

The Communique

CareerTech VISION 2012

Registration is now open for the NEW version of the ACTE Annual Conference held in Atlanta, Georgia Nov. 28th-Dec. 1st!

See page 6

Your Professional
Voice



Can Anyone Tell Me What APP I Need?

By Jason Speck
ACTEN President

Spending the last week of July in Washington D.C. with students at Washington Leadership Conference (WLC), I have come to rely on my iPhone / iPad quite a bit. From using it to navigate, take pictures, find out information, to listening to audio about some historical site, I keep asking myself, "How did I survive without it?"

Since technology is ever changing, and my administration wants me to share it and use it when it is available, I have gone to as many workshops that I could over the past several years to learn all I can about how to better utilize iPads in my classroom.

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**Quick link to CareerTech VISION
2012 Registration**

<https://www.acteonline.org/vision.aspx>

\$1000 donated to CEFN Scholarships
through Sumo Wrestling and other events!

More details on page 5!

ACTEN 2011-2012 Board



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After technology overload and sifting through hundreds... no thousands...of different apps, I have found that there is not much you can't find out by using your iPad or smart phone and a quick downloaded app. By just Googling different topics or ideas to use in my classroom, I have been able to find several apps that other teachers have used and liked. By using those resources I have shortened the time it takes to find, research and decide on apps that can be used in my classrooms.

If I was not able to beg, borrow or steal information from other Ag teachers from around the country, I would not use technology as much as I do in my daily teaching (thanks Kurt Wissenburg for your link - [esu3ipads - home](http://esu3ipads-home) and Robin McLean for your info link - <http://robinsjoyofliving.blogspot.com/2011/09/theres-app-for-that-thinking-big.html>).

For those of you who are wary about using new technology, I challenge you to find one new app a week to be used in your classroom this year and by the end of the year you should have 30+ new ways of teaching your students. Now, I need to go and check out some more apps that I am going to use with my students.

SAVE the DATE!

NCE Conference
June 4-6, 2013

Younes Conference Center
Kearney, NE



Outstanding Career and Technical Education Teachers Recognized

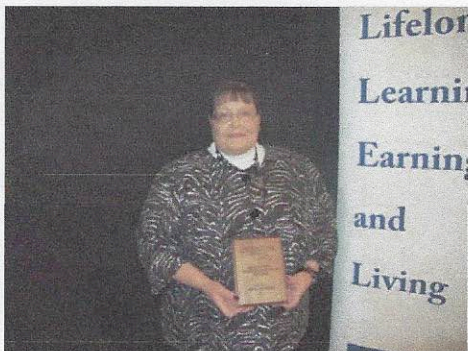
The Association for Career and Technical Education of Nebraska (ACTEN) was pleased to recognize six outstanding members on June 7th at the Nebraska Career Education Conference in Kearney. Congratulations to this year's recipients!



Kathleen J. Mitchell, Wakefield Community School, recipient of the Outstanding Family and Consumer Sciences Education Teacher Award. Mrs. Mitchell was also selected as the Outstanding Career and Technical Education Teacher of the Year for 2012.



Angela Mann, Battle Creek Public High School, recipient of the Outstanding New Career and Technical Education Teacher Award.



Jean Condon, Mid-Plains Community College in North Platte, recipient of the Outstanding Business Education Teacher Award.



Cindy Talley, Fillmore Central High School, recipient of the Outstanding Service Award.



Celeste Rogers, Sandhills Public Schools, recipient of the Outstanding Teacher in Community Service Award.



Kristyn Harms, Norris High School, received the 2012 Outstanding Member Award.

Nebraska FBLA Students Attend National Leadership Conference



Brent Comstock with FBLA Adviser Mrs. Hahn.

Nebraska Future Business Leaders of America members competed June 29-July 2 at the FBLA National Leadership Conference in San Antonio Texas. Forty-three FBLA students received 28 Top 10 Awards, including 7 first-place awards.

Brent Comstock, Nebraska FBLA State Vice President from Auburn High School, was elected Vice President for the nine-state Mountain Plains Region. Comstock is one of nine students from across the nation elected to serve as a national officer.

First Place

- Ashley Quiring of Heartland High School, Accounting II
- Stephanie Teten of Johnson-Brock High School, Agribusiness
- Myan Bhoopalam and Tianye Chen of Lincoln East High School, Banking and Financial Systems
- Jordan Bowman, Lauren Bowman and Cody Brown, Elmwood-Murdock High School, Community Service Project
- Amy Chin of Lakeview High School, Free Enterprise
- Lacy Uden, Adams Central High School, Electronic Career Portfolio
- Kaitlyn Quiring, Heartland High School, Word Processing I

Second Place

- Colin Janitscheck and Adam Ripp of Pleasanton High School, E-business
- Logan Meisinger of York High School, Personal Finance
- Derek Ohlin of Aurora High School, Sports Management
- Akshay Rajagopal of Lincoln East High School, Global Business

Third Place

- Spencer Morris of Twin River High School, Client Service
- Bridget Fleischer, Austin Koch and Akshay Rajagopal of Lincoln East High School, Global Business
- Josh Jochim, Andy Nelson and Nick Smith of Platteview High School, Marketing

Fourth Place

- Collin Sears, Steve Leshner and Zach Biere of Kearney High School, Business Ethics

Fifth Place

- Cody Brown of Heartland High School, Accounting II
- Michael Liou of Lincoln East High School, Future Business Leader
- Brent Comstock of Auburn High School, Web Site Design

Sixth Place

- Cody McCain of Tri County High School, FBLA Principles and Procedures
- Ryan Lunz of Laurel-Concord-Coleridge High School, Health Care Administration
- Ryan Kula of Gretna High School, Help Desk

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Fillmore Central High School Designated Blue Star School

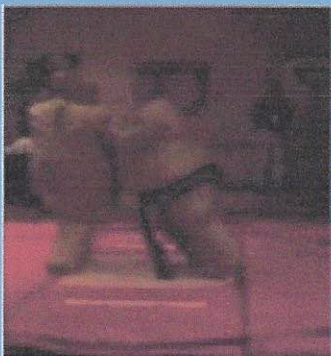
How “wise” are you when it comes to managing personal finances? Students at Fillmore Central High School have shown they have what it takes to manage money by participating in a national program sponsored by the Financial Literacy Certification Program based in New York. Recently Instructor Cindy Talley was informed that Fillmore Central High School has earned the designation of Blue Star School for students’ exceptional performance on the 2010-2011 Financial Literacy Certification Test. This program, which began in 2003, is now offered in twenty-seven states nationally. Dave Anderson, Executive Vice President, states, “To earn this coveted award is no small feat. A school must achieve a 75% passing rate on our test **and** have EITHER a majority of students on a given grade level take the test OR have the students who took it achieve an average score of 80% or higher. We are truly proud of your students’ accomplishment.” Fillmore Central along with Wausa and Wakefield were the only three schools in Nebraska to be recognized with this honor.

Each school recently received a banner to hang in the business department along with each certified student receiving a certificate of successful completion. In addition, Cindy Talley received notice that she was awarded the distinguished title of Gold Star Teacher for her students’ outstanding performance on the Financial Literacy Certification Tests in the 2010-2011 school year. Earning Gold Star status means that 90% or more of the students in one or more of the awarded teachers’ classes passed the Certification Test.

Fillmore Central was chosen as one of 12 Nebraska pilot schools to receive free certification opportunities based on Talley’s participation in the Personal Finance Institute in which she enrolled for college credit in the summer of 2010. Since then, the W!SE Institute has provided free certification testing for her students. For the 2011-2012 school year, students took the test in the fall and scored well. Second semester Personal Finance students were tested in May.

Fillmore Central was one of the first schools in the state to adopt Personal Finance as a graduation requirement over 30 years ago. The class has provided students with the tools they need to become financially capable young adults. Receiving the Financial Literacy Certification provides students with a widely acclaimed credential that will help them on college applications and in their search for work. The course covers topics such as wise money management, budgeting, banking, saving and investment practices, credit, and insurance.

Sumo Wrestling Returned to NCE Conference 2012



Career Education Foundation of Nebraska along with the Department of Education and ACTEN once again sponsored a night of Sumo Wrestling, Jousting, and Bungee Running to raise money for CEFN. Money raised is used to sponsor the CEFN Student Scholarships and Teacher Grants.

\$ 1000 was raised during the conference. Thanks to all who participated in the events!!

Lifelong
Learning,
Earning,
and
Living



Marilyn McGahan Recognized

Marilyn McGahan, retired Vice-President and CEO of Mid-Plains Community College, was presented with the Elaine Stuhr Leadership for Nebraska Career Education Award for 2012 at the Nebraska Career Education Conference in June. This award is co-sponsored by Nebraska Career Education and ACTE of Nebraska to recognize the remarkable example of leadership and advocacy for Nebraska Career Education

provided by Senator Elaine Stuhr throughout her teaching career and her years of public service in the Nebraska Unicameral.

Marilyn McGahan's passion for career education began as a teacher at St. Patrick's High School in North Platte. Her strong commitment to quality career education continued as she became a Business Education instructor at Mid-Plains Community College in 1971 and then assumed the role of Vice-President in 2003. She is described by colleagues as an innovator and early adopter--especially in technology.

During her time as Vice-President, Marilyn was a true advocate for career education by assisting faculty and staff in expanding career and technical education course offerings and degree programs and overseeing Carl D. Perkins funding. Her dedication to career education extends beyond the west central Nebraska area, as evidenced by her recent service on the Leadership Council for Partnerships for Innovation. Other statewide leadership roles include service as President of the Nebraska Vocational Association (1993-94), Vocational Foundation of Nebraska Board member (1993-95) and President of the Nebraska State Business Education Association (1986-87).



Brought to you by...



An International Summit on Excellence in CTE

Career and technical education professionals from across the country and around the world will gather in Atlanta at the Georgia World Congress Center, Nov. 28-Dec. 1, for the most exciting and talked-about CTE event of the year--CareerTech VISION 2012!

Advance registration rate expires on Oct. 29; so don't miss your chance to save big on this new vision of CTE! Go now to <https://www.acteonline.org/vision.aspx> and get registered!!

Welcome New ACTEN Members!!

New Professional Members

Family and Consumer Sciences

Carol Fairfax
Cindy Reeves
Jolene Schlemmer

Business Education

Lisa Alfrey
Lori Harding
Mary Janssen
Shawn McInay
Melissa Schram

Guidance and Career Development

Melissa Hansen

New and Related Services

Brenda Gronewold

Trade and Industrial Education

Scott Kneifl
Brittany Staack
Randy Stribley

Engineering and Technology Education

Jamie Glover
Dana Janssen
Tony Reisdorff
Travis Simpson

Administration

Barb Waller

New Student Member

Trade and Industrial Education

Shane Peterson

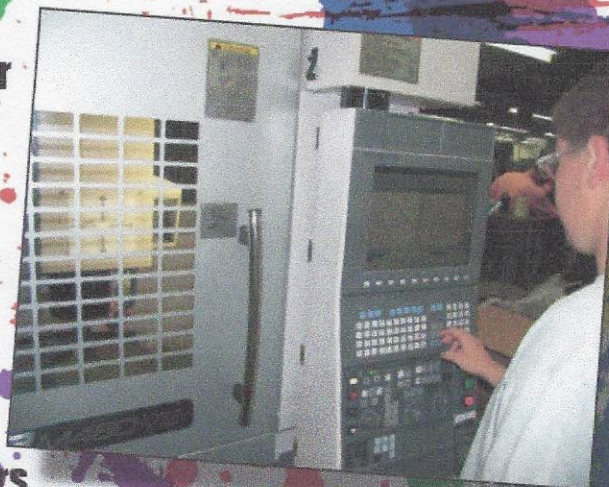
**#1 in U.S. in number of grads
in Precision Production career
fields 8 consecutive years**

**#8 among U.S. community
colleges for student success
rate (76%)**

**Top 10% of U.S. community
colleges two consecutive years**

**At least 9 out of 10 SCC graduates
find work or continue their education each year**

**According to recent statistics, 82% of SCC graduates
remained in Nebraska to work**

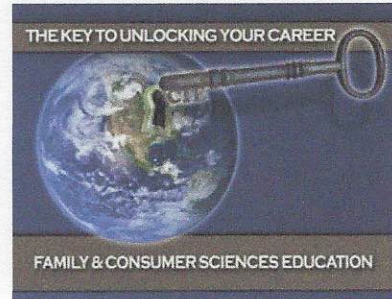


Machine-Tool Technology
Lincoln and Milford campuses

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FCSTN Recognizes Teachers at NCE Conference

FCSTN held their annual Awards Dessert Reception during the NCE Conference. Several teachers were recognized for their dedication to professional development and received the "Developer Award". Anne Schmall and Angela Mann received the Melinda Holcombe Scholarship. Retiring FCS teachers were also recognized and thanked for their years of service to the profession. Gregg Christiansen was presented the Community Partnership Award. Ann Schmall was announced as the FCSTN Teacher of the Year 1-5 Year and Lisa Groth was recognized as the FCSTN Teacher of the Year 6-12 Years; while Cathy Kloch was presented as the FCSTN Teacher of the Year 13+ years. Cheryl Gustafson received the FCSTN Special Service Award.



Ronita Jacobsen recognizes Anne Schmall as the FCSTN Teacher of the Year in the 1-5 year Division.



FCSTN Teachers receiving the Developer Award.



Ronita Jacobsen presented the FCSTN Teacher of the Year in the 13+ Division to Cathy Kloch.



Ronita Jacobsen recognized Lisa Groth as the FCSTN Teacher of the Year in the 5-12 Years Division.



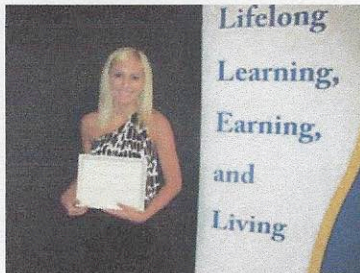
Lisa Groth and Ruth Epley present Gregg Christiansen with the Community Partnership Award.



Ronita Jacobsen presented the FCSTN Special Services Award to Cheryl Gustafson.

Career Education Foundation of Nebraska Scholarship Awards for 2012

The Career Education Foundation of Nebraska (CEFN) awarded scholarships to four Nebraska secondary career education students this year. Scholarship recipients were recognized at the Nebraska Career Education Conference on June 7, 2012, in Kearney. This year's scholarship recipients include:



Tana Stansberry, a graduate of Cedar Bluffs High School, received an Outstanding Secondary Career and Technical Education Student award. CEFN will provide a \$1,000 scholarship for Tana to continue her career and technical education at the University of Nebraska - Omaha, where she plans to pursue a degree in occupational therapy.



Bennett Cromwell, a graduate of Twin River Public School, received an Outstanding Secondary Career and Technical Education Student award. CEFN will provide a \$1,000 scholarship for Bennett to continue his career and technical education at the University of Nebraska, as a business administration major.



Jacob Killinger, a graduate of Greeley-Wolbach High School, received an Outstanding Secondary Special Populations Career and Technical Education Student award. CEFN will provide a \$1,000 scholarship for Jacob to continue his career and technical education at Central Community College in Grand Island, where he plans to earn a degree in welding.



Michaela Sirek, a graduate of Plainview High School, received this year's Teacher of the Year scholarship. This scholarship is given in recognition of Mrs. Ronita Jacobsen, family and consumer sciences teacher and FCCLA adviser at Plainview High School, and ACTE of Nebraska's Teacher of the Year for 2011. CEFN will provide a \$500 scholarship for Michaela to continue her career and technical education at Wayne State College, where she plans to major in education.

The Career Education Foundation of Nebraska is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. CEFN provides scholarships to secondary career and technical education students from Nebraska to continue their career and technical education at a Nebraska postsecondary institution.

Many thanks to the Nebraska Career Education Conference planners for organizing the sumo wrestling, jousting and bungee run fundraisers and to everyone who participated (or sponsored someone else to participate) in the events. Proceeds from the fundraiser will be used to fund the CEFN Scholarship Program.

Continued from page 4...

Seventh Place

- Parker Ayres, Carson Blum and Christain Schwenka of Minden High School, Business Plan
- Bill Spilker of Tri County High School, Computer Game and Simulation Programming
- Sondra Buller of Heartland High School, Hospitality Management
- Kyra Valentine of Bellevue West High School, Job Interview
- Matt Jensen, Trevor Koger and Tabitha Urban of Arlington High School, Partnership with Business

Eighth Place

- Amy Chin of Lakeview High School, Personal Finance

Ninth Place

- Mitch Misfeldt of Blair High School, Business Procedures

Tenth Place

- Nick Behrends of Johnson-Brock High School, E-business

Top 15 Finalists

- Beth Koca and Sally Moore of Fillmore Central High School, Banking and Financial Systems
- Tyler Stansberry of Bennington High School, Help Desk
- Jason Kneifl, Shayna Johnson and Amanda Winstead of Laurel-Concord-Coleridge High School, Management Information Systems
- Amy Chen of Gibbon High School, Seth Berggren of Blair High School, Danny Wythers of Fillmore Central High School and Mason Holmes of Chase County High School, Parliamentary Procedure Team
- Zoe Tuttle of Elmwood-Murdock High School, Public Speaking II

National Business Achievement Awards – America Level (top award in this four-level program)

- Brent Comstock, Auburn High School
- Amy Chin of Lakeview High School

National Recognition Events Award Winners

- Amy Chin of Lakeview High School, Who's Who in FBLA

National Recognition Events Award Winners

- Pat Hinkle of Bellevue West High School, Nebraska Outstanding Local Adviser
- Dundy County Stratton, Eco Chapter Award

The following members completed terms on the FBLA Mountain Plains Region Executive Board:

- Brent Comstock, Auburn High School, National President's Assistant
- Dean Detten, Gretna High School, Mountain Plains Vice President's Assistant
- Taylor Marten, Sandhills High School, Mountain Plains Secretary
- Ryan Kula, Gretna High School, National Treasurer's Council
- Trevor Sorensen, Minden High School, National Parliamentarian's Council

Gold Seal Chapter Award of Merit

Arlington High School, Aurora High School, Bellevue West High School, Blair High School, Dundy County Stratton High School, Elmwood-Murdock High School, Fairbury High School, Fillmore Central High School, Johnson-Brock High School, Lakeview High School, Litchfield High School, Minden High School, Omaha Northwest High School, Raymond Central High School, Roncalli Catholic High School in Omaha, Sandhills High School, Sandy Creek High School, Syracuse High School, Tri County High School, Twin River High School, and Wood River High School

Outstanding Chapter Award

- Blair High School
- Elmwood-Murdock High School
- Fillmore Central High School
- Johnson-Brock High School

Mountain Plains Region Recognitions

- First Place, Nebraska FBLA, Largest Increase in State Membership
- Second Place, Nebraska FBLA, Largest State Chapter Membership
- Second Place, Twin River High School, Professional Division Membership