



Greetings Region IV,

Since taking the helm of Region IV on **July 1**, it has been an interesting ride ... Let's be honest, for us, it has been an interesting ride since March. Each passing day what was our “normal” has changed, presenting new challenges but also new opportunities. As a region, we were able to hold our first-ever virtual conference in May; as an association, we have now hosted two board of directors meetings virtually; and now our [CareerTech VISION Conference](#) will be virtual for the first time **Nov. 30-Dec. 4!** Though I will miss the face-to-face networking opportunities, great food, and excitement that is encompassed in thousands of career and technical education (CTE) professionals in one place, our virtual conference will provide the opportunity for all of the above, plus more!

As I reflect on the past six months as an educator and parent, there have been many ups and downs, but I often reflect back on a book I first read in my undergraduate studies call *Who Moved My Cheese?* by Spencer Johnson. We all live in a constant world of change. Sometimes we notice, and sometimes we are unaware. Over the past few weeks, I have been planning and working with my staff as we get ready to welcome back our students on **Aug. 24**. After much reflection, we spent time reviewing this book, and I want to share with you some thoughts as you embark on the 2020-2021 school year.

1. Change Happens

Whether we like it or not change happens. Would I prefer to be starting the school year without completely rewriting our procedures, without students/parents countless questions about safety, and without the fear I see in my teachers eyes each day? Yes! We all must remember why we became educators and the impact we have daily on our students.

- How will you react to change?
- How will our students react to change?

2. Anticipate Change

We've all had time to reflect on the changes that have been happening since March. As we begin a new school year, we must tackle the change full force and head-on for our students. Will it be uncomfortable, challenging, taxing and tiresome? Yes, but we are educators — we monitor and adjust.

- How will the change make you a better teacher?
- How will the change push your students to be stronger learners?

3. Monitor Change

Change is often brought to us by others and is not equitable in who encounters the change; however, the pandemic has equally distributed change across the entire globe to all. The impact has been different for all, but all have experienced change. Education has been hit hard, but it has also presented us a unique opportunity to question and challenge the status quo.

- What changes have been made to your education system that are good changes?
- What changes have presented new opportunities for educators, students and families?

4. Adapt to Change Quickly

We are creatures of habit, and I often believe educators are some of the hardest professionals to change. Change in education policy, procedures and philosophy takes great amounts of time to occur. All of those tedious timelines were thrown out the window in March.

- What success have you had with our education change?
- Have you shared it with colleagues?
- What additional changes do you anticipate seeing this fall that benefit our students?

5. Change

The cheese has been moved; we've had time to anguish in it and reflect upon it, and now it is time to act! Take the changes you are experiencing and remember why you became an educator. Remember your students from the past for inspiration. Each of you make a difference each day, take the new and leave your mark on our future generations — they deserve just as much of you as the past had.

- What is your professional goal for the 2020-2021 school year?
- What is your platform for students for the 2020-2021 school year?

6. Enjoy Change

It might be hard to think about enjoyment in the 2020-2021 school year at this very moment. There are many unanswered questions, fear and uncertainties ahead of us all. But remember our students ... they deserve our best, and we need their best.

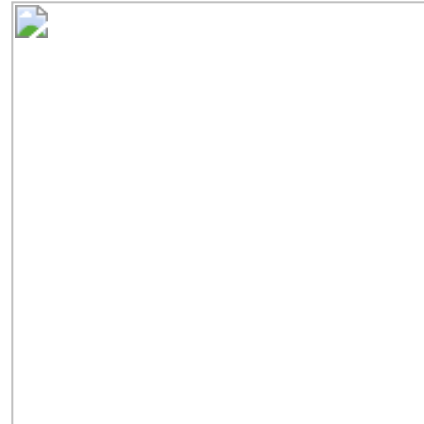
- What are you going to do to impact your students this school year?
- What are you going to do to impact CTE this school year?

We are entering new and uncharted territory ... if any group of educators can embrace the change with full force, it will be CTE educators! I wish each of you the best this fall!

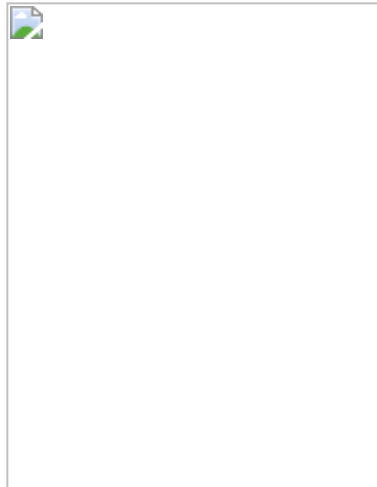
Watch this inspiring [video about Change!](#)

VISION Now Virtual — The Show Must Go On!

After thoughtful consideration, ACTE is excited to host, for the first time ever, CareerTech VISION 2020 as a fully online, virtual event, happening **Nov. 30–Dec. 4!** We at ACTE believe this is the safest approach for our attendees and look forward to offering you, from the comfort and convenience of your own home, school or office, an immersive professional development experience that addresses timely topics impacting career and technical education (CTE)!



[Learn more and register](#)



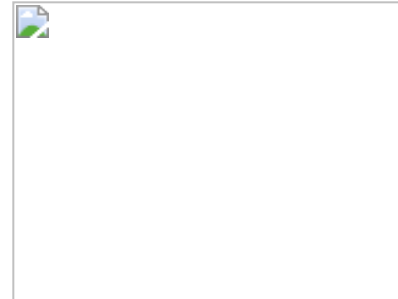
New Guide Covers COVID-19 Implications for CTE Programs

High-quality CTE: Planning for a COVID-19-impacted School Year is a guide for helping CTE stakeholders identify the key considerations, guiding questions and emerging best practices that should shape future planning. The guide is accompanied by a [webinar series](#) (with archived recordings available to members), exploring issues and sharing ideas from the field about CTE planning for the 2020-21 school year.

[Read the report](#)

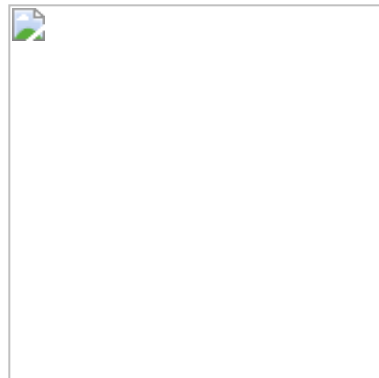
Apply to the New IAED Mentorship Program!

ACTE's new mentorship program, offering professional development opportunities to help cultivate more diverse and inclusive work environments for CTE educators, seeks to support association members interested in inclusion, access, equity and diversity (IAED) — those who want to be leaders in these efforts and those who wish to support existing leadership. Applications are due **Nov. 1**. [Learn more and register](#)



ACTE Seeking IAED Mentors

ACTE's new IAED Mentorship Program is looking for mentors! Applications are due **Sept. 15**. [Learn more](#)



Call for Access & Equity Content

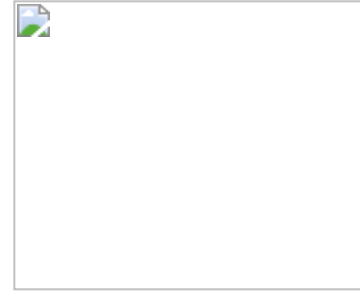
ACTE continues to seek content on IAED in CTE by:

- Recommending ideas for the IAED column that will be included in all future issues of *Techniques*
- Contributing resources to the ACTE IAED website
- Submitting recommended IAED speaker names
- Signing up to be a part of ACTE's IAED Advisory Group

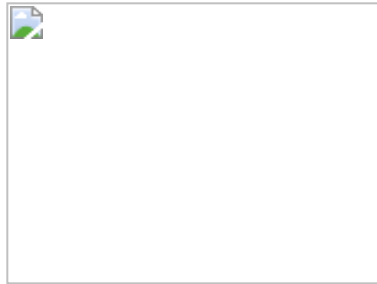
[Contribute your ideas](#)

[Signature Event for CTE Administrators Going Virtual](#)

The world is asking for change, and it is vital for your CTE programs to be optimized to reach and support a diversified student body. Happening virtually **Oct. 8–9**, the Best Practices and Innovations in CTE Conference will offer content-rich programming and networking to strengthen the field for CTE administrators of both secondary and postsecondary CTE programs and institutions. This year's event is once again hosted by ACTE, the ACTE Administration Division and the National Council of Local Administrators.



[Learn more](#)



Splash into Techniques in 2021

Hold on tight to the final days of summer — but also plan ahead! *Techniques* is now accepting proposal submissions for issues dated January, February and March 2021, on the following themes:

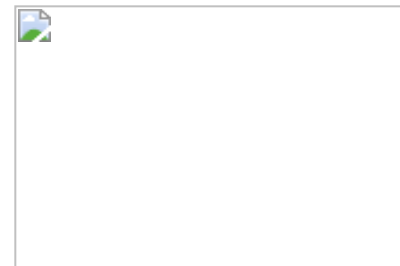
- Techniques Turns 25
- Inspiring Facilities & Innovative Equipment
- It's All Fun & Games

Review the editorial calendar and submit a proposal.

For questions, please contact [Lia Milgram](#).

Write for PAGES

The official blog of ACTE's *Techniques* magazine, PAGES seeks to foster a community of collaboration among CTE educators. Let your voice be heard. Share [Member Connected News](#) or get an answer to CTE's most pressing



questions when you ask [Dear Linda](#). Have a better idea?
Contact [Lia Milgram](#).



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