



**March 19–22**  
**Crystal Gateway Marriott**  
**Arlington, Virginia**  
with time to meet with legislators on Capitol Hill

**Turning CTE Advocacy into Policy Action**

[acteonline.org/nps](https://acteonline.org/nps)

## **NPS AGENDA**

*Updated March 18, 2023*

### **Sunday, March 19, 2023**

**8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**  
**Alexandria**

**State Leadership Training Program**  
*\*Separate registration required*

**8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**  
**Fairfax**

**Idaho Delegation Training/Prep**

**3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**  
**Arlington Ballroom Foyer**

**Onsite Registration**

**4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**  
**Manassas**

**Region II Policy Committee Meeting**

**5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**  
**Salon V**

**First Timer's Q and A**

If this is your first time at NPS, or you have questions about the conference or Hill visits, stop by this informal question and answer session with ACTE's policy staff. We'll provide you with all the information you need to navigate the new environment on Capitol Hill and make the most of your interactions with policymakers. *Please note: This is a discussion session only, there will be no formal presentation during this time.*

**6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**  
**Skyview**

**Administration Division Reception**

*Generously sponsored by the ACTE Administration Division and National Council of Local Administrators (NCLA)*

*\*Administration Division Members Only*

**6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.**  
**Salon VI**

**NEDA Meeting**

## Monday, March 20, 2023

7:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Arlington Ballroom Foyer

### Onsite Registration

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.  
Arlington Ballroom Foyer

### Continental Breakfast and Networking

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.  
Salons III & IV

### Opening General Session with Keynote Speaker

The 2022 National Policy Seminar officially kicks off with a welcome from ACTE Executive Director LeAnn Wilson and an overview of the current political climate by keynote speaker Daniel Lippman, reporter at POLITICO.

*LeAnn Wilson, Executive Director, ACTE*  
*Daniel Lippman, Report, POLITICO*

10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.  
Salons III & IV

### General Session: Upcoming Reauthorization Legislation

Several large education and workforce laws are long overdue for congressional reauthorization: the Higher Education Act (HEA) has not been reauthorized since 2008, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act since 2014, and the National Apprenticeship Act since it was first passed in 1937. Other looming reauthorizations, such as the Farm Bill and the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, may also have implications for CTE programs across the country. Given the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and economic volatility, the pressure is on a divided Congress to find a bipartisan path to updating these laws. This panel of policy insiders will help clarify current congressional priorities, shed light on the outlook for education and workforce policy over the next few months, and share which policy vehicles should be the focus of advocacy efforts.

*Jennifer Stiddard, Senior Fellow, National Skills Coalition*  
*Caleb Wright, Chief Operating Officer, Versant Strategies*  
*Karishma Merchant, Associate VP, Policy & Advocacy; JFF*

11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

### Advocacy Focused Breakout Sessions

Salon I

#### New Evidence for CTE

What do we know about the effectiveness of CTE programs – do they have positive education and employment impacts for students? The CTE Research Network, funded by the U.S. Department of Education, is expanding the evidence base for CTE with multiple new, causal studies on CTE schools and programs around the country. Join us to learn about some of the results so that you can be equipped with the latest evidence to inform CTE policy and practice. And, we want to hear from you how to better communicate our findings to policymakers and practitioners.

*Kathy Hughes, Director, CTE Research Network, and Principal  
Researcher, American Institutes for Research  
James Kemple, Executive Director, Research Alliance for New York City  
Schools*

## **Salon II**

### **Navigating Partisan Politics**

Politics both on Capitol Hill and nationally have become as partisan as ever. And yet, it is important for CTE advocates to build effective relationships with their representatives regardless of where they sit on the political spectrum. In this breakout session, you will learn the skills to effectively communicate and build productive relationships with Members of Congress with different, and even divisive, political viewpoints!

*Zach Curtis, Government Relations Manager, ACTE  
Emmanuel Guillory, Director of Student and Institutional Aid Policy,  
National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities*

## **Salon V**

### **Continuing the Momentum**

Your meetings with federal policymakers in DC this week will create a lasting foundation to engage in CTE advocacy, but what happens once you return home? This session will review strategies for continuing to strengthen these connections and create new ones in your home states and congressional districts, and examine methods you can use to create mutually beneficial and lasting relationships. We will also discuss ways to engage in digital advocacy to strengthen your message.

*Jori Houck, Media Relations and Advocacy Associate, ACTE*

## **Salon VI**

### **NAAE Breakout Session: What's Trending? Using Actionable Data to Advocate for Your Ag Program**

Do you have BIG goals for your program? Is it to add a third teacher? Obtain a land lab? Retain community support? In this workshop, participants will create a tool to track growth, examine need, and build strategies from the data trends to help you achieve your goals. Through this method your program can add value, increase program advocacy, and provide a communication tool for stakeholders. Leave this workshop ensuring that your program will be "trending" in your community.

*Alissa Smith, Chief Executive Officer, National Association of Agricultural  
Educators*

**12:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.**

**Lunch on Your Own**

**1:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.**  
**Salons III & IV**

**General Session: Administration’s Priorities and Initiatives**

Join OCTAE to hear the latest updates on ED’s Raise the Bar: Unlocking Career Success Initiative, including plans for the \$25 million Innovation & Modernization (I&M) Grants authorized in the FY23 Omnibus Appropriations Act. Also during this time, OCTAE staff will seek audience input on success and challenges pertaining to 4 pillars of ED’s career-connected learning initiative that ensures high school students graduate having received personalized career guidance, engaged in paid work-based learning, received their first industry-recognized credential, and earned at least 12 college credits.

*Luke Rhine; Deputy Assistant Secretary; Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education; U.S. Department of Education*

*Elizabeth Texeira; Senior Policy Fellow; Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education; U.S. Department of Education*

*Sharon Miller; Director, Division of Academic and Technical Education; Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education; U.S. Department of Education*

**3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**  
**Salons III & IV**

**General Session: Federal Efforts to Address the Educator Pipeline**

Across the country, educational institutions at all levels are experiencing critical shortages of faculty and staff across virtually every subject. CTE programs have been particularly vulnerable to these shortages, as they struggle to compete with industry salaries when attempting to recruit and retain quality educators. This topic has begun to receive attention by both parties at the state and national levels – but what can the federal government do to alleviate shortages and fortify the teaching profession? This panel of teacher workforce experts will discuss what is possible, which ongoing efforts to pay attention to and how to be an effective advocate for change.

*Michael Rose; Senior Director, Government Relations; American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE)*

*Megan Stockhausen; Assistant Director, Government Relations, American Federation of Teachers (AFT)*

*Kuna Tavalin, Coalition for Teaching Quality*

*Sponsor Spotlight: Fred Wheeler, Assistant Vice President, Forrest T. Jones & Company; Secretary, Trust for Insuring Educators*

**4:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.**  
**Arlington Ballroom Foyer**

**Drink Break**

*Generously Sponsored by Forrest T. Jones & Company*

**4:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**  
**Salons III & IV**

**ACTE Legislative Agenda Overview/Hill Visit Overview**

ACTE policy staff will provide an overview of goals for Hill visits, review key messages and legislative priorities, and relay last minute tips for getting the CTE message heard on Capitol Hill.

*ACTE Public Policy Staff*

**5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.**  
**Salons III & IV**

### **State Planning Roundtables**

Work with others from your state to finalize Hill visit logistics and details. Leave-behind folders will be distributed during this time, and ACTE Public Policy staff will be available to answer any remaining questions. Larger state delegations will be dismissed to meet in separate rooms:

Arizona – Salon V  
Minnesota – Salon II  
Mississippi – Fairfax  
Indiana – McLean  
Ohio – Salon I  
Oklahoma – Salon VI

## **Tuesday, March 21, 2023**

**8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

### **Capitol Hill Visits**

**9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**

**325 Russell Senate Building**

### **Congressional Staff Panel on Capitol Hill**

Staff working on CTE issues for key committees, Caucuses and Members of Congress will share the latest news from Capitol Hill and their outlook for the rest of this congressional session.

*Rebecca Howard, Legislative Assistant, Sen. Tim Kaine (D-VA)*  
*Nancy Martinez, Legislative Assistant, Sen. Todd Young (R-IN)*  
*Sujith Cherukumilli, Legislative Assistant, Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR)*  
*Marek Laco, Professional Staff Member, House Education and the Workforce Committee Majority Staff*

**5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

**902 Hart Senate Building**

### **Capitol Hill Reception**

The evening reception will feature CTSO students as they share the leadership and skill-building opportunities they gain through high-quality CTE and participation in their respective student organizations. This year's reception is sponsored by the National Association of Homebuilders (NAHB) and the following CTSOs, who will all have students participating:

- Business Professionals of America (BPA)
- DECA
- Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA)
- Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)
- HOSA-Future Health Professionals
- National FFA Organization
- SkillsUSA
- Technology Student Association (TSA)

**Wednesday, March 22, 2023**



*\*\*This special event is included in the regular registration price for NPS attendees. The lunch session during the Innovation Summit will be available to NPS attendees for an additional fee.*

CTE is at an inflection point in defining its high-quality proposition. As we enter an era of post-pandemic strategic education, we face a growing challenge to rapidly and effectively prepare learners for the changing world of work. Attendees will have the opportunity to hear from and ask questions to national experts on issues ranging from the use of AR/VR and Artificial Intelligence for instruction, to what are rapidly growing new programs of study and a look into what's new in specific disciplines. Included in the day-long event will be information from the federal front on where governmental officials see and seek to support innovative CTE activities.

**8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.**  
**Arlington Ballroom Foyer**

**Continental Breakfast**

**8:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.**  
**Salon IV**

**Welcome and Opening Keynote**  
**CTE: A Roadmap for Future Education**

In this thought-provoking opening session, Katie Becker (JLG Architects) will address the impact today's quickly evolving and technology-driven environment is having on the educational system. While we don't know what careers will exist in the future, Becker argues that CTE has the power to transform the way we look at pathways to prepare learners for the future, nevertheless.

*Scott Stone, President, ACTE*

*Katie Becker, JLG Architects*

**9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.**  
**Salon IV**

**New and Emerging Programs of Study in CTE**

Moderator: *Lexi Lonas; Education Staff Writer; The Hill*

Artificial Intelligence: *Christina Gardner-McCune; Associate Professor/  
Director, Engaging Learning Lab; University of Florida*

Data Center Operations: *Jack Bidlack; Information and Engineering  
Technologies Director; Northern Virginia Community College*

Electric Vehicles: *Jennifer Worth; Senior Vice President; American Association  
of Community Colleges*

**10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**  
**Salon IV**

**Innovation Showcase Introduction**  
3-Minute Introductions from Innovative Companies

**10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**  
**Salon IV**

**Innovation Showcase**  
Visit zSpace, TransfrVR, RealityWorks, Pathful, and YouScience

**11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**The Classroom of the Future (Here Today!) Breakout Sessions**

**1. Apprenticeships: Alexandria**

*Adrienne Summers, Executive Director Apprenticeships, American Association of Community Colleges; and Olivia Emmanuellel, Embassy of Switzerland*

**2. Electric Vehicles: Salon III**

*Molly Bauch, Senior Manager, Accenture*

**3. Gen Z Expectations for School: Salon II**

*Laura Telander Graf – Senior Director Public Relations and Thought Leadership, ECMC Group*

**4. Student-Centered Instruction: McLean**

*William Sprankles, Executive Director of Innovative Teaching and Learning, Butler Tech*

**12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.**  
**Salon IV**

**LUNCH – TICKETED EVENT**

**Digital Equity for CTE Learners**

Representatives from the Office of Educational Technology at the United States Department of Education will share an update on the Digital Equity Education Roundtables (DEER) Initiative to expand equitable adoption of high-speed broadband and digital tools for learning.

*Ji Soo Song, Digital Equity Advisor, Office of Educational Technology, U.S. Department of Education*

*Jessica Ch'ng, Program Fellow, Office of Educational Technology, U.S. Department of Education*

**1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.**

**Innovations in the Clusters Breakout Sessions**

**1. Agricultural Education: Salon III**

*James Egenrieder, Virginia Tech*

**2. Cyber Security: Alexandria**

*Davina Pruitt-Mentle, Lead for Academic Engagement, National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education at the National Institute of Standards and Technology; and John Dyer, Associate Vice President, American Association of Community Colleges*

- 3. Advanced Manufacturing: Salon II**  
*Roger Tadajewski, Executive Director, NC3*

**2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

**Game Changers Impacting Society and CTE Breakout Sessions**

- 1. Artificial Intelligence: Salon II**  
*Christina Gardner-McCune, Associate Professor/Director, Engaging Learning Lab, University of Florida; and Kathleen Nelson, Project Manager, American Association of Community Colleges*
- 2. VR/AR: Salon III**  
*Michael Carbenia, Senior Executive Director Workforce, z-Space*
- 3. CTE for All Learners (IAED): Alexandria**  
*Lindsay Harris, Director of Career Partners, PHILLIPS Programs*

**3:30 p.m.**

**CTE Innovation Summit Concludes**