

Title	Speaker	Additional Speaker	Additional Speaker	Description	Theme	Topic
How Technical College Are Answering the Call to Train and Prepare Students for the Workforce in High Demand High Wage Jobs.	Mark Middlebrook			This presentation will look at how technical college are preparing students for high demand high wage jobs. It will look at the "Skills Gap" occurring throughout the United States. It will examine facts and information which counselors, both in high school and junior high schools need to know as they inform parents and students about their future career during and after high school. This presentation will look at the high demand jobs in the trades and technical field such as electrician, welders, plumbers and dozens of other jobs in the workforce needing skilled labors. We will rely upon data from the state, but also other professionals such as Mike Rowe and dozens of others who are telling the story of skilled labors. In addition to students needing CTE learning after high school instead of a 4 yr. university. Hands on training is vital in this economy and future of our labor force. We will also examine how students are obtaining credits while in high school with their local tech college and transferring those credits to a state owned university. Learn how these technical college are preparing students to be vital with a decrease of skilled labors.	Post-Secondary CTE initiatives/innovative programs/collaboration with secondary programs	How Technical College are Answering the Call to Train Students for High Demand High Wage Jobs
Transforming Industry Professionals into High Quality CTE Instructors	Laura Jaime			In this session, we will showcase how West-MEC supports teachers within the CTE Delivery Model. Through combining instructional coaching and professional development with a systems approach, we will share systems we have in place to support new and experienced CTE teachers.	High-quality CTE teacher recruitment, engagement, and retention	Teacher Retention
Leveraging CTE and Registered Apprenticeship to Build Future Teachers	Jenny Geno	Candace Vinson		With a shortage of teachers nationwide, leaders in Saginaw, Michigan came together to develop a robust teacher academy that spawned the development of a talent pipeline beginning in middle school, into high school CTE, and accelerating into the first US DOL registered apprenticeship programs in Michigan. Braiding local, state, and federal funding and collaborating across different local and state departments, resulted in partners working together to develop the next generation of highly qualified, highly trained teachers. Teaching is the profession that literally touches all others and that cannot be "fast-tracked" without sacrificing quality. This program and pathway offers college credit, credentials, immersive on the job experiences, certifications, and so much more—with little to ZERO debt!	High-quality CTE teacher recruitment, engagement, and retention	Developing a Teacher Pipeline with Little to Zero Debt
Cultivating Partnerships for Workforce Development	Jill Sawyer	Bonnie Carr		Building and cultivating workforce partnerships to promote economic & workforce development.	Maintaining business and community partnerships in a virtual world	Workforce Development Initiatives
"The Exploding Esports Industry and Academic CTE Esports Pathways"	Jill Ranucci, Ph.D.			The esports industry has grown exponentially since 2015. Global competitions yield millions in prize money and billions in revenue. How does this affect CTE IT and STEM pathways as well as the hundreds of orbital careers? In-demand tech related careers is at an all-time high and will increase as world ideologies, environmental factors, and high-tech globalization flourishes. CTE students can explore high tech, in demand careers as they engage in academic esports. Esports has become an all-inclusive pathway (globally) for students of all learning styles and skills gleaned from these experiences include problem solving, teamwork, collaboration, communication and a plethora of skills mastery which leads to certification in a variety of wide-ranging careers. Academic esports students are ready to begin mastering skills and earn certifications to enter the workforce and/or pursue higher education. Integrating rigorous CTE STEM curricula, esports and academic curricula allows students to graduate college, career, and military ready. Conference attendees will learn strategies to maximize STEM & IT Pathway participation and engage students in relevant, rigorous academic curricula in CTE courses. Attendees will connect the relevance of emerging technologies and Esports to guide innovative curricula to help students successfully complete CTE programs/industry certifications and electronic portfolios. Participants will have an opportunity to gain knowledge of growing number of programs and how they have incorporated this new area of interest into curricula and their state standards. Participants will assess their current programs to determine next steps in developing an innovative, inclusive, diverse curricula for future pathways. Participants will have the opportunity to investigate the current markets trends in IT/STEM and create programs that capstone in recognized industry certifications.	Providing access to technology, equipment and instructional materials including virtual resources to students engaged in remote learning	Emerging Technologies and Inclusion

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Embedding Work-Based Learning into the Classroom	Dr. Alexia Rolle	Dr. Loretta Ovueraye		Explore various Work-Based Learning (WBL) activities associated with interaction with industry and/or community partners. Discuss real workplace environments or simulated experiences that foster in-depth engagement with tasks required of an occupation or academic program. The engagement is aligned with curriculum and instruction of an educational institution. WBL activities include Apprenticeships, Internships, On-the-Job Training, Clinical's, Practicums and Virtual/Simulated experience.	Integrating work-based learning into in-person and remote instruction	Work-Based Learning
11, 803 reasons Work-Based Learning works!	Chad Maclin	Katy Stokes		Session attendees will receive an introduction to strategies for planning and implementing opportunities that follow the WBL continuum. Presenter will lead a discussion that addresses implementation of a WBL program, challenges and barriers, employer partnerships, assessment measures, and resources specific to career awareness, career exploration, and career preparedness along the WBL continuum. Tips on developing a plan of action, marketing materials and promotion ideas, forms and tools for coordinators, and reports and data collection will be provided.	Integrating work-based learning into in-person and remote instruction	11, 803 reasons Work-Based Learning works!
Get The Scoop on CTE! I scream, you scream, we all scream for successful pathway alignments!	Amy Ewell	Stefanie Adams		Join us for a sweet treat as the Mountainland Region pathway & articulation team shares best practices for pathway alignment, program promotion and regional activities used to successfully support CTE in secondary and post-secondary areas.	Post-Secondary CTE initiatives/innovative programs/collaboration with secondary programs	Secondary & Postsecondary Pathway Promotion and Alignment
Dual Enrollment driving Workforce Development for all	Dan Cocchiola			Dual enrollment programming - led by K12 districts and aligned with Perkins V self reported CLNA data can (and should) be driving opportunities for students. In Connecticut, we have done this. Let us show you how.	Post-Secondary CTE initiatives/innovative programs/collaboration with secondary programs	K12 innovation
Making CTE Personal to Legislators	Alan Ashton			Help legislators see the realities in CTE and create scenarios where it becomes personal to them.	Maintaining business and community partnerships in a virtual world	Working with Legislators & Funding Committees
Two pieces of the educator recruitment and retention puzzle: professional development and curricular resources working together for maximum impact	Tammy Bonner	Jennifer Brooks		Recruitment and retention of quality CTE educators has been a significant challenge for years. The session will examine the role of CTE-specific professional development in attracting and retaining industry professionals to CTE classrooms. We will discuss how providing targeted and relevant professional development opportunities through a state-wide network of providers enhances new CTE teachers' skills and knowledge while also supporting their personal and professional growth and efficacy. We will also explore the impact of providing quality, aligned curricular resources as part of the state-wide recruitment and retention strategy for CTE teachers. Instructional tools, lessons, labs, and projects designed for CTE by CTE that save teachers time and build their confidence while being relevant, engaging, and responsive to the diverse needs of students help support positive, engaging, and dynamic learning experiences for students.	High-quality CTE teacher recruitment, engagement, and retention	Recruitment and Retention of CTE educators
Growing Confident Learners: Our Journey to True Mastery Based Learning	Barry Daulton	Katie Kline	Jaimie Smith	Do you want your students to focus more on learning and less on grading? Are you tired of hearing the questions, "Is this for a grade?" or "Why are we doing this activity?" Would you like to learn how to give feedback on learning versus justifying a grade that may be forgotten? Join us to learn how U.S. Grant Career Center tackled these questions and started the journey to Mastery Based Learning in both career tech and academic classrooms. Hear from the teachers and administrators on the rationale for developing a mastery-based learning approach at the high school level, how the system was created, the feedback provided by students and staff and how we have improved the system for the future.	Post-Secondary CTE initiatives/innovative programs/collaboration with secondary programs	Standards Based Grading
Recruiting and Retaining High Quality CTE Teachers	Ebon Brown			Learn about how Beaumont Unified School District, a CTE powerhouse, has created a new CTE Teacher Salary Schedule that honors 15 years of industry experience as relevant teaching experience! You will take away innovative strategies that you can use in your district to attract, recruit and retain the industry's best!	High-quality CTE teacher recruitment, engagement, and retention	High Quality CTE Teacher Recruitment and Retention.

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Butler Tech Lottery: Busting Equitable Barriers in CTE for students and the aftereffects in the community (may change the title later)	Tiffany Jones			With the changing scope of admission and enrollment practices in education, how do you educate a district about equitable changes in selecting students for opportunities as CTE interest increases? In this presentation, Butler Tech representatives from Recruitment, Counselor Administration, and Marketing will review their ongoing transition from Interview Acceptance Enrollment to Lottery Acceptance Enrollment processes going into year three. The session will include the steps, timelines, and data, along with an open panel discussion for questions to each administrator.	Inclusion, Access, Equity, and Diversity	CTE Recruitment and Enrollment
Finding Purpose: Beyond the Curriculum	Aaron Polansky			<p>The benefits of gratitude start with the dopamine system, because feeling grateful activates the brain stem region that produces dopamine." Alex Korb, PhD.</p> <p>"When threatening conditions do not exist, the Reticular Activating System focuses its attention on stimuli that arouse curiosity. This is the "key to the gate." The brain seeks input about the new, the unexpected, the colorful, musical, moving, aromatic sensations." Dr. Judy Willis</p> <p>The best educators elicit curiosity and innovation in their students through passion, competence, and connection. The day to day demands of curriculum and protocol can often feel overwhelming in a world where a clear mind contributes to our best work. Neuroscientists and psychologists have routinely proven the importance of culture in education. 'Finding Purpose: Beyond the Curriculum' focuses on the importance that school culture plays in our quest to reinforce a growth mindset and will provide attendees with take-aways that result in a culture where staff, students, and families are encouraged to communicate authentically, learn creatively, and contribute passionately. The formula shared is simple with implications that will last a lifetime.</p> <p>Aaron will share a story decorated with peer-modeling, direct-speak, and innovative approaches that reach far beyond curriculum. This approach founded in social-emotional well-being, has led to the transformation of students and educators on a multitude of levels. Leave smiling and inspired as you change the way you teach and transform the way you think.</p>	Social and emotional health-students and instructors	SEL
The LRC: A Career Hub Offering Expanded and Equitable Opportunities	Lindsey R Hoerbert	Charlotte Oates	Maureen DuRant	<p>Lawton Public Schools' (LPS) goal to prepare "Life Ready Graduates" includes several roads to expand opportunities for every student and to respond to the growing economic needs of our community.</p> <p>One thoroughfare includes Career and Technology Education (CTE) concepts explored in all content areas and at all grade levels. We'll introduce session participants to the paths students travel beginning with the Elementary Maker Spaces where our youngest students delve into design process thinking, hands-on learning, and collaborating. Then, we'll travel to the Middle School Technology Application Programs (LTAP) where core subjects such as math and science are taught in conjunction with instruction in automotive maintenance, carpentry, agriculture, and welding.</p> <p>Finally, we'll give you an in-depth look at the Life Ready Center (LRC), a college & career hub offering flexible opportunities for high school students across our district and how CTE has been reinvigorated in LPS through the LRC.</p> <p>Finally, we'll give you an overview of building the LRC, our challenges, and the successes we're enjoying including a designation by the Oklahoma State Department of Education as a "Career Pathways Promising Practices" school.</p>	Inclusion, Access, Equity, and Diversity	Breaking down barriers to provide equitable opportunities for all students.
"I'm a Completer Now What? Post Secondary Partnerships to Ensure Student Success	Justin Wilkinson	Lindsey Hardee		How a rural district and partner community college work together to meet workforce needs and provide individualized services to students. How we use data to drive programmatic decisions and ensure student success.	Post-Secondary CTE initiatives/innovative programs/collaboration with secondary programs	Post Secondary Partnerships/Innovative Programs

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Getting Creative with Work-Based Learning (WBL) Experiences	Mac Beaton			<p>Giving students opportunities to experience careers before they graduate is one of the best ways to both lower the risk of postsecondary decision-making and build soft skills. But lack of local opportunities and other logistics often make it hard to meet student demand.</p> <p>During this session, explore 5 innovative models Henrico County Public Schools is using to circumvent common WBL issues and expand offerings to more students across a range of grade levels. Get ideas for building meaningful workforce partnerships in your local community by aligning student and community needs.</p>	Integrating work-based learning into in-person and remote instruction	New strategies for providing scalable WBL opportunities
"Here's Your Keys, Good Luck!": Successful Onboarding of CTE Instructors	Dimitria Harding	Dawn Easley		How do you onboard new CTE instructors entering academia directly from the industry? Many institutions give the instructor the keys, possibly books and syllabi, and say, "Good Luck."	High-quality CTE teacher recruitment, engagement, and retention	Successful Onboarding of Postsecondary CTE instructors
Polaris Career Center's Career Development Framework	Diane Xander			In this presentation, you will be introduced to Polaris Career Center's (PCC) career development framework which includes three pillars: career awareness and exploration, career planning, and workforce development. The audience will learn specific strategies and initiatives that focus on helping students with career planning, post-graduation preparation, employability skills training, and authentic work-based learning opportunities. PCC's framework is designed to ensure that every student has the support and resources necessary to obtain their college, career, and/or employment goals upon graduation.	Post-Secondary CTE initiatives/innovative programs/collaboration with secondary programs	Career and Workforce Development
Explore, Lead, LIFT: 21st Century Skills at a Regional Innovation Center	Christy Hild	Jessica Closson	Dan Compton	Leaders Innovating for Tomorrow, or LIFT, is a regional innovation center for junior- and senior-level high school students, focused on infusing proven leadership strategies throughout seven CTE pathways. A competency-based approach enables students from 28 districts to earn credentials, certificates, and dual credit in a variety of pathways as they explore future possibilities, engage in leadership skills, and LIFT the regional workforce as they prepare for their next steps.	Post-Secondary CTE initiatives/innovative programs/collaboration with secondary programs	Industry Partnerships, Rural Workforce Development, Leadership and SEL Skills, Planning & Developing a Regional Institute from Design through Construction and Implementation
Fusing federal legislation into Career and Technical Education initiatives to expand inclusive postsecondary higher education opportunities for students with intellectual disabilities.	W. Drew Andrews	Jon Williams		This session will provide the connection between federal legislation and policies that provide guidance and support to increase inclusive postsecondary education opportunities for students with intellectual disabilities in career and technical education with information on current programs and resources.	Inclusion, Access, Equity, and Diversity	Implementation of federal guidance and supports to increase postsecondary CTE access for students with intellectual disabilities.
Student recruitment	Tom Bayless	Alex Milanese		The Nicholas County Career and Technical Center has developed a recruiting model wrapped around engaging micro-career exploration projects that has led to record breaking enrollment year and year. Learn how the school evolved their recruiting efforts to maximize traditional and non-traditional student enrollment. The recruiting model has gained national recognition from the Southern Education Regional Board (SREB) and the school has received consecutive National Pacesetters Awards based around this work.	Inclusion, Access, Equity, and Diversity	CTE Recruitment
Making Soft Skills Stick – 6 Measurable Ways to Positively Impact Student Behavior	Kelli Lancaster	Jordy Johnson		Have you ever been drawn into an infomercial? The product they are selling is guaranteed to solve all your problems and simplify your life. Sometimes, the product does not live up to the hype! That can be said of soft skills training - if not done in an impactful way. Students need to practice soft skills to bring about real lasting change. During the session, you won't be in your seat long, before participating in a hands-on activity, which teaches an understanding of employment basics – you know showing up on time, doing what you say you will do and working well with others. Take this activity back to your classroom. We will provide practical scenarios which focus on professionalism, critical thinking, and problem solving as they relate to behavior styles. Next, a case-study driven portion of our time together, demonstrates real growth and change in students highlighting a hybrid approach to teaching soft skills; detailing implementation and results of social and emotional support at a career center with 23 different programs from both teacher and student perspectives. Ensuring Students are college and career ready means focusing on soft skills. Join us to learn 6 measurable techniques to change student behavior, now in your classroom, and to prepare them for the workplace. The employer approved methodology can be immediately applied and help prepare your students for success.	Social and emotional health-students and instructors	Soft skills/Social and Emotional Learning