Happy Spring!

It was great to see many of our Region III colleagues for our online NPS in March. While it wasn’t quite the same as being in our nation’s capital, we were able to make the important connections to our legislators and share the importance of CTE programming and take part in a great virtual school visit. As I look back to the past year, I am beyond amazed at all of the success our members and the ACTE team have done in adjusting and stepping up with the challenges that COVID-19 has challenged everyone to embrace. ACTE will be highlighting some of those practices in their new webinar series – check it out below!

This is also a great time to check out what we have planned for our Region III Conference in Prior Lake, Minnesota, June 16–18 this year! This year’s conference will be a live event, with an asynchronous virtual option. The theme is “Be Bold, Safe, & Well — Head North — Let’s Try Again — The Confluence: Collaboration, Cooperation, & COVID.” Check our Region III website for more information. Minnesota is promising us great conference swag and even a Region III polo for those registered by the deadline! You can register HERE.

Please check out other great ways you can be involved and find ACTE sponsored professional development in the following posts:

**Upcoming Webinars**

Plan to attend these free webinars, covering innovative best practices in CTE.
New CTE Learn Advocacy and Perkins Courses

ACTE is pleased to announce two new courses available via CTE Learn:

- **Spending and Managing Carl D. Perkins Grant Funds** introduces participants to the federal rules that govern the spending and management of Perkins funds. LEARN MORE

- **CTE Advocacy: Policymakers and the Press** provides education professionals with the background, skills and know-how to successfully advocate and promote their CTE programs to both the press and policymakers at the local, state and federal levels. LEARN MORE
Signature Event for CTE Administrators

Save the date for The Best Practices and Innovations in Career and Technical Education Conference, hosted by the ACTE Administration Division and NCLA and happening Sept. 29–Oct. 1 in Austin, Texas. This annual conference is specifically focused on the professional development for administrators of both secondary and postsecondary CTE programs and institutions.

Learn more

Board of Directors Election — Accepting Applications

Interested in serving the association as a member of the board of directors? Applications for open positions are due June 15. For more information, please see the guidelines for the board of directors nominations.

Learn more

Applications Are Open!

Now in its fifth year, the 2021 Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Prize for Teaching Excellence will award $1 million in prizes to public high school skilled trades teachers and programs in the U.S. Apply by May 21, or share this opportunity with a deserving teacher.

Learn more
Early Bird Registration for Hybrid VISION is Open

The most important event for career and technical educators, ACTE’s CareerTech Hybrid VISION happens Dec. 1–4 online and on-site 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 programming.

Contribute to a New National Career Clusters Framework

ACTE is pleased to share that Advance CTE is launching a crowdsourcing portal to modernize The Career Clusters Framework! Through May 7, Advance CTE invites you to complete a set of idea challenges to ensure The National Career Clusters Framework bridges education and work, empowering each learner to explore, decide and prepare for dynamic and evolving careers.
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.

I’m looking forward to seeing you in June!

Lisa Stange
ACTE Region III VP

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Learn more and register