises the National Honor Society. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Education with a Field Endorsement in Language Arts, a Master of Arts in Education in English, and a Master of Science in Education in School Counseling, all from Wayne State College.

A colleague says this about Ronda, “It brings me great pleasure to provide this recommendation for Ronda Ras. As a coworker of Ronda’s, I have witnessed the transformation of CTE within the Bancroft-Rosalie School. Mrs. Ras’s dedication and long-term vision make our students focused on their future and career ready. In my opinion, you could not find a more devoted and accomplished counselor as Ronda to recognize for this award.”



**ACTEN New Teacher of the Year**

**Rachel Hruza, Family and Consumer Sciences Education Teacher, North Star High School, Lincoln, Nebraska**

Rachel Hruza is part of the Family and Consumer Sciences Department staff at North Star High School. She currently teaches Infants & Toddlers, Lifespan Development, Preschool & School Age Child, and Families & Crises. Her professional goal is to be a servant leader who benefits both students and educators. She is passionate about creating innovative FCS curriculum, influential relationship building activities, and creative instructional practices. These passions foster a powerful growth environment that helps students build a sense of purpose, relate course content to real life, and form significant relationships with others. She continually advocates for the importance of FCS courses and the key opportunities that they provide for students to successfully prepare for their futures. Sharing these methods and materials with other educators provides students additional opportunities for positive experiences across all course content areas and an increase in meaningful possibilities to form life changing relationships with their teachers.

While at North Star, Rachel has served on numerous committees. She served on the SIP committee and Instructional Strategies committee. Rachel has presented at the NCE Conference on “Using Hyper-Docs” in the classroom. She has presented “Building Classroom Culture Through Relationships and Digital Workbooks” nine times to Doane University graduate classes and eight times to district tenure classes.

“Over the past several years, I have seen Rachel shine in the classroom and grow as a teacher. She is a dynamic and powerful teacher who knows how to create lessons to help motivate and inspire her students to strive for excellence. Her expertise is to be able to turn her lessons into interactive lessons for all of the classes she teaches. Rachel has a way of making learning fun and exciting for students and her peers with her unique teaching style,” writes her assistant principal.



**ACTEN Member of the Year**

**Debra Ziegler, Health Science Educator  
Former Health Sciences Educator at Ralston Public Schools**

During Debra’s 37 years at Ralston High School, she served as the HOSA Adviser, Director of Alumni Development NE HOSA, and a classroom teacher. From 1993-2012, Debra served as the State HOSA Adviser. As the State HOSA Adviser, she coordinated state-wide events related to the student organization including

three conferences, travel to National Conferences and leadership training for state officers. In the classroom, she developed the Medical Sciences Academy and the Health Sciences pathway for Ralston High School. As Director of Alumni Development for Nebraska HOSA, she developed a data base of health science/HOSA members. She states that “the HOSA alumni can be of great benefit to the health science instructors and students. Alumni can also serve as mentors, judges, and supporters of the HOSA organization.” In the classroom, Mrs. Ziegler taught Intro to Health Science, Medical Terminology, CERT, Medical Sciences Academy I & II, and Nursing Assistant.

Debra has an Associate Degree in Nursing and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing Education. She is a Registered Nurse, holds a Nebraska Teaching Certification-Health Occupations 7-12, is an American Red Cross CPR/First Aid Instructor, and a member of CERT (Community Emergency Response Team). She has served as the Secretary of the Nebraska HOSA Board of Directors. In 2017 she was recognized as the Nebraska HOSA Outstanding Advisor. Debra currently serves as the Health Sciences Division representative on the ACTEN board in which she has held since 2010.



### **Region V New Teacher of the Year**

**Miranda Bright, Family and Consumer Sciences Education Teacher  
Crete High School**

Miranda Bright is the Family and Consumer Sciences teacher at Crete High School. She is committed and passionate about teaching FCS education and advising FCCLA. Her philosophy of teaching centers around experiential learning through engaging strategies. While teaching, she demonstrates innovation via technology and gamification. Highlights include modifying popular games to increase student engagement and achievement. Ms. Bright was instrumental in creating a FCCLA chapter at Crete. As a member of the Family and Consumer Sciences Teachers of Nebraska public relations committee, she actively highlights members, promotes the achievements, and shares classroom activities of Nebraska FCS teachers on social media.

In her classroom, she demonstrates innovation via technology and gamification. With the Pear Deck for Google Slides Add-on, she added the magic of Pear Deck’s formative assessments and interactive questions to her presentations. Her students use Webquest to learn the most up to date information. She modified Guess Who and Jenga games to increase engagement and motivation to achieve student success. When teaching ServSafe, she has adapted the Pokemon Go game called ServSafe Go to encourage students to pass assignments and “catch” pathogen badges, which she created for the students.

Her principal writes, “Miranda has high expectations for her students. She is willing to work outside of class with students who seek extra help. Miranda has the ability to break

down tough concepts in a manner that even struggling learners can understand. Miranda's passion and dedication has helped develop our culinary arts program."

June 16, 2021

### **(FBLA) CTE Beginning Teacher's Institute Registration – June 25 Deadline**

If you are a new teacher or have a new CTE instructor at your school, please forward this information to them.

Calling All New(er!) CTE Educators! The CTE Beginning Teacher Institute will be offered this summer to support those CTE teachers with less than three years of teaching experience. Using virtual discussions, presentations, individual reflection, small group collaboration and on-going professional development, BTI participants will develop skills to effectively manage CTE classrooms and laboratories, integrate technology and lead Career and Technical Student Organizations.

The CTE Beginning Teacher Institute will be offered **Monday, July 26 through Wednesday, July 28, 2021 in a fully virtual experience**. Teachers will be selected to BTI and following full participation in the sessions and completion of a lesson plan will receive a stipend.

Click [here](#) to submit an application by **June 25, 2021**. Please contact Kristin Vest at [kristin.vest@nebraska.gov](mailto:kristin.vest@nebraska.gov) if you have any questions.

**Please share with CTE teachers that have less than three years of teaching experience!**

June 17, 2021

### **In Case You Missed It—Building Little Free Libraries**

This might be a great activity for your students.

#### **Minn. students build, install 2 Little Free Libraries**

Students from Mabel-Canton Public School in Minnesota built and installed two Little Free Libraries at City Hall and a park, aiming to improve access to books in a community that is without any public or school libraries. The boxes were installed this week after a 2-year-long project by students of Paul Tollefsrud, an industrial technology teacher.

 **Full Story:** [KIMT-TV \(Mason City, Iowa\) \(5/19\)](#)

June 19, 2021

### **Write for Techniques**

Now that you have a 'little' free time, consider writing for the ACTE publication, *Techniques*.

### **Write for Techniques**

Techniques is now accepting content for its October (digital) and November/December (print) 2021 issues. Interested parties are encouraged to review the editorial calendar and writing guidelines. With questions or to submit a proposal, contact Lia Milgram. Write for Techniques.

June 25, 2021

### **In Case You Missed It—Career Readiness Video**

This short video talks about the 16 career clusters, which I know the ACTEN members are aware of. However, I encourage you to share this video with your school counselor. As the majority of his/her job is to help high school students determine their future after high school, this video might help counselors understand the career clusters and the pathways available in those clusters. We know those 16 career clusters encompass almost every career available. Maybe you should also encourage your school counselor to join ACTE/ACTEN since so much of his/her contact with students deals with providing guidance in career and technical education. If he/she has questions, please have them give me a call.

Murleen

### **ACTE's Nicole Cobb Featured in CTE Short**

June is Careers Month at College Guidance Network (CGN), which works with school counselors across the country to help students prepare for their postsecondary plans. To celebrate, CGN has created a series of shorts on CTE and how to approach career exploration from middle school to high school and beyond. In the first featured short, "What is CTE?," ACTE's Counseling and Career Development Division Vice President Nicole Cobb helps you understand the 16 nationally recognized career clusters while also debunking the myth that you have to prepare for college or career.

June 26, 2021

### **Update on CareerTech VISION, December 1-4**

- This information is provided by Jaime Alston from the ACTE office.
- o There will not be an Assembly of Delegates (AOD) event.

- o The State Leadership Breakfast will still happen on Saturday but will be a virtual event and not in person.
- o State Leadership Training that is usually on Wednesday will be virtual and the registration info is already up on the website.
- o The Awards Gala will be virtual but they are hoping to have some type of live event for them at Vision.
- o The keynote speakers: Michael Brown – opening session; Ann Grady is closing session and their information is up on the registration site.
- o Pre-conference workshops available:
  - Mark Perna
  - Fed Group
  - AVID
  - Imago
- o Ford might do something so continue to check the website for up to date information.
- o The hotel block is open so please go ahead and make your reservations.
- o There will be some sort of transportation system set up because the event is at the furthest end of the complex and is a fairly long way to walk. There is only a hotel block at the Hilton.
- o They will continue to send out e-blasts with updated info.

Vision will be hybrid in terms of the only live streaming will be the opening and closing sessions as of now. If the virtual participation explodes, they will look at adding in more live streaming but the budget doesn't allow for that at this time. In terms of the program sessions, there will be live presentations and virtual presentations. Those sessions will be recorded and available to all Vision participants. The virtual presentations will run alongside the "in person" sessions. The vast majority of sessions will be Thursday through Saturday. In person participants can attend sessions and access the virtual sessions but the virtual participants will only be able to access the recorded sessions with the exception of the opening and closing sessions. Currently there are 305 sessions that will be offered. The national office will try to make it as easy as possible on the website to show which presentations are online and which are in person only.

Here's the breakdown of presentation sessions: In person – 128 and virtual – 175. That doesn't include any receptions or regional meetings – just workshop presentations.

If you attend the conference in person and the presentation is virtual only, you must register for the presentation through the speaker service center. It will ask them what kind of presenter they are and then if they are planning to attend in person. The virtual speaker rate is less expensive than the "in person" speaker rate. Virtual presenters will have access to all virtual sessions for 30 days

following the conference. You won't receive the speaker discount if you don't go through the speaker service center.

I hope this answers some of the questions you might have about VISION.

If you register by August 15, the member registration rate for attending in person is \$395. The member rate is \$250 for virtual only. Those rates do change after August 15.

July 5, 2021

### **Fwd: New Course Launch**

CTE Learn recently launched a new course in the Nebraska Online Learning Center – ED210 – Implementing Online Learning Augmentations in Hands-on Programs.

This course highlights the various ways in which learning can be more applied and integrated through the use of online instructional tools and environments. This is the case for all programs, including “hands-on” programs. The process of learning integration necessarily includes other steps in the process and these are explored in this course. These include expanding content, encouraging applied questioning, and analyzing implications. Throughout, the importance of online tools and environments are explored in relation to supporting more integrative and applied learning.

ED210 – Implementing Online Learning Augmentations in Hands-on Programs is in the ‘CTE Teachers’ category under the ‘Teaching with Technology’ tab.

Yours in Learning,  
Tarlon

July 26, 2021

### **New CTE Course--Standards-aligned & Integrated Curriculum**

A new course from CTE Learn, HQ101— CTE High-quality Framework: Standards-aligned and Integrated Curriculum, discusses the criteria that address the development, implementation and revision of program of study curriculum, success stories and curated resources to help CTE practitioners develop and implement a high-quality curriculum.

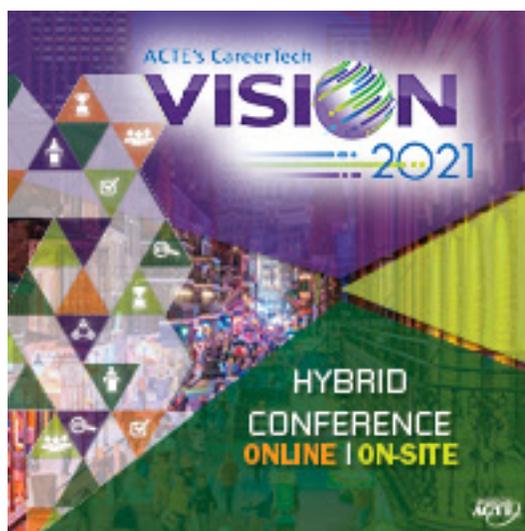
July 30, 2021

### **Register Now for CareerTech VISION**

If you plan to attend in person, register by August 15 to get the lower rate. Below is a screen shot of the registration costs found on the ACTE website.

## Join Us in Person in New Orleans

Reserve your spot by **Aug. 15** for ACTE's Hybrid CareerTech VISION to secure the in-person member early bird rate. The registration includes access to more than 200 in-person-only sessions covering multiple CTE sectors, timely equity and access topics and innovations in CTE, the on-site Expo, numerous networking receptions and pre-conference workshops, and online VISION programming during and post-event. This year's premier event for CTE educators happens in New Orleans, Louisiana, **Dec. 1-4**.



## In Case You Missed It—Upcoming Webinar

### Upcoming Innovation & IAED Webinars

Mark your calendar for these upcoming free webinars, covering innovative best practices and IAED in CTE.

- Driving Student Ownership in the Classroom Through Entrepreneurship, Teamwork and Cross-curricular Collaboration on **Aug. 3 at 2:00 p.m. ET**
- Ensuring Your Classroom is Providing Equity for All CTE Students on **Aug. 5 at 2:00 p.m. ET**
- Part 2: Confronting Isms in the Classroom on **Oct. 5 at 2:00 p.m. ET**

## [The Lincoln Journal Star] Nebraska blind students build robots at STEM camp

" 'Someday we will take over the world, but for now I am your personal assistant,' said Rob the Rover of himself and his robotic brethren, evoking a rumble of laughter from the audience.

But the laughter quickly gave way to applause as the crowd marveled at the intricately wired and meticulously programmed little metallic creature — made even more impressive by the fact that his creator, high schooler Caleb Root, is blind."

Access the link below to find out more about this unique STEM Camp.

[https://journalstar.com/news/local/nebraska-blind-students-build-robots-at-stem-camp/article fd6146d7-5113-5a13-bae8-b0479e59986c.html?utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=email&utm\\_campaign=user-share](https://journalstar.com/news/local/nebraska-blind-students-build-robots-at-stem-camp/article fd6146d7-5113-5a13-bae8-b0479e59986c.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share)

July 31, 2021

### **Courses added to ACTEN CTE Learn**

Two new courses have been added to the ACTEN Online Learning Center: CS130 – Creating Work-Based Learning Programs - First Steps; and EC140 – Introduction to Positive Psychology for Educators.

CS130 is an introduction to the foundation of work-based learning (WBL). Quality WBL is about a continuum of opportunities for students to connect to business. As a WBL coordinator, your roles are numerous and varied, but the position is rewarding when you can help students gain awareness to their future. WBL delivery models that are designed to provide WBL experiences for students in different community settings will be shared. Strategies for model implementation will be provided to facilitate WBL opportunities to and for all students.

CS130 – Creating Work-Based Learning Programs - First Steps is in the ‘Career Support Staff’ category under the ‘Student Support Systems & Programming’ tab.

EC140 -- Positive psychology is the science of human flourishing and is leveraged to cultivate well-being for students, teachers, and staff in schools around the world. You'll be introduced to the tools of positive psychology to help you and your students thrive in the classroom and in life. This course is designed to help you understand the science of well-being and how to employ it for yourself and in educational settings to support well-being and academic achievement. The modules cover positive psychology's origins, and the research and application of the PERMA model, Character Strengths, and positive education.

EC140 – Introduction to Positive Psychology for Educators is in the ‘CTE Teachers’ category under the ‘Essentials for CTE Teachers’ tab.

Happy learning!

August 1, 2021

**Region V Conference April 6-9, 2022  
(Save the Date)**

August 16, 2021

**National FFA Grants for Growing  
Recipient**

Congratulations to the Minden FFA Chapter & Advisor Macie Whipple, selected as National FFA Grants for Growing Recipient. The grant will expand their Community Garden & produce stand, teaching how food moves from "farm to fork"!



**ACTE Region V Leadership Conference**  
**Rapid City, South Dakota**  
**April 6-9, 2022**

Whether you are a first-timer or a seasoned veteran, you will always find something new in the Black Hills and Rapid City. First-class accommodations coupled with attention to detail will ensure a successful conference during your stay at the Rushmore Plaza Holiday Inn.

Rushmore Plaza Holiday Inn  
Rates: \$79 Single King / Double Queen + tax  
\$89 Double Queen Mini-Suite + tax  
\$109 Plaza Suite  
Includes: free parking,  
complimentary shuttle  
and high-speed internet  
Reservations: 605-348-4000

South Dakota  
**ACTE**



August 17, 2021

**New Course in CTE Learn – Leveraging Community Resources to Energize CTE**

A new course has been added to CTE Learn – LC102 – Leveraging Community Resources to Energize CTE.

Educators often express concern about accountability, limited resources, and overwhelming expectations. Leadership practices that energize staff and access community partners may not make the work less challenging, but these practices do encourage broader commitment to student success. This course provides authentic strategies for expanding community engagement as an effective way to add human resources and energy to school CTE programs. Learn how to create an organization that fosters these partnerships and provides more authentic and meaningful experiences for students and faculty.

LC102 – Leveraging Community Resources to Energize CTE is in the ‘Leadership Staff’ category under the ‘Essentials for CTE Administrators’ tab.

Yours in Learning,  
Tarlon

September 10, 2021

**New Sector Sheet for U.S. Military & Veterans**

Updated: U.S. Military & Veterans Sector Sheet  
*By Catherine Imperatore on Aug 31, 2021 08:00 am*

SECTOR SHEET AUGUST 2021

**CTE: THE KEY TO WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

The U.S. Military:  
Includes more than  
**2.1 million**  
people!

Operates **worldwide**

Is at the forefront of  
**technological innovation**

What is the pathway to these fulfilling and essential careers?  
**Career and Technical Education!**

 **Pearson**  
Proud supporters of CTE.

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www.acteonline.org | Connecting Education to Careers

## U.S. Military & Veterans

### Protecting Americans and promoting freedom and peace abroad, the U.S. military:

- is comprised of the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Navy and Space Force; the Reserve components of these branches and the Air National Guard and Army National Guard
- offers leadership development programs like the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) and Junior ROTC, which is part of the Government and Public Administration Career Cluster® in many states
- provides opportunities across a wide range of career fields
- is fostering diversity in its ranks

### What jobs are available in the U.S. military?

Each service branch continually seeks new recruits, as service members are promoted through the ranks, retire or leave the military. There are hundreds of different occupations across a variety of Career Clusters for enlisted personnel, who comprise 82% of the Armed Forces, and for officers. In-demand occupations vary across branches and over time, but STEM jobs often top the list. For instance, in the Navy, bonuses are commonly available for submarine electronics specialists, cyberologic technicians and hospital corpsmen.\* In 2020, the Marine Corps is seeking more intelligence personnel, while the Army is looking for technicians who install, operate and maintain microwave communications systems as well as air and missile defense crewmembers and cryptologic linguists.\*

Pay scales for service members, based on rank, duties, skills and years of service. Service members also receive free housing or a housing allowance and access to health care, retirement, education and other benefits. Single enlisted service members can grow their compensation package of base pay, housing allowance and insurance contributions from an initial \$3,400 at one year of service to \$14,000 after five years, to nearly \$20,000 after 20 years.\* Service members with families, recruits with college degrees and officers can earn even more.

Enlisted service members must have a high school diploma or GED and a minimum Armed Forces Qualification Test score on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB), while officers need a bachelor's degree. In the occupational specialty requires it, individuals may need licenses, certifications or advanced degrees. Military service members employ technical, academic and employability skills for a range of occupations in career areas such as:

- logistics
- communications systems
- law enforcement
- health care
- public affairs
- combat support
- aviation
- mechanics

➤ This August, ACTE has updated its [Sector Sheet](#) on CTE's role in developing future service members for the U.S. military and helping veterans succeed in the civilian workforce. This Sector Sheet features details about military occupations and earnings, information about how CTE prepares people with the skills needed in the military, and examples of exemplary programs that prepare future service members and veterans for the next stage in their education and career pathways.

Each service branch – the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Navy and Space Force – continually seeks new recruits, as service members are promoted through the ranks, retire or leave the military. There are hundreds of different occupations across a variety of Career Clusters for enlisted personnel, who comprise 82% of the Armed Forces, and for officers. In-demand occupations vary across branches and over time, but STEM jobs often top the list.

CTE can help prepare people for careers in the military and for life after they complete their service. On the secondary level, Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) programs such as Army JROTC foster leadership skills in high school students, whether or not they choose a career path in the military. In Alabama's Mobile County Public School System, Director of Army Instruction retired Lt. Col. Robert F. Barrow has been recognized by the Army for helping to bring JROTC under the state's CTE umbrella and for incorporating more emphasis on STEM education in JROTC through the VEX Robotics program and an annual STEM Leadership Academy. On the postsecondary level, Central Community College (CCC) in Nebraska has been recognized frequently by the *Military Times* as a top two-year college in the nation for veterans. CCC operates a Veterans and Military Resource Center at four campuses, providing services for learners who are veterans and current service members that range from the practical logistics of enrollment and financial aid to counseling and peer support.

ACTE's Sector Sheet series is generously supported by Pearson.

## **New Course in CTE Learn—Fully Online Doesn't Mean Inactive**

ACTE/ACTEN has launched a new course in our Online Learning Center – EL120 – Fully Online Doesn't Mean Inactive.

Active and passive learning are critical concepts to ponder for online learning. Each one has positive benefits when explored and applied in the context of learning and the designing of instruction. There is, however, a difference between passive and inactive. One is an intentional part of learning while the other is the absence of something. We will explore these and other concepts in this course. In addition, strategies will be shared that will enable educators to make their online instruction more engaging and beneficial for learners.

EL120 – Fully Online Doesn't Mean Inactive is in the 'Online Teachers' category under the 'Engaging Online Learners' tab.

Yours in Learning,

Tarlon Moghadam, CHEP  
Chief Learning Officer | MaxKnowledge, Inc.  
[www.maxknowledge.com](http://www.maxknowledge.com)  
[tarlonm@maxknowledge.com](mailto:tarlonm@maxknowledge.com) | (888) 626-2407 X86

## **Upcoming Webinars from ACTE**

### Upcoming Webinars

Mark your calendar for these upcoming free webinars, covering innovative best practices and inclusion, access, equity and diversity in CTE.

- Designing a College and Career Pathways System, sponsored by NC3T, on **Aug. 27 at 11:00 a.m. ET**
- Teaching Innovative CTE: Bringing Industry into Your Classroom with Real-world Projects & Skills on **Sept. 1 at noon ET**
- Making CTE Classrooms More Inclusive for LGBTQ+ Students on **Sept. 8 at 3:00 p.m. ET**
- Part 2: Confronting Isms in the Classroom on **Oct. 5 at 2:00 p.m. ET**

September 16, 2021

### **ACTE Webinar**

Mark your calendar for this upcoming free webinar, covering IAED in CTE.

**Part 2: Confronting Isms in the Classroom on Oct. 5 at 2:00 p.m. ET**

## **Fwd: Free Online Resource to Enhance Your Work-Based Learning Programs**

Do you know about the free recourses available on the [Nebraska CTE Learn](#) site? One beneficial resource to learn about is CareerPrepped.

CareerPrepped is a **FREE** online career success system that supports work-based learning programs with virtual activities, tools, and resources to help students build, prove, and showcase their workplace skills with authentic evidence.

Use CareerPrepped to engage students in building employability skills & knowledge, documenting and reflecting on their learning, and showcasing their qualifications with online tools.

CareerPrepped is **FREE** for individual educators to use with their classes or for schools, districts, consortiums, agencies, and other organizations in workforce development who want a centralized, organization-wide implementation.

### **How Teachers Can use CareerPrepped**

- Use Skill Builders as online lessons with companion workbooks to help students build employability skills
- Engage students in reflection through question prompts in Skill Builders that can be used as assignments
- Enable students to document and reflect on their learning through a digital portfolio with unlimited storage
- Empower students to showcase their qualifications through a Career Site that can be shared with employers
- Use provided rubrics to give students feedback on different learning activities available on CareerPrepped
- Cultivate students' ability to articulate and justify their claims of skill with curated, authentic evidence
- Help students earn competency badges

Please be sure to access CareerPrepped through your CTE Learn website - click on "CareerPrepped" Location in the Navigation to learn more!

Yours in Learning,  
Tarlon

September 17, 2021

## **In Case You Missed It—Time to Overhaul Middle School Programs**

If you teach in a middle school, you might want to check out this article.

### **Is it time to overhaul the model for middle school?**



(Pixabay)

Some researchers say a traditional middle-school environment that is more closely aligned to high school than elementary school may fail to meet the developmental needs of middle-grades students. An increased emphasis on using cooperative learning, building social and emotional skills and giving students "voice and choice" are among the approaches being used in some schools, including the Community Lab

School in Virginia's Albemarle County Public Schools.

**Full Story:** [The Hechinger Report](#) (8/16)

*September 19, 2021*

## **In Case You Missed It—Scottsbluff Students Learn from Guest Instructors**

### **Neb. culinary students learn to make sushi**

Advanced culinary students at a Nebraska high school recently learned to prepare sushi from Nancy Sakurada, an instructor at the Culinary Institute of America and a former family consumer science instructor at the high school. Students learned to make California and vegetable rolls, Inari sushi and musubi.

**Full Story:** [Star-Herald \(Scottsbluff, Neb.\)](#) (8/24)

*September 20, 2021*

## **In Case You Missed It—House Adopts Fiscal Year Budget Resolution**

### **House adopts Fiscal Year 2022 budget resolution**

The US House of Representatives adopted the Fiscal Year 2022 budget resolution, by a 220 to 212 party-line vote. The resolution is significant because it officially starts the reconciliation process, paving the way for the Democrats' \$3.5 trillion Build Back Better plan to be passed by a simple majority. [Read more.](#)

September 21, 2021

## App to Help Navigate Zoom

### Teenager creates app to help navigate Zoom



(Pixabay)

Seth Raphael, a middle-school student, and his friends were repeatedly late to their Zoom classes last year, because of the difficulty finding different Zoom links, so he created an app to help. That app is now known as LinkJoin, which stores and automatically opens Zoom links.  
**Full Story:** [EdSurge](#) (9/10)

September 22, 2021

## Nominate someone or apply now for an ACTE/ACTEN Outstanding Educator Award

### ACTE/ACTEN Educator Awards

The ACTE Member Awards recognize excellence and dedication within the field of career and technical education among ACTE members. Recipients of these awards are exceptional individuals who have contributed to the success of CTE through the quality of their work and their involvement in the CTE community.

There are eight Member Awards presented:

**ACTEN Teacher of the Year**  
**ACTEN Outstanding Teacher by Division**  
**ACTEN Postsecondary Teacher of the Year**  
**ACTEN Teacher Educator of the Year**  
**ACTEN New Teacher of the Year**  
**ACTEN Administrator of the Year**  
**ACTEN Counselor of the Year**  
**ACTEN Carl Perkins Community Service Award**

Candidates begin the application process by nominating themselves (or being nominated by a peer) for their state award. Candidates must hold the appropriate position at the time of initial nomination. Applicants may be full- or part-time educators. **Award winners will receive a one-year membership in ACTE/ACTEN dues.**

Candidates should submit their applications on the ACTE Awards Portal at [acteonline](#) by March 1, 2022.

Applicants will be applying for the **2024** ACTE Member awards on the ACTE Portal. Candidates for the 2024 Member Awards will undergo their review in Nebraska in 2022, Region V and National review in 2023, and National winners will be announced at ACTE's CareerTech VISION 2024. State award recipients will have an opportunity to update their applications prior to their application being advanced to the regional level of competition.

Applicants will need to create an account and password before he/she starts the application. He/she will also want to remember his/her password so that he/she can save the application and go back to work on it again later. The deadline to apply for ACTEN awards is March 1, 2022. If you have any questions, please contact the ACTEN office (402-525-8742 or [actenebraska@gmail.com](mailto:actenebraska@gmail.com)) for assistance.



September 26, 2021

**Advance Registration for VISION ends Oct. 16—Online registration is only \$250**

**Advance registration for VISION ends Oct. 16**

Reserve your spot by Oct. 16 for ACTE's CareerTech VISION to secure the discounted advance rate, which includes access to hundreds of in-person-only sessions covering multiple CTE sectors and timely equity and access topics and innovations in CTE, the on-site Expo, numerous networking receptions and more. This year's event happens in New Orleans, La., Dec. 1 to 4, and in-person rates include access to both in-person and virtual programming. Not able to attend in-person? Join us virtually for a dynamic and specially curated content. Learn more and register.

September 30, 2021

**Congratulations to 2022 National Award Finalists!**

Congratulations to Miranda Bright of Crete for being one of these award finalists!!!

Congratulations to ACTE's 2022 National Award Finalists!

ACTE is delighted to announce the 2022 National Award finalists, individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to CTE and serve as inspirational leaders in the field. Finalists are recognized in the following categories: Teacher of the Year, Postsecondary Teacher of the Year, Administrator of the Year, New Teacher of the Year, Teacher Educator of the Year, Counseling and Career Development Professional Award, Lifetime Achievement and Carl Perkins Community Service Awards.

The ACTE Excellence Awards winners will be presented at the ACTE Awards Gala on **Nov. 30 at 4:00 p.m. CT** in conjunction with ACTE's CareerTech VISION, happening this **Dec. 1-4** virtually and in person in New Orleans, Louisiana. The Awards Gala is free to everyone to attend and generously sponsored by CareerSafe, Express Employment Professionals, Goodheart-Willcox and Stratasys. Sign up to attend!

**Fwd: New Course Launch in Your Online Learning Center!**

Nebraska CTE Learn has launched a new course in our Online Learning Center – LC103 – Creating a Career Readiness School Culture.

A career readiness school culture adds relevancy to learning, increases student engagement, and gives staff a meaningful shared purpose. Creating a culture of career

readiness within the school is essential to ensuring ongoing dedication and commitment to effective CTE programs. This course helps participants recognize the impact of existing school culture on developing student career readiness and student success. In addition, participants will explore the leadership skills needed for creating a supportive culture and will examine tools available for assessing and implementing a culture of career readiness.

LC103 – Creating a Career Readiness School Culture is in the ‘Leadership Staff’ category under the ‘Essentials for CTE Administrators’ tab.

Yours in Learning,  
Tarlon