

2018-19 Newsletter e-Blasts

October 3, 2018

New Student Video Contest: *Working Out of This World*

ACTE, host of CTE Month®, and NASA HUNCH are excited to collaborate on this year's student video challenge, showcasing career and technical education (CTE) and project-based learning programs in high-demand 21st-century career fields on earth and in space. HUNCH stands for High School Students United with NASA to Create Hardware and is looking to extend its message of empowering students through project-based learning to CTE students across the nation. Visit the [website](#) for ideas related to this year's video theme, *Working Out of This World*. The deadline to submit a video is the first day of CTE Month, **Feb. 1**.

October 5, 2018

Big Win for CTE in FY 2019 Funding Bill

Congress has approved a Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 appropriations bill that will increase funding for the Perkins Basic State Grant by \$70 million — bringing the total to nearly \$1.

October 7, 2018

You Tube vs Textbooks—Interesting Read

Poll: Gen Z prefers YouTube over textbooks Fifty-nine percent of Generation Z -- those ages 14 to 23 -- say they prefer learning via YouTube over traditional textbooks, according to a poll by Pearson Education. They polled 2,500 people between ages 14 and 40 and found that only 47% of Generation Z students preferred textbooks, compared with 60% of millennials.

October 17, 2018

3 strategies for teaching coding in all subjects

There are three steps that educators can take to integrate coding across the curriculum to teach problem-solving and prepare students for future careers, asserts Nick Provenzano, an English teacher and technology curriculum specialist in Michigan. He suggests factoring in students' opinions, using the right tools and being comfortable with "trial and error." [SmartBrief/Education](#) (10/9)

October 19, 2018

ACTEN President's Welcome

We at the Association for Career and Technical Education of Nebraska want to extend a heart felt thanks for joining our professional association! ACTEN was established in 1946, as a way to empower educators to deliver high quality CTE programs to all students and to make sure they are in a position to have success in the career field of their choice. We are nationally affiliated with the Association of Career and Technical Educators, and together we advocate on issues important to career and technical education.

The ACTEN chapter needs your help to make our organization better for you to be able to have more opportunities for your students in the Career and Technical Education field. We will be holding our ACTEN meeting in October in Grand Island and would love for anyone who wants to help move our organization in bettering ourselves, please feel free to join!

I want to thank you again for becoming a member and I want you to encourage others to join our association! I look forward to a great year of teaching our students that the possibilities are endless in the Career and Technical Education field!

Morgan Trausch, 2018-19 ACTEN President

October 22, 2018

Meet the 2018-19 Officers of ACTEN

Morgan Trausch is your ACTEN president. Morgan is an Agricultural Education Instructor at Lawrence-Nelson Public Schools. (Email-- mtrausch@southcentralunified.org)

Dan Phillips is your newly elected president-elect. Dan is the director of the Career Pathways Institute for Grand Island Public Schools. (Email--dphillips@gips.org)

Jeremy Cowley is the past president. Jeremy is the Program Director at the Omaha Career Center for the Omaha Public Schools. (Email—jeremy.cowley@ops.org)

Emily Anderson is the ACTEN secretary. Emily is an FCS teacher at Omaha Bryan High School. (Email—emily.anderson@ops.org)

DeLayne Havlovic is the treasurer of our organization. DeLayne is a Curriculum Supervisor for Omaha Public Schools. (Email—delayne.havlovic@ops.org)

The officers are serving for your organization. If you have any questions for them, please don't hesitate to contact them.

October 24, 2018

ACTEN and Social Media

Did you know that ACTEN is on social media?
Please like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter!

Facebook: ActeNebraska
Twitter: @ACTENebraska

October 29, 2018

Representatives on the ACTEN Board

Please welcome the CTE educators who represent your specific discipline. These representatives are your voice for CTE in Nebraska. Please don't hesitate to contact them should you have questions, concerns, or comments on how the Association for Career and Technical Education of Nebraska can better serve you and your program.

Steven Woodside serves as the Administration Division representative. Steven is the principal at Columbus High School. ([Email—woodsides@discoverers.org](mailto:woodsides@discoverers.org))

Tyler Schindler and Casey Carriker serve as the Agriculture Education Division representatives. Tyler is an Ag teacher at Omaha Bryan High School. ([Email—tyler.schindler@ops.org](mailto:tyler.schindler@ops.org)) Casey is the Ag instructor at Crete High School. ([Email—casey.carriker@creteschools.org](mailto:casey.carriker@creteschools.org))

Angie Chittick is the division representative for Business Education. Angie is a Business and Technology Instructor at Mid-Plains Community College in North Platte. ([Email—chitticka@mpcc.edu](mailto:chitticka@mpcc.edu))

Camelle Kinney and Anne Schmall serve as the Family and Consumer Sciences Division representatives. Camelle is the FCS teacher at North Star High School in Lincoln. ([Email—ckinney@lps.org](mailto:ckinney@lps.org)) Anne is a FCS teacher at Bluffs Middle School in Scottsbluff. ([Email—aschmall@sbps.net](mailto:aschmall@sbps.net))

Rick Painter is the division representative for Guidance and Career Development. Rick is a Guidance Counselor at Omaha Bryan High School. ([Email—Richard.Painter@ops.org](mailto:Richard.Painter@ops.org))

Debra Ziegler serves as the Health Science Technology Education division representative. Debra is a Health Sciences teacher at Ralston High School. ([Email—debral_ziegler@ralstonschools.org](mailto:debral_ziegler@ralstonschools.org))

Dave Gee is the ACTEN division representative for Engineering and Technology Education. Dave is an Industrial Technology teacher at Nebraska Christian Schools. ([Email—dgee@nebraskachristian.org](mailto:dgee@nebraskachristian.org))

Brittany McPhillips serves as the Marketing Division representative. Brittany is a Business and Marketing teacher at Central City High School. (Email—
bmcphillips@centralcityps.org)

Cindy Baum is the representative for New and Related Services division. Cindy is the Career and Technical Education Curriculum Specialist at Lincoln Public Schools. (Email--
cbaum2@lps.org)

Kathleen Kennedy represents Nebraska Career Education Innovation Foundation on our board. Kathleen is a FCS teacher at Central Valley Schools. (Email—
kathleen.kennedy@centralvps.org)

Deb Wolken serves as our web master. Deb is a business teacher at Lincoln Northeast High School. (Email—dwolken@lps.org)

Katie Graham is the Nebraska Department of Education representative to the ACTEN board. Katie is the State Director for Nebraska Career Education. (Email—
katie.graham@nebraska.gov)

We currently have three divisions that do not have a representative to the board. Those divisions are Adult Workforce Development, Trades and Industry, and Special Populations. If you are interested in serving as a representative to the board, please contact me.

November 4, 2018

Manufacturing Day in Columbus for Local HS Students

Area businesses in Columbus helped to celebrate the fifth annual National Manufacturing Day by opening their doors to Platte County high school students allowing them the opportunity to explore local careers.

Each year, students from Platte County and its surrounding areas spend the day touring local companies which highlight available career opportunities.

Juli Thelen, public relations director for Nebraska Advanced Manufacturing Coalition, said the goal is to highlight the different career opportunities in hopes of closing the skills gap in Columbus, as well as retaining future skilled workers in the community.

There were 10 participating high schools this year, which included CHS, Lakeview, Scotus Central Catholic, Humphrey, Leigh, Clarkson, Howells-Dodge, East Butler, David City and Wisner-Pilger.

For more information click on this link:

https://columbustelegram.com/news/local/students-explore-local-career-options-on-manufacturing-day/article_6600ef96-ba1e-584b-b458-66704e1d591f.html

Trump Seeks Cut for Education

Recently, President Donald Trump announced that he will seek a 5 percent cut across most federal Cabinet departments, including the U.S. Department of Education, for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020, which begins next October. This proposed across-the-board cut to nondefense discretionary funding will likely be included in the president's FY 2020 budget request to Congress early next year.

In September, Congress approved, with overwhelming bipartisan support, a final FY 2019 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education appropriations bill that will increase funding for the Perkins Basic State Grant by \$70 million--bringing the total to nearly \$1.263 billion for next school year (2019-20)! This comes on top of a \$75 million boost in Perkins funding in the FY 2018 funding measure. The proposal to cut overall funding for education programs in FY 2020 could jeopardize the important gains in Perkins funding going forward. Continue to let your Members of Congress know that you support increasing our investment in Perkins!

November 6, 2018

Lincoln Southeast students get to experience agriculture

The Career Academy folks took their agriculture/biosciences courses on the road Monday, regaling Southeast students with the propagation of corkscrew willow plants, the notching of pigs' ears and the benefits of drones on the farm. For more information about how Lincoln Southeast students are getting a glimpse into how agriculture could play into their future.

https://journalstar.com/news/local/education/southeast-students-get-a-glimpse-at-how-agriculture-could-play/article_187955c7-7c0b-5f52-8187-bbf424ffd162.html

If you have any articles about your program in your local paper or elsewhere, please let me know. I would love to share your successes with the rest of our members.

November 7, 2018

Gear Up for CTE Month!

CTE Month is a few short months away. Now is the time to start planning.

As you plan your CTE Month ® activities for February, celebrate with products that showcase awareness for CTE. Choose from mood color-changing products, such as pens, pencils and bracelets, as well as balloons, reflective zipper pulls and more.

Spotlight School: Plattsmouth High School—Rule 47 Career Academy

Plattsmouth High School's wall-to-wall academies are based on its students' current learning interests and career goals. Students benefit from this academy model in many important ways. From the start, students gain a sense of belonging as they are grouped within small learning communities within the larger school. This allows students to become engaged immediately with the integrated applied content and feel supported by a core group of teachers as well as classmates with similar learning and career interests.

Moreover, these academies offer students various opportunities to participate in designed programs of study while receiving industry certifications and real world experiences through job shadowing, internships, business mentorships, and partnerships with businesses in related fields. Through these experiences, Plattsmouth students better understand the importance and relevance of their education.

Plattsmouth High School was recently featured in The Good News Series by the Nebraska Department of Education. The article shared that students at Plattsmouth High School are preparing for the future liked never before. The school was awarded a Nebraska Innovation Grant to refine its Wall-to-Wall Academy program. The PHS model is based on student interests, learning preferences, and career goals and involves extensive partnerships with community businesses and educational programs.

Students are responding positively to the program that provides hands-on-experience in real world situations. In the article, students shared their enthusiasm about the program. It's not just the students. Parents have seen big changes as well.

In the nomination submission for this award it was stated, "Plattsmouth has created an innovative structure for their career education instruction which is based on Nebraska's Career Education Model and state model programs of study. They have not only considered their students' academic and technical skill growth, but their motivational growth as well, taking into account learning style preferences in their career academy framework. Student leadership and personal development, effective career guidance and workplace experience offerings, as well as community engagement are evident."

2017-18 Newsletter Blasts

If you missed news articles from ACTEN for the 2017-18 school year, you may see them all on our ACTEN website at <http://actenebraska.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/2017-18-Newsletter-e-Blasts.pdf>.

December 7, 2018

In Case You Missed It—Interesting read about noise levels!

Research: Does noise affect math scores?

A study of high-school students in a high-poverty district found that about 40% of students said high noise levels affected their performance on a standardized math test. Researchers found that urban schools were noisier than suburban or rural schools, and the decibel levels at some schools were almost double the recommended level for classrooms.

[Education Week \(tiered subscription model\)](#) (11/5)

Project Search—A Great Program for Students with Special Needs

Project Search leads 2 Neb. students to jobs

Two students with special needs found a path to employment by participating in a Nebraska school district's Project Search program. Both students started by working at a Walmart distribution center while still students, which eventually led to one working there full time and the other on an employment path that included training to be an electrician.

[North Platte Telegraph \(Neb.\)](#) (11/25)

Culinary students prepare meals for dinner theater

Culinary students at an Arizona high school recently worked together in shifts to prepare about 1,000 meals during The Feast of Carols dinner theater program. Students prepared the meals to health code standards that restaurants follow.

[The White Mountain Independent \(Show Low, Ariz.\)](#) (12/4)

Nebraska Career Education Awards

Nebraska Career Education Awards Nominations and Application are now live!

Nebraska Career Education is pleased to announce that links to information for the 2019 Awards program are now live at <https://www.education.ne.gov/nce/nebraska-career-education-conference/awards/>.

Nebraska Career Education Awards Applications and Nominations are due on or before **February 1, 2019**. The awards will be presented at the annual Nebraska Career Education Conference Awards Luncheon at the Younes Conference Center in Kearney, Nebraska, June 4, 2019.

Richard Katt

Outstanding Nebraska Career Educator Award

2019

Application link: <http://bit.ly/CEeducatorawd2019>

Overview

This award honors one educator from each of the following career fields:

- Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources
- Business, Marketing, and Management
- Communication and Information Systems
- Human Sciences and Education (Family and Consumer Sciences/Education & Training)
 - Health Sciences
 - Skilled and Technical Sciences

The winning educator from each career field will be awarded \$1,000. The Richard Katt Outstanding Nebraska Career Educator will be selected through an interview process at the Nebraska Career Education Conference and will receive an additional \$2,500.

The Richard Katt Outstanding Career Educator will be required to present a session at the 2020 NCE Conference. The winning educators from each career field may also be asked to present a session at the Conference.

December 10, 2018

Spotlight Program

[FFA students repurpose floral arrangements](#)

High-school FFA students in a Nebraska district repurpose donated floral arrangements -- from funerals, weddings and other events -- through a program called Blooming Smiles. The students make smaller arrangements from the larger ones and donate them to assisted living facilities and at random homes.

[Omaha World-Herald \(Neb.\)](#) (11/22)

December 15, 2018

In Case You Missed—Nebraska Expands Focus on CTE

[Neb. expands focus on career, tech education](#)

Schools across Nebraska are focused increasingly on career and technical education, but officials say there is a shortage of qualified teachers for courses in the skilled trades. Greg Vander Weil, an assistant professor of teacher education for skilled and technical science at Wayne State College, said an initial issue may have been that teachers' salaries lagged behind industry wages.

[Omaha World-Herald \(Neb.\)](#) (11/26)

CTE Month Video Challenge

[CTE Month and NASA HUNCH Student Video Challenge](#)

ACTE and NASA HUNCH are excited to collaborate on this year's student video challenge, showcasing CTE and project-based learning programs in high-demand 21st-century career

fields on earth and in space. Visit the website for ideas related to this year's video theme, Working Out of This World. The deadline to submit a video is the first day of CTE Month, Feb. 1. [Learn more.](#)

ACTE Board of Directors Elections—VOTE Before December 31

[The ACTE Board of Directors 2019 Elections Are Open!](#)

As ACTE members, we encourage you to cast your vote by **Dec. 31** for the following board of directors positions:

- **President-elect:** Serves a one-year term beginning in July 2019, followed by one year as president and one year as past president
- **Region II Vice President:** Serves a three-year term beginning July 2019
- **Business Education Division Vice President:** Serves a three-year term beginning July 2019
- **New and Related Services Division Vice President:** Serves a three-year term beginning July 2019
- **Family and Consumer Sciences Education Vice President:** Serves a three-year term beginning July 2019
- **Region I Vice President-elect:** Serves a three-year term beginning July 2020
- **Region IV Vice President-elect:** Serves a three-year term beginning July 2020

All ACTE individual professional, retired, educational institution members and national affiliate organizations whose membership dues were received by Oct. 30 are eligible to vote. For questions, please contact support@directvote.net.

You should have received an email with more information on how to access the ballots and make your selections. If you do have issues, please contact support@directvote.net.

ACTEN Awards—Please Apply or Nominate Someone Today

ACTE/ACTEN Educator Awards

The ACTE Member Awards recognize excellence and dedication within the field of career and technical education among ACTE members. Recipients of these awards are exceptional individuals who have contributed to the success of CTE through the quality of their work and their involvement in the CTE community.

There are eight Member Awards presented:

ACTEN Teacher of the Year

ACTEN Outstanding Teacher by Division

ACTEN Postsecondary Teacher of the Year

ACTEN Teacher Educator of the Year
ACTEN New Teacher of the Year
ACTEN Administrator of the Year
ACTEN Career Guidance of the Year
ACTEN Carl Perkins Community Service Award

Candidates begin the application process by nominating themselves (or being nominated by a peer) for their state award. Candidates must hold the appropriate position at the time of initial nomination. Applicants may full- or part-time educators. **Award winners will receive a one-year membership in ACTE/ACTEN dues.**

Candidates should submit their applications on the ACTE Awards Portal at [acteonline](#) by March 1, 2019.

Applicants will be applying for the **2021** ACTE Member awards because the national ACTE Awards naming convention is a year ahead. Candidates for the 2020 Member Awards will undergo their review in Nebraska in 2019, Region V and National review in 2020, and National winners will be announced at ACTE's CareerTech VISION 2021. State award recipients will have an opportunity to update their applications prior to their application being advanced to the regional level of competition.

Applicants will need to create an account and password before he/she starts the application. He/she will also want to remember his/her password so that he/she can save the application and go back to work on it again later. The deadline to apply for ACTEN awards is March 1, 2019. If you have any questions, please contact the ACTEN office (402-525-8742 or actenebraska@gmail.com) for assistance.

ACTE/ACTEN Memberships as of October 1, 2018

As of October 1, 2018, ACTE/ACTEN membership is as follows. These records come from ACTE. Payment to ACTE and membership updates are not always timely. If your membership will expire soon, please renew at the [ACTE website](#). If all your CTE educators in your educational institution are not a member of ACTE/ACTEN, please encourage them to join. Let me know if you have any questions.

Abdouch, Gerald	Agnew, Stacey	Ahrens, Heath
Allison, Tennille	Anderson, Emily	Anderson, Dana
Anderson, Arne	Anderson, Kevin	Anderson-Stowe, Lori
Armstrong, Victoria	Arnold, Justin	Arp, Katie
Aylward, Stephanie	Babbitt, Doug	Backemeyer, Brenna
Baker, Ryan	Baker, Jaris	Balschweid, Mark
Barnard, David	Bartlett, Dallas	Baum, Cynthia
Beck, Alicia	Bell, Eldridge	Bell, Lloyd
Bellinger, Murleen	Biba, Susan	Birch, Rebekah

Blank, Carl
Bohling, Kalie
Bowder, Boyd
Brandt, Nancy
Bright, Miranda
Brown, Aubrie
Buurman, Dana
Campbell, Richard
Chittick, Angie
Chytka, Amanda
Conner, Nathan
Corenius, Rebecca
Crabtree, Jocelyn
Curlo, Andrea
Davidson, Gwen
Dierks, Jodi
Dornbusch, Louise
Dunbar, Tanner
Edmunds, Niel
Elwood, Emilee
Evans, Jessica
FERENCE, David
Ford, Madison
Galles, Michelle
Gibbens, David
Gifford, Kathryn
Gilson, Linda
Graham, Katie
Greene, Chelsey
Groth, Lisa
Haas, Stanley
Haefner, Ronald
Hall, Daphne
Hartman, Blair
Heiman, Frances
Held, Alan
Hinrichs, Valerie
Hitchler, Abby
Holder, Birdie
Horejs, Cory
Hothem, Katie
Hruza, Rachel
Husmann, Dann
Jacobitz, Brandon
Jensen, Monique
Johnson, Brian

Blomendahl, Cole
Bohling, Ashton
Bower, Jesse
Bray, Maureen
Brockman, Jr., Charles
Brozek, Ashley
Caldwell, Kaydee
Carriker, Casey
Choat, Evey
Chytka, Bridger
Cooper, Taylor
Coufal, McKayla
Cramer, Jennifer
Daake, Dennis
DeJong, Zana
Doerr, Debbi
Douglass, Richard
Dux, Thomas
Ehlers, Angela
Erwin, Carol
Fahner, Sydney
Flaming, Craig
Fox, Lisa
Gaston, Rod
Gibson, Jana
Gifford, Bill
Going, Seth
Graham, Robyn
Gronewold, Brenda
Guggenmos, Kelly
Hackenkamp, Amanda
Hall, Carmen
Hallman, Gaylene
Havlovic, DeLayne
Heinert, Seth
Hesse, Holly
Hippen, Julie
Hoffman, Alicia
Holthus, Shanda
Horn, Amanda
Houdek, Shawna
Hunter, Trisha
Hynes, Lis
Jacobsen, Ronita
Jensen, Samantha
Johnson, Dave

Bloss, Mark
Bonifas, Melissa
Brabec, Jordan
Brega, Robert
Brockmoller, Tyron
Butler, Janet
Campbell, Patty
Caudill, Krystal
Christensen, Gregg
Condon, Jean
Cooper, Tracy
Cowley, Jeremy
Cunningham, Alex
Dahlquist, Cindy
Deterding, Reba
Doeschot, Kelli
Dugan, Leslie
Dvorak, Ann
Eickman, Rachel
Estrela, AnnaLisa
FERENCE, Johnny
Foor, Anita
Frederick, Craig
Gee, David
Giesler, Jacqui
Gilbertson, Osmund
Goldfuss, Jacob
Grauly, Laura
Grosserode, Brandon
Haag, Denise
Hadenfeldt, John
Hall, Dana
Harrington, Cale
Hayes, Teresa
Held, Brandy
Hillen, Megan
Hirschfeld, Jason
Hofmann, Tom
Horak, Hannah
Hornickel, Rachel
Houlden, Margo
Hurlburt, Cheyenne
Ilac Boeder, Maile
Jarzynka, Nick
Jensen, Anthony
Johnson, Carmen

Johnson, Zadie
Kadar, Candi
Kassmeier, Patricia
Kemp, Lisa
Kinney, Camelle
Knoll, Eric
Koepke, Lonnie
Korte, Trevor
Kowalski, Rose
Krejci, Dennis
Kubik, Colin
Lambert, Nurita
Larsen, Monty
Lechtenberg, Roger
Likens, Kate
Madsen, Kim
Mann, Stephanie
Marzouk, Therese
McCune, Kathleen
Metschke, Dawn
Miller, Lauren
Miller, Stephanie
Montag, Seth
Mortensen, Tonya
Mottl, Dennis J.
Muhs, Ann
Nelson, Tamara
Nielson, Keith
Nollette, Brent
Olson, Patricia
Painter, Rick
Penke, Kylie
Phillips, Daniel
Podliska, Holly
Pratt, Kelsey

Jones, Kristyn
Kallstrom, Lee
Keep, Marjorie
Kennedy, Kathleen
Kment, Chad
Kobza, Sydney
Koger, Shawna
Kowaleski, Morgan
Kozeal, Mike
Kreutzer, Carol
Kummer, Kelsey
Lammers, Emma
Laughlin, Timothy
Lehn, Whitney
Lister, Craig
Malone, Ken
Maresh, Gary
Maw, Matt
McPhillips, Brittany
Meyer, Siera
Miller, Brian
Miller, Bethanie
Moore, Mari Beth
Morton, Sarah
Mottl, Dennis L.
Neefe, Suzanne
Nelson, Janice
Nizzi, Dawn
Nollette, Justin
Onwiler, Philip
Paitz, Miranda
Peterson, Murphy
Pierce, Otis
Pomajzl, Cassandra
Prusa, Marla

Jones, Jared
Karney, Gordon
Kegley, Maranda
Kent, Dylan
Knabe, Krystl
Kocian, Jenny
Kolb, Krystal
Kowalski, Lisa
Kreifels, Matthew
Krohn, Janine
Kuntz, Guy
Larsen, Lex
Lear, Janet
Lenhoff, Kalie
Lokie, Julie
Mann, Ann
Martin, Suzanne
McConville, Jennifer
Meers, Gary
Micek-Johnson, Lisa
Miller, Joel
Mitchell, Patricia
Moore, Jeffery
Moser, Sheree
Mowinkel, Dan
Negley, Tim
Newkirk, Gwendolyn
Noble, Spencer
Odle, Elizabeth
Overturf, Wade
Palmer, Angie
Peterson, Lacey
Pittack, Kate
Potter, Tim
Quiring, Kate

December 19, 2018

NPHS and MPCC Building Construction Technology Career Academy

NPCC pilots building construction career academy

Two North Platte High School students are getting more than a head start on their college education this year – they’re putting themselves a step ahead in terms of a career.

Zane Turner and Kyle Mull are part of a Building Construction Technology Career Academy piloted by North Platte Community College.

They spend their mornings at NPCC, learning alongside first-year college students in the building construction program. In the afternoons, they return to the high school to take English and government classes.

“I would highly recommend the career academy to anyone interested in going into construction,” Turner said. “I thought it might be hard to go to high school and college at the same time, but everything has been so smooth. The instructors at both schools have been great about working around our schedules. It’s definitely worth the effort. I’ve learned so much.”

Mull couldn’t agree more.

“I barely knew anything about construction when I came to the college,” Mull said. “After the first month, my knowledge had grown by a ridiculous amount. NPCC has good instructors, which makes a huge difference. They don’t just tell us what to do. They work beside us.”

Dr. Jody Tomanek, area vice president of academic affairs and NPCC, said both the college and the high school put a lot of time and thought into the career academy and into developing a schedule that would be the best fit for students.

“The career academy is the result of a request by North Platte High that we work more closely with them on technical courses and degrees,” Tomanek said. “We decided to pilot the academy with building construction knowing that program had some room and flexibility for students. If it works out, we would like to eventually be able to expand this type of academy concept to other schools and applied technology programs.”

Roger Fattig teaches first-year students in the building construction program. He’s excited about the potential that exists for the career academy.

“Because of the nature of the beast, we’re getting high quality students who have a better than average chance of succeeding in construction,” Fattig said. “They are more ambitious, more aggressive. I’d hire them.”

Turner and Mull found out about the career academy when Paul Knopick, the college’s area enrollment coach, pitched it at their high school.

“We had both visited NPCC before and toured the building construction department with our industrial technology teacher, Jeff Henne, but Paul’s visit was what really got us hooked,” Mull said.

The career academy is open to high school seniors with a history of good attendance and good behavior. They must have successfully completed Woods I and II classes as well as a

Computer-Aided Design and Drafting class. It's also recommended they take a construction class at the high school level.

Additionally, students must be in a position where English and Government are the only two high school-required classes they have left the fall semester of their senior year. They must submit three letters of recommendation and be Skills USA members.

Upon successful completion of the career academy, the students will receive a building construction certificate. They can earn an associate degree if they return and finish out a second year of the building construction program, which both Mull and Turner plan to do.

"I've always wanted to have my own construction business somewhere around North Platte," Turner said. "My family bought a two-story house in town, moved it to the country and remodeled it. That really fueled my interest. That's part of what I love about NPCC's building construction program. We get to build a house from scratch. I like hands-on work way better than bookwork."

While Mull doesn't have as much building experience as Turner, he, too, likes working with his hands.

"My dad did electrical and mechanical type work, so I guess I got some of that from him," Mull said. "I took as many woods classes as I could in high school because I enjoyed them so much. I would also like to own a construction business someday, but up in the Sandhills."

More information about MPCC's building construction program can be found online at mpcc.edu.

Heather Johnson
MPCC Area Public Information Specialist

January 4, 2019

ACTE Announces Board of Directors 2019 Election Results

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 3, 2019

Contact: Jarrod Nagurka
703-683-9312, jnagurka@acteonline.org

ACTE Announces Board of Directors 2019 Election Results

Alexandria, VA – The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) is pleased to announce the results of the recent election for several spots on its Board of Directors. The election was open to ACTE's membership of roughly 25,000 educators, administrators and other CTE professionals. The following members were elected:

Doug Major, President-Elect

Dr. Major is the Superintendent/CEO for Meridian Technology Center in Stillwater, OK. His

one-year term will begin in July 2019 and will be followed by one-year terms as president and past president, respectively.

Annika Russell-Manke, Business Education Division Vice President

Ms. Russell-Manke is an Accounting/Business Management Instructor for Mitchell Technical Institute in Mitchell, SD. She will serve a three-year term beginning July 2019.

Carol Werhan, Family and Consumer Science Education Division Vice President

Dr. Werhan is an Assistant Clinical Professor/FCS Teacher Educator at Purdue University in West Lafayette, IN. She will serve a three-year term beginning July 2019.

Rachael Mann, New and Related Services Division Vice President

Ms. Mann is a Professional Development Specialist for West-MEC in Glendale, AZ. She will serve a three-year term beginning July 2019.

Chaney Mosley, Region II Vice President

Dr. Mosley is an Assistant Professor of Agricultural Education for Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, TN. He will serve a three-year term beginning July 2019.

Carrie Scheiderer, Region I Vice President-Elect

Ms. Scheiderer is the Chief Administrator for Central Region Tech Prep/Central Ohio Technical College in Newark, OH. She will serve a three-year term beginning July 2020.

Ross White, Region IV Vice President-Elect

Mr. White is the Assistant Principal and Director of Career and Technical Education for the Siloam Springs School District. He will serve a three-year term beginning July 2020.

Additionally, the vice president-elect whose election occurred last year will join the Board as vice president in July 2019. Lisa Stange assume the position of vice president for Region III.

ACTE congratulates the winners, and thanks all of the candidates for their willingness to serve and their hard work, dedication, and commitment to the Association. ACTE also thanks all of its members who had their voices heard by voting in the election.

January 13, 2019

ACTEN Awards

If you have not nominated someone for an ACTEN award, please do so today. March 1 is the deadline to submit the application. The nominee would need to fill out the application. You just need to encourage them to apply. You can also nominate yourself. We have super educators in Nebraska that need to be recognized.

APPLY TODAY!!!

Applicants will complete the awards process in the [ACTE Portal](#).

January 13, 2019

In Case You Missed It

Teaching ideas to modify for your classroom curriculum.

Students design food trucks with literary themes

Students in an Illinois high school recently create food trucks based on themes of literary classics as a culminating project that replaces an exam. Student groups designed trucks, menus and advertising reflective of the characters, time period and themes of the text, such as The Witches Brewed truck based on "The Crucible."

[Herald & Review \(Decatur, Ill.\)](#) (12/15)

Program teaches 8th-graders business skills

Eighth-graders at a California school learned about entrepreneurship by partnering with a local business on creating a product and selling it at a holiday crafts fair. Students spent weeks working with their business mentors on developing business plans, marketing materials and final products that included framed chalkboards, ornaments and hot cocoa mix.

[Times-Standard \(Eureka, Calif.\)](#) (12/14)

Students use coding to spread kindness

Students at a Massachusetts elementary school spent a month working on coding activities to spread kindness in their tech explorers class as part of Computer Science Education Month. Students programmed a robot to deliver needed items or recorded messages of encouragement to other students, and created a code to include positive messages on LED matrix boards.

[The Daily News \(Newburyport, Mass.\)](#) (12/22)

New Career Program at Columbus High School

Exciting things are happening at Columbus High School. Check out this article detailing a new pilot program involving a unique partnership between the Department of Labor and the Department of Education.

The JAG program, which stands for "Jobs After Graduation" is new to Nebraska and is being piloted at three Nebraska sites starting January 2019 with Columbus High School being one of the sites. For the first three years, the JAG-Nebraska program will be directly affiliated with the Iowa JAG organization, otherwise referred to as iJAG.

The JAG Nebraska project is a collaborative effort between the Department of Labor and the Department of Education. JAG Nebraska is a specialized career preparation program supporting students on their path to graduation, employment and postsecondary education.

The JAG Nebraska program builds employability, workplace and life skills in a project based learning environment. Students selected for the program will work collaboratively with their peers to creatively solve career relevant multi-step problems. The JAG Nebraska class at Columbus High School will be taught by Ms. Erica Gable, JAG Educational Specialist. Ms. Gable will begin her duties at CHS on January 3, 2019. Eighty-percent of Ms. Gable's daily schedule will include working directly with students in the JAG program with twenty percent devoted to developing community partnerships and JAG accountability and data management.

The JAG Nebraska program has a proven success record in 1200 programs in 34 states. The 2017 national JAG performance outcomes attest to the high quality and life changing opportunities for students in the JAG program. The JAG graduation rate in 2017 was 95% with over 75% of the participants being employed full time upon graduation.

The MANIFEST, Columbus Discoverers Newsletter

January 18, 2019

Nebraska Fact Sheet

I am attaching a Fact Sheet created by the national office, with the help of NDE, for your reference. Please share the Nebraska Fact Sheet with your administrators, school board members, legislative representatives, etc. With next month being CTE Month®, it would be a perfect time to share this data with interested parties.

NEBRASKA

CTE Fact Sheet 2019



Career and Technical Education in Nebraska

- At the secondary level, CTE is delivered through comprehensive high schools.
- At the postsecondary level, CTE is delivered through the community college system, which has campuses located throughout the state.
- Learn more at <https://www.education.ne.gov/nce> and ACTENebraska.org.

In school year 2017-2018, Nebraska served **98,606** CTE high school students and **34,097** CTE postsecondary students.

In Fiscal Year 2018, Nebraska received an estimated **\$6,816,893** in federal Perkins funding—the same as in 2017 and down from \$7.5 million in 2010, before Tech Prep was defunded.

Exemplary CTE Programs in Nebraska

- The [Sutton High School](#) Career and Technical Department is building a collaborative relationship with the business community to provide students with real-world experiences. Sutton is currently offering 18 programs of study to its students, aligned with the Nebraska Career Education model, standards and programs of study, and incorporating hands-on work opportunities resulting from strong partnerships between the business community and school. Students job shadow for up to 20 hours in the first semester of senior year, building relationships with business owners and identifying their career interests. In second semester, students participate in 6- to 7-week internships for up to three hours per day. They are treated as employees and part of the business team. In addition to 68 businesses that are willing to host job shadow and/or internship experiences, business leaders conduct job interviews for students in Career Prep, host business tours, participate as guest speakers for classes and serve on a Career and Technical Advisory Committee. In addition, Sutton has been awarded reVISION monies to enhance learning experiences in the agricultural education and skills and technical sciences areas, which are areas of demand in the Sutton community. *(Information from ACTEN)*
- [Metropolitan Community College](#) (MCC) invested in and opened a 100,000-square-foot Construction Education Center at the Fort Omaha Campus to serve the Omaha metropolitan area. Construction job opportunities are growing in Omaha, particularly in areas such as residential remodeling and commercial construction. The Center replicates an authentic job site, where all the construction-related trades work together, including construction technology, civil engineering, architectural technology, plumbing technology, electrical technology, HVACR technology and welding. This provides a state-of-the-art, rich educational opportunity using the latest technology. The Construction Education Center has expanded its academic programs to serve junior/senior high school students; traditional degree-seeking students; and professional, nontraditional students. There are programs for the beginning student seeking entry-level employment, while advanced skills training opportunities for professionals already in the field are also provided. Customized training for industry partners needing to advance their workforce can also be arranged. Serving just over 800 students, MCC is becoming a leader in developing the future of construction trade professionals. *(Information from ACTEN)*

In school year 2017-2018:

- **99.31** percent of Nebraska CTE high school students graduated
- **90.20** percent met performance goals for technical skills
- **97.90** percent went on to postsecondary education, the workforce or the military

Data from the Nebraska Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Education Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education

January 21, 2019

In Case You Missed It

[How to measure effectiveness of online classes](#)

Research offers colleges and universities a new model for assessing student success in online courses, including looking at engagement with material and how many times students attempt to pass tests. Researchers say their recommendations could help online course designers improve student outcomes. [United Press International](#) (12/28)

Gear up for CTE Month

As you plan your CTE Month® activities for February, celebrate with products that showcase awareness for CTE. Choose from mood color-changing products, such as pens, pencils and bracelets, as well as balloons, reflective zipper pulls and more. [Shop today.](#)

Apply for Achieve 100 award

ACTE's Achieve 100 Award showcases an institution's dedication and commitment to CTE. Schools and institutions that have achieved 100% membership across their CTE staff and faculty will receive this distinguished award. All faculty members must be active ACTE members as of Dec. 30. Fill out the online application by tomorrow to participate and recognize your educators. [Learn more.](#)

Get ready, set, film

ACTE and NASA HUNCH are excited to collaborate on this year's student video challenge, showcasing CTE and project-based learning programs in high-demand 21st-century career fields on earth and in space. Visit the website for ideas related to this year's video theme, Working Out of This World. The deadline to submit a video is the first day of CTE Month, Feb. 1. [Learn more.](#)

Fwd: CTE policy Watch: A blog for CTE advocates

[ACTE Releases Updated Quality CTE Framework and Program Self-evaluation](#)

Posted: 21 Nov 2018 12:58 PM PST

As part of its ongoing work to help CTE educators and administrators develop and improve the quality of their CTE programs, ACTE recently released the 2018 version of its [Quality CTE Program of Study Framework](#).

High-quality CTE has become a national catchphrase in use by policymakers, practitioners, and education and workforce development stakeholders. But what is high-quality CTE? To

bring clarity to this conversation, ACTE has created an evidence-based [framework](#) defining high-quality CTE across 12 elements:

- Standards-aligned and Integrated Curriculum
- Sequencing and Articulation
- Student Assessment
- Prepared and Effective Program Staff
- Engaging Instruction
- Access and Equity
- Facilities, Equipment, Technology and Materials
- Business and Community Partnerships
- Student Career Development
- Career and Technical Student Organizations
- Work-based Learning
- Data and Program Improvement

The [2018 version of the framework](#) is the culmination of research, several rounds of feedback and pilot testing. It is accompanied by a program self-evaluation instrument, which can be completed in [print](#) or using our new [online evaluation form](#). If filled out online, users can receive automatically calculated scores, save and print their results, and be connected to the [High-quality CTE Tools](#) online library for areas identified as needing improvement.

In addition to being a voluntary tool for self-assessment and program improvement, the *Quality CTE Program of Study Framework* also serves as a guide for ACTE's work in disseminating best practices and providing professional development. ACTE will be releasing additional quality resources in 2019 and 2020, including a new *Techniques* column, a new paper series and an expanded rubric that will more specifically describe what progress and success looks like for each of the criteria. ACTE will also institute a revision process for the framework, so that we can keep it up-to-date as the CTE field evolves and changes.

January 25, 2019

30 Ways to Share CTE Month®

February is CTE Month®! To help you prepare for the celebration, ACTEN has created a document providing you 30 Ways to Share CTE in schools, with your students, administration, legislators, etc. Don't just use them during CTE Month®, use them throughout the year.

The links to the Fact Sheets ([Sector Sheets](#)) can be found, as well as other [CTE Month®](#) ideas, on the ACTE website.

Have fun celebrating Career and Technical Education in Nebraska.

February 1, 2019

Happy CTE Month! I hope you have found many great ways to showcase your CTE programs and CTE students.

February 7, 2019

Legislative Alert: Senate CTE Month Resolution

Ask Your Senators: Cosponsor the Senate CTE Month Resolution!

February 7, 2019

The co-chairs of the Senate CTE Caucus, Sens. Tim Kaine (D-VA), Rob Portman (R-OH), Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) and Todd Young (R-IN), will soon be introducing a resolution honoring February as CTE Month. Last year, a record-breaking 45 senators from 31 states cosponsored the resolution.

[CLICK HERE to ask your senators to cosponsor this year's Senate CTE Month Resolution.](#) The deadline for senators to cosponsor is noon ET on Tuesday, February 12.

You can also call the U.S. Capitol switchboard at (202) 224-3121. An operator will then connect you with your requested Senate office.

The resolution raises awareness about the many benefits associated with high-quality CTE programs. Your advocacy makes a difference and encourages senators to cosponsor the resolution, so [please contact](#) your senators today

February 17, 2019

In Case You Missed It: CTSO Chat

[Annual CTSO Chat Announced](#)

Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) Twitter chat! The chat will take place **Tuesday, Feb. 19** at 5:00 p.m. EST. Make sure to use #CTSOchat when responding and follow us on Twitter at @actecareertech. Please encourage your students to attend!

February 22, 2019

In Case You Missed It

[State CTE Policies: 2018 Year in Review](#)

Last year, 42 states and DC enacted 146 CTE-related laws, executive orders, boards of education actions, ballot initiatives and budget provisions, as documented in *State Policies Impacting CTE: 2018 Year in Review* from ACTE and Advance CTE.

https://www.acteonline.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/2018_State_CTE_Policy_Review.pdf

Be a Presenter at CareerTechVision!

Share Your Insights at ACTE's CareerTech VISION

The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) welcomes your session proposals at CareerTech VISION, the premier gathering for career and technical education (CTE) professionals, Dec. 4–7 in sunny Anaheim, California. VISION is the most comprehensive professional development event for career and technical educators, industry representatives and business leaders. Presenters will have the opportunity to:

- Take advantage of more than 300 information-rich sessions, influential keynote speakers, the CareerTech Expo, Career Pavilion and much more
- Contribute to the CTE field by sharing best practices, program innovations and successful collaborations
- Advocate for CTE to key stakeholders from across the nation
- Receive a speaker discount on the VISION early bird registration rate (*Registration opens March 1!*)

We are seeking session proposals that address the full range of issues facing CTE professionals striving to prepare students for 21st century careers as well as the High-quality CTE Program of Study.

February 25, 2019

Share Your Knowledge with Others

Write for Techniques in 2019-2020!

Written for career and technical educators by career and technical educators, *Techniques* is published eight times annually, September–May. If you have ever been interested in writing for *Techniques*, there is no better time than now to share best practices. Learn

more about themes and proposal deadlines in the 2019–2020 *Techniques* Editorial Calendar.

Social Media and ACTE

Once a month, the national ACTE office holds a conference call for state leaders. This month the call focused on social media.

Social Media – Promoting Your Program

- Create relevant CONTENT
- Follow relevant accounts
- Promote your state
- Engage with policymakers

Tips for using Twitter--

- Use Twitter hashtags relevant to your cause
- If one doesn't already exist, create a new one, but be absolutely sure one doesn't already exist.
- Hold a photo or video contest so fans can submit user-generated content relevant to your mission
- Consider including 'please RT' at the end of very important tweets that you'd like people to share
- Reply and retweet
- Set up a Google Alert to keep track of what people are saying

The national office has accounts with Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, YouTube, and Twitter.

ACTE on Facebook @ActeCareerTech

ACTE on Instagram @actecareertech1

ACTE on YouTube

ACTE on LinkedIn

ACTE on Twitter @actecareertech

Hashtags in CTE:

#PerkinsCTE

#IamCTE

#CareerTechEd

#BestinCTE

#VISIONCTE20

Don't forget that ACTEN is on social media as well. We have a Facebook (ActeNebraska) and a Twitter (@ACTENebraska) account.

February 26, 2019

In Case You Missed It—Interesting Read!

[How will advances in automation affect CTE?](#)

Schools will face challenges keeping up with rapid advances in IT, and some training will have to take place on the job, says Anthony Carnevale, director of the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce. Chris Burns, who works for a cloud-computing company, says this means there will be a need to focus on teaching so-called soft skills.

[The Hechinger Report](#) (1/31)

February 27, 2019

Sandy Creek Offers Free College Courses to Students

Sandy Creek is offering free college courses to students. What a great way to promote careers in career and technical education.

Read this article for more information on what they are doing.

[High school offers free college courses](#)

A Nebraska high school is offering juniors and seniors the opportunity to take free college courses in nine career pathways, including business, health and manufacturing. The program is intended to help students prepare for potential careers locally.

[KSNB-TV \(Hastings, Neb.\)](#) (2/19)

February 28, 2019

In Case You Missed It—Soft Skills

[What skills employers need now](#)

Upwork has released its latest report on the 20 skills most in demand, and 75% of them are new. Hadoop, a data analytics program, tops the list, and others indicate employers need people who can combat cybercrime and improve customer outreach.

March 4, 2019

In Case You Missed It—More Kudos for Nebraska on a National Level

[Customization, fast turnarounds help Neb. manufacturer thrive](#)

McKinney Manufacturing and Sales in Nebraska was able to overcome stagnant demand for hydraulic hoses and enter new markets by purchasing a tube-bending system. The system allows the company to quickly produce custom parts for clients in the oil and gas industry.

[Star-Herald \(Scottsbluff, Neb.\)](#) (2/13)

March 12, 2019

Five Great Reasons to Attend ACTE's CareerTech VISION (or any conference)

This article was printed in the February 2019 issue of ACTE's *Techniques* publication. Written by Mitchell Shron, who is an avid attendee of CareerTech VISION.

He lists his top reasons for attending the ACTE national convention. I wanted to share them with you. These top reasons have been paraphrased for you.

1. Be willing to present at the conference. If you are passionate about some aspect of career and technical education, write a proposal and submit. **We are not experts in integrated academics, but as practitioners, our point of view is valid.**
2. **Recharging your batteries.** Meeting and interacting with others in your discipline is a way to draw energy from their passions and maybe ignite some CTE passion in others.
3. **Meeting professionals in other roles helps broaden your view of CTE.** Having honest interactions with people from other schools from across the country allows an individual to step out of their role and into the role of the fellow practitioner.
4. Certainly, the sessions we choose to attend can help in our daily practice and to inspire us to do great things. However, the most meaningful inspirations come from conversations in the hallways, over shared meals, or in after session social interactions. **To Mr. Shron, this is the secret sauce of CTE. We all come to the table with different experiences.**
5. Getting to meet the professionals who live and breathe CTE on the national level provides a wonderful sense of connectedness. **Understanding how the work of ACTE informs our work in the classroom is an essential part of improving what we do as CTE practitioners.** The hard work that takes place all year long, in policy meetings, in lobbying efforts, in capacity building, becomes manifest when you share hands with the educators at ACTE who are leading these efforts.

2020 CareerTech VISION is in Anaheim, California, December 4-7.

- Take advantage of more than 300 information-rich sessions, influential keynote speakers and the CareerTech Expo
- Contribute to the CTE field by sharing best practices, program innovations and successful collaborations
- Advocate for CTE to key stakeholders from across the nation

If you haven't read the recent issue of *Techniques*, the theme is so appropriate for those in the classroom—Engaging Students Through CTE. Well worth the time to read!

March 19, 2019

Check this out!

[Neb. STEM academy gives students hands-on experience](#)

The second graduating class at the STEM Academy at Columbus High School in Nebraska is set to receive its diplomas in a matter of months. The school has used cutting-edge equipment to enhance its curricula in a number of areas, including automotive manufacturing and robotics.

[The Columbus Telegram \(Neb.\)](#) (3/9)

March 20, 2019

Spotlight School--Banner County Schools (and adviser)

I found this article about Bill Gifford and his Ag program in our local newspaper--[The News from Waverly, Nebraska](#). It's a small world as they say.

Check out the original article as printed in the [Star Herald](#) out of Scottsbluff highlighting Bill's teaching career and growing the Ag program at Banner County Public Schools.

https://www.starherald.com/news/stars/agriculture/bob-gifford-cultivating-students-interests-in-agriculture/article_e3c3a2eb-8bf2-5232-bef9-9ebb781de4ad.html

March 23, 2019

ACTE Student Trophy Design Contest

ACTE is excited to announce our fourth annual student contest to redesign the 3D-printed trophies for the ACTE Excellence Awards. The winning trophy design will be 3D-printed by Stratasys and presented to the 10 national award winners at the 2019 ACTE Awards Banquet in Anaheim, Calif. [Learn more.](#)

Scholarships for Your CTE Students

The Horatio Alger Association is now accepting student applications for its career and technical scholarships until **June 15**. This year, the association will award 1,020 new CTE scholars to pursue their academic programs at community colleges and nonprofit institutions with a maximum award amount of \$2,500 depending on the length of program and need of the student. [Read More](#)

March 25, 2019

Business Leaders and Educators Meet to reVISION Career Education

This article, "[Educators and business leaders envision career education](#)," was published in the Hastings Tribune on March 20, 2019.

Local business leaders and educators from eight schools from central Nebraska tackled questions such as what do you want to do, where to you want to live, and how much do you want to make to do those things. These leaders and educators feel the answer to these questions are key to growing our own and filling jobs in central Nebraska.

Read the article about the grant and reVISION process these educators and business leaders are trying to answer through their strategic planning meetings.

Contact your Congressman Today!

Trump proposes large cuts to education, workforce development

In his FY 2020 budget proposal to Congress, President Donald Trump suggested flat funding for the Perkins Basic State Grant, but severe cuts to many other programs that benefit CTE educators and students. [Read more.](#)

March 26, 2019

Spotlight School: Sandy Creek

[Sandy Creek High Schools](#) was featured on NTV on Wednesday, March 6. Click on the link to read and here about the national attention received by their career center. The career-focused model is the first of its kind in rural Nebraska, preparing kids for high way, high skill, and high demand jobs.

March 30, 2019

In Case You Missed It

[Why the US is facing a continued labor shortage](#)

Job openings continue to outnumber job seekers, according to the Labor Department. Reasons for the gap include the large number of Americans going to college, leaving fewer workers for low-skilled positions, and low wages that fail to convince "marginally attached" workers to commit to steady employment, writes Alexia Fernandez Campbell.

[Vox](#) (3/18)

April 4, 2019

In Case You Missed It: Six Skills Students Need for Careers

[Report: 6 skills students need for careers](#)

There are six skills that schools should be teaching to help prepare students for future employment, according to the National School Boards Association's Commission to Close the Skills Gap. The skills are critical thinking, decision-making, customer focus, dependability and reliability, adaptability and trainability, and teamwork, according to the commission.

[T.H.E. Journal](#) (4/2)

April 5, 2019

Kudos to Career Pathways Institute in Grand Island

[Neb. expands apprenticeship program](#)

The Career Pathways Institute's registered apprenticeship program is expanding in Nebraska, with the addition of several apprenticeships, following growth in program participation. State leaders recently celebrated the success of the program, which they say will help to train more workers in the skilled trades.

[The Grand Island Independent \(Neb.\)](#) (4/3)

April 8, 2019

Middle School Webinar

For you middle school CTE teachers--might be some viable information to help your middle school CTE program.

[Career exploration in middle school webinar](#)

Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs) and work-based learning are vital components of an effective CTE program. In this webinar, Sam Rise, a robotics teacher from Federal Way, Wash., discusses why these extended learning opportunities are important, some examples of them, and how they fit into a middle school CTE course. [Watch now.](#)

April 16, 2019

Congrats to our Region V Winner

Congratulations to Kris Spath, Agricultural Education instructor at Waverly High School. Kris was named the Region V Outstanding Teacher of the Year at the Region V Conference in Bozeman, Montana this past week. Kris will now represent Region V at the national conference as a nominee for the national ACTE teacher of the year. The national conference, CareerTech VISION, will be held in Anaheim, California, December 4-7. Good luck, Kris.

April 18, 2019

NCE Conference Registration

The website for registering for the NCE Conference opened on Monday, April 15. If you have not yet registered, you can do so at the [NCE Conference](#) link.

Please stop by the ACTEN membership table and say hi! I look forward to seeing you at the conference.

April 24, 2019

Don't Forget to Vote

Voting for the 2019-2020 ACTEN board positions will be closing after May 1. Please cast your vote using the link that was sent to you. If you need your ACTE ID or the link, please let me know.

April 30, 2019

In Case You Missed It—More Jobs for our Students

[Labor shortage worries concrete contractors in Omaha, Neb.](#)

While there's an ample supply of concrete for projects in Omaha, Neb., contractors are concerned about the ongoing labor shortage and delays caused by a long winter. "We have customers that we do repeat work for and we want the ability to do the work for them and not tell them that we can't get to them," Stephens and Smith Construction Chairman Lance Jordan says.

 [KMTV-TV \(Omaha, Neb.\)](#) (4/22)

May 1, 2019

Contact your Senators today to support short-term Pell Grants

It really is very simple. Just click on the links, add your contact information, and click send. ACTE even writes the letter for you.

[Ask your Senators to support short-term Pell Grants](#)

Sens. Tim Kaine, D-Va., and Rob Portman, R-Ohio, have introduced legislation to expand Federal Pell Grant eligibility to short-term job training programs. [Read more.](#)

Carpenter's Union Program at Ralston High School guarantees career path after high school for students

[Students on path to careers in carpentry](#)

Students at a Nebraska high school are preparing for careers in carpentry through a new program in partnership with an area union. Students in the program gain hands-on experience, complete construction courses and are guaranteed an apprenticeship.

 [KMTV-TV \(Omaha, Neb.\)](#) (4/25)

May 3, 2019

Interesting read on how noise affects classroom learning!

[How noise affects classroom learning](#)

Noise in classrooms can harm students' speech acquisition, cognition and learning ability, writes Arline Bronzaft, a professor at Lehman College, City University of New York. Bronzaft asserts that more should be done to abate noise that affects students' learning, both inside and outside of schools.

[Education Dive](#) (4/25)

Nebraska schools provide quality CTE experiences for students

[Neb. program introduces students to "cobots"](#)

A program at Nebraska's Wayne State College is teaching students how to coexist and work with collaborative robots, or "cobots" for short. The program is "no simulation," and the skills students gain can be directly applied to jobs in the field, says Don Buryanek, chairman of Wayne State's Department of Technology and Applied Sciences.

[Omaha World-Herald \(Neb.\)](#) (4/26)

May 9, 2010

Happy Teacher Appreciation Week!

Happy Teacher Appreciation Week from ACTEN as well! Thank you for all you do for your students, school, and community. We thank you for your membership in ACTE/ACTEN.

[Happy Teacher Appreciation Week!](#)

From all of us at ACTE, thank you for the amazing work you do, inspiring students with your knowledge and know-how and equipping them with the career and technical education skills they need for career success! We are sharing [#ThankATeacher](#) posts all week long on Twitter to highlight incredible educators like yourselves. If you tweet, make sure to tag us at [@actecareertech](#) for a chance to win a gift card!

May 10, 2019

Register for CareerTech ViSION by July 12

Before you leave school for the year, be sure you have made plans with your administration to attend CareerTech VISION in Anaheim December 4-7.

Join us in Anaheim

ACTE invites you to sunny Anaheim, Calif., to attend the premier networking and professional development event for career and technical education professionals. Happening Dec. 4 to 7, CareerTech VISION will feature keynote speakers, 300+ concurrent sessions and Expo and more! Register by July 12 to secure the most affordable way to attend VISION. [Learn more.](#)

May 14, 2019

Fwd: 2019 Nebraska Career Education Conference Early Registration Ends Tomorrow

If you have not yet registered for NCE Conference, do so by tomorrow to receive the early registration rate.

The ACTEN Assembly of Delegates is Wednesday, June 5. If you would like to be a delegate, contact your division representative on the ACTEN board. The list of board members can be found on the actenebraska.org website.

May 16, 2019

Ralston High School and Automotive Internships

[High-schoolers enroll in automotive internships](#)

Students enrolled in a two-year program with the Automotive Academy at a Nebraska high school are getting hands-on experience in the field. Students spend the final semester of the program enrolled in an internship with an area automotive company.

 [KMTV-TV \(Omaha, Neb.\)](#) (5/14)

Career Exploration in middle school webinar—Sounds like a must watch!

[Career exploration in middle-school webinar](#)

Through career exploration and introductory CTE courses, middle-school students have the opportunity to gain career-readiness skills as well as learn more about who they are as individuals. Project-based learning, connecting academic content in the context of CTE, is a critical component of the middle-school experience. [Watch now.](#)

May 18, 2019

Appropriations Bill Passes House Committee Markup

Good News!

[Appropriations Bill Passes House Committee Markup](#)

An amendment increased the Perkins Basic State Grant program by \$10 million, bringing the total proposed appropriation level to just over \$1.3 billion. Now the bill will go to the House floor for consideration by the entire House of Representatives.

May 23, 2019

ACTEN Members Win Awards

Two ACTE/ACTEN members receive honors. Lloyd Bell, a professor in the Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communication at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, was awarded the Outstanding Teaching and Instructional Creativity award. Please read the following article for more information about Lloyd's award.

<https://ianrnews.unl.edu/lloyd-bell-earns-top-nu-honor-teaching-excellence>

Sheree Moser, a an assistant professor of the College of Education and Human Sciences, was the recipient of the Donald R. and Mary Lee Swanson award for Excellence in Teaching. For more information about Sheree's award, please read the following article.

<https://cehs.unl.edu/cyaf/news/sheree-moser-2019-recipient-donald-r-and-mary-lee-swanson-award/>

If you see these two award winners, please congratulate them. ACTEN is proud of Lloyd and Sheree. Congratulations!

Split the Pot at the NCE Conference in June

ACTEN will once again be sponsoring a Split-the-Pot fundraiser during the NCE Conference. The funds received from the conference are used to pay membership dues for award winners. This year you do not need to be present to win. That means that on your tickets you will need to include your name and contact information. I suggest that you bring return labels allowing you to stick them on each ticket. That way you don't have to write on each ticket. The drawing will be at 5:00 pm on Wednesday afternoon.

May 28, 2019

Financial Support for the CTE Foundation

You have an opportunity to donate to the Nebraska Career Education and Innovation Foundation (NCEIF) through the Give to Lincoln 2019 Campaign!

For those of you who are not familiar with NCEIF, the mission of NCEIF is to provide grants and scholarships to both students and educators interested in career and technical education, recognize individuals and agencies who contribute to the quality of career and technical education in the state of Nebraska, assist non-profit organizations which promote career and technical education in Nebraska (which would be ACTEN), and partner with government agencies in supporting career and technical education and workforce development in Nebraska.

Non-profits who have a Lincoln postal mailing address are eligible to participate, which NCEIF does. As a donor, you do not need to live in or around Lincoln to participate.

You have until Thursday, May 30, to make your donation through this venue. Below is the direct link to the Nebraska Career Education and Innovation Foundation.

<https://givetolincoln.com/nonprofits/nebraska-career-education-and-innovation-foundation>

June 23, 2019

ACTEN Award Winners at the NCE Conference

Congratulations to the following individuals who were recognized as outstanding educators at the NCE Conference held in Kearney June 3-6. If you know an individual you feel deserving of this recognition, please nominate them for the 2020 awards.

ACTEN Administrator of the Year



**Jon Cerny, Superintendent
Bancroft-Rosalie Community School**

Dr. Jon Cerny has been at Bancroft-Rosalie Community School since 1982. He began his career as the 7-12 science teacher, became activities director in 1984, and principal in 1987. He was named the superintendent in 1993. In 2015, Dr. Cerny received the Terrell Bell Award from the Nebraska Department of Education for Outstanding Leadership. In 2013 he receive the Outstanding Superintendent Award from the Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association. Dr. Cerny serves on several state and local committees including past president of the NRCSA, board member of the Nebraska School Activities Association, vice president of the Nebraska Career Education and Innovation

Foundation, Northeast Nebraska Career Academy Board of Directors, and president of the John G. Neihardt Foundation Board of Directors.

His passion for career and technical education is demonstrated by his service on the Northeast Nebraska Career Academy Partnership and his involvement with implementing “Fridays at Northeast”, a dual credit program offered by Northeast Community College. He played an instrumental role in developing Pathways to Tomorrow, a six-school regional career academy. Jon took on the responsibility of developing and implementing the P2T Computer Science program, including recruiting and training a teacher and identifying appropriate curriculum and equipment needs.

The president of NECC writes, “Jon brings a true spirit of collaboration among the many partners working on P2T. He has helped facilitate a partner agreement for day-to-day programming and continues to offer ideas that bring solutions to complex issues.”

ACTEN Teacher Educator of the Year



**Carol Irwin, Assistant Professor, Family and Consumer Sciences
Wayne State College**

Carol Irwin serves as an assistant professor in the Family and Consumer Sciences program at Wayne State College. She was instrumental in implementing a course covering program management after completing an assessment of the Wayne State College FCS Program. Outcomes of the FCS Program Organization and Administration class include students demonstrating proficiency in designing a standards-aligned Family and Consumer Sciences program with identified Nebraska Programs of Study, as well as how to incorporate a Career and Technical Student Organization (FCCLA). Her goal was to expose students to a variety of different FCS programs across the state of Nebraska. By using Zoom technology, the students were able to take ‘virtual field trips’ to see and compare programs, facilities, and equipment in many schools. With Carol’s input, the FCS Department revised their program to include two courses in CTE to provide a stronger CTE background.

Another innovative practice implemented in the WSC FCS education program was the creation of a practice test to help prepare students to pass the content test required for teacher certification in the state of Nebraska. After taking the test, the students are to analyze their results to create a plan of action for study.

In 2018, Carol completed her doctorate in Adult and Higher Education Administration from the University of South Dakota. Her coursework focused on the adult learner and how to take a leadership role in facilitating lifelong learning for professionals.

Carol works with the Nebraska Human Sciences and Family and Consumer Sciences Career Field Specialist in developing plans for professional development for the Family and Consumer Sciences teachers in Nebraska.

ACTEN Business Teacher of the Year



**Shawna Koger, Business Education Instructor
Arlington Public Schools**

Shawna Koger is a business teacher at Arlington High School and Middle School. She was instrumental in providing data to ensure all eighth grade students are required to take an Exploratory Business class and all high school graduates being required to have a personal finance/economics course. Having her Master's in Business Administration students can take advantage of college credit offerings.

Her students not only participate in the Stock Market Game, Personal Finance Challenge, and Economics Challenge, they also receive top honors in those events. Throughout her career, she has sought to engage students in projects that provide them work readiness skills while preparing them to become life-long learners. Her passion has been to instill in students the skills necessary to become good financial stewards of their money.

Shawna has been a Future Business Leaders of America adviser for 25 years. She has had over 140 students attend the National Leadership Conference with numerous Top 10 Award winners. Shawna has served on the Business, Marketing, and Management Standards writing team for the Nebraska Department of Education. She has attended numerous conferences and shared her expertise at many of these conferences. On the professional level, she has belonged to several organizations including ACTE, NSBEA, NBEA, DPE, and NETA. She was a member of the FBLA Board of Directors for six years.

Her superintendent says, "Shawna is a master teacher. Not only has she taught a variety of courses during her tenure, she is constantly reflecting and modifying her instructional material and approach to reflect best practice research and to ensure that students are afforded the best possible learning opportunity."

ACTEN Family and Consumer Sciences Division Teacher of the Year



**Suzanne Martin, FCS Instructor
Medicine Valley Public Schools**

Suzanne Martin is the Family and Consumer Science teacher and FCCLA adviser at Medicine Valley Schools. She has strived to develop a quality FCS program with a focus on helping students find a program of study through career education. During her time at Medicine Valley, she implemented a Health Career Academy

partnering with Mid-Plains Community College. The academy includes health classes and service hours in health care areas. Suzanne has incorporated various activities into her curriculum to not only help with the relationship with various community leaders, but as well as giving her students an opportunity to work with other industries.

Suzanne feels the best part of her job is working with students in FCCLA. She realizes that CTSO's are very important for all students and lead to great success in life. Helping the students with their STAR projects has helped her grow as a person and a teacher. Since she has been at Medicine Valley, she has had 10 state officers, 21 state peer officers, and 42 groups have competed at the National STAR competition.

Suzanne's administrator writes, "Ms. Martin is cognizant of current trends in the community and strives to have her classes aware of changing trends in the business world. Her caring attitude and outstanding subject knowledge make her very effective with students of all levels of ability." A parent state, "Suzanne is creative and has developed an amazing FCS program at Medicine Valley. She has added a Health program where the students spend several days off campus job shadowing different careers in the health field. She has high expectations and is the first to jump in and embrace new challenges and ideas."

ACTEN Agricultural Education Division Teacher of the Year and CTE Teacher of the Year



**Stephanie Miller, Agricultural Education Teacher
Heartland High School**

"From the time I decided to become an agriculture educator, I knew that I needed to stay current with not only my certification, but also with educational and agricultural advancements as well." Stephanie is the Agricultural Education Teacher and FFA Advisor at Heartland High School. To stay current, Stephanie regularly attends professional development opportunities. That includes the Nebraska Ag Ed Symposium, NCE Conference, the National FFA Convention, and the ACTE CareerTech VISION when possible.

As the advisor of the FFA, she provides students the opportunities available to them and then guides them in preparing for the activities. She believes the Heartland FFA chapter is the students' organization and lets them decide how and what they do. By giving the students the ability to choose how far they want to push themselves, ends up making them more successful. A student writes "Mrs. Miller is always willing to come to school early or to stay late for any student that needs help in her class. She sees the potential of each student and helps them become a stronger leader."

Stephanie and four other CT educators created an iMovie to inform staff members, school board members, and community members the importance of career and technical

education. The movie highlights what the students are doing in classes and how important the CTE classes are to the student body.

Stephanie currently serves as the Secretary/Treasurer for her FFA District. She has served as the president-elect, president, and past president of ACTEN.

ACTEN Member of the Year



Gregg Christensen
Entrepreneurship and Work-Based Learning Specialist
Nebraska Department of Education

Gregg Christensen serves as the Entrepreneurship and Workplace Experiences Specialist for the Nebraska Department of Education. Mr. Christensen provides curriculum and professional development assistance to educators in the K-12, two-year and four-year postsecondary systems throughout Nebraska. He also works to connect entrepreneurship and work-based learning with economic development and workforce development initiatives and programs statewide. He has served as facilitator for over 25 Nebraska school districts that have engaged in the reVISION process as well as leading many of the community engagement meetings for those schools. reVISION is a strategic approach for Nebraska schools to analyze their current Career Education system and make adjustments to more effectively prepare students for college and careers.

Gregg hosts the Nebraska Entrepreneurship Education listserv and twitter account @NDE_EntreED while maintaining and updating the Nebraska Entrepreneurship Education and Nebraska Workplace Experiences websites. He also represents the Nebraska Department of Education as a Commissioner and Vice-Chairperson for ServeNebraska. The ServeNebraska Commission mobilizes Nebraskans to strengthen their communities through volunteering, collaboration, and national service programs. In fulfilling this mission, ServeNebraska coordinates the development, implementation and continual improvement of AmeriCorps programming.

ACTE Region V Teacher of the Year



Kristine Spath, Agricultural Education Teacher
Waverly High School

Kristine Spath was named the Teacher of the year at the Region V ACTE Conference in Bozeman, Montana in April. Kris is the Agricultural Education Teacher and FFA Advisor at Waverly High School. Kristine has obtained certification in the Curriculum in Agriculture Science Education (CASE) allowing her to teach five courses using the CASE curriculum. This curriculum has been nationally developed aligning with the Next Generation Science standards. Kris manages eight programs of study for her students including plant science, animal science, agribusiness and natural resources. All

curriculum taught aligns with the Career and Technical Education Career Readiness Standards and students are asked regularly to reflect on their performance in areas such as problem solving, teamwork, and communication.

Her administrator says “due to Mrs. Spath’s efforts, she has had a significant impact on our students, our community and the Agricultural Education in the state of Nebraska. Every year, Kris is searching for professional development opportunities, writing grants, or networking with educators across our state, in order to expand her programs, provide more relevant experiences for students, to grow as a professional, and to do her part in improving Agricultural Education in Nebraska. Most recently, due to her grant writing, the FFA has created a learning garden at our high school, made renovations to the greenhouse, and created more access to technology in the classroom. She is a learner with a burning passion for agriculture education, and one who cares deeply for the education of students and their interests.”

June 26, 2019

PTAC Crew Scholarship

The PTAC Crew Scholarship will award one student \$1,500. Candidates must be studying the HVAC trade at an accredited vocational or technical school. To qualify, you must be attending classes or planning to attend classes in an HVAC or HVAC-related program during the 2019–2020 school year. The deadline for receiving applications is **Aug. 1**

June 29, 2019

Vocabulary Building and Jenga

Always trying to think of something fun to use in the classroom to engage your students. Try Jenga!

Teaching strategy: Make vocabulary fun with Jenga

Create enthusiasm for learning and your students will want to learn. That's Sandy Adams' message in "Build Vocabulary with Jenga," her latest Teaching Strategy for PAGES. Offering two versions of this favorite childhood game, Adams encourages CTE teachers to foster environments in which students willingly work with peers to ask questions, build connections and use technical vocabulary terms in context. Be creative. And make it fun. [Read more.](#)

June 29, 2019

Find out how to get free STEM posters

[Free posters draw attention to women in STEM](#)

Teachers can raise students' awareness about women in STEM with some free posters depicting some notable women who have advanced the fields. This article offers links to sources of posters created by female artists that feature women in STEM fields.

[Edutopia online](#) (5/30)

July 3, 2019

High Quality CTE Program of Study Framework—One Element at a Time

[High Quality CTE](#)

[Program of Study Framework](#)

By: Catherine Imperatore and Alisha Hyslop

The 2018 ACTE quality framework is the latest step in ACTE's ongoing High-quality CTE Initiative— an initiative designed to answer the question “What is high-quality CTE?” During this project, we have identified a comprehensive, research-based quality CTE program of study framework and tested that framework through a recent pilot study. We are now developing resources to support use of the framework, and integrating the framework into our activities to recognize and disseminate best practices in CTE.

The framework is designed to apply to individual, local CTE programs of study spanning secondary and postsecondary education, although it may be adapted to other units of analysis. This voluntary tool can be used for program self-evaluation, program improvement and to encourage secondary-postsecondary collaboration. The framework's 12 elements and 92 criteria are designed to be as mutually exclusive as possible. For example, professional development that supports success across all of the quality elements is addressed under “Prepared and Effective Program Staff,” not in each individual element, so it is important to review the entire framework for additional criteria that might be relevant to an element in which you are particularly interested. You can find more details and tools online at www.acteonline.org/high-quality-CTE.

Not to overwhelm you with all 12 elements, I will be sending you one element at a time. Here is Number 1. Enjoy your summer, but look over the elements to see how they can help you improve your CTE program. Murleen

1. Standards-aligned and Integrated Curriculum

This element addresses the development, implementation and revision of the program of study curriculum, including the relevant knowledge and skills taught in the program and the standards on which they are based.

1. The curriculum is based on industry-validated technical standards and competencies.
2. The curriculum is aligned with relevant content and standards for core subjects, such as reading, math and science, including federal, state and/or local standards, as appropriate.
3. The curriculum incorporates employability skill standards that help students succeed in the workplace, such as problem solving, critical thinking, teamwork, communications and workplace etiquette.
4. The program of study curriculum is developed with employer input to prepare students for both further education and in-demand and emerging careers.
5. The curriculum allows for student application of integrated knowledge and skills in authentic scenarios.
6. Program of study standards are publicly available and accessible to students, parents/guardians (as appropriate), partners and the public.
7. The curriculum is reviewed regularly by all relevant stakeholders and revised as necessary to reflect the latest advances in the industry, evidence-based program models and evaluations of student performance.

July 3, 2019

Early Bird Registration for CareerTech VISION ends soon!

VISION Early Bird Registration Rates End Soon!

ACTE invites you to sunny Anaheim, California, to learn about innovations in career and technical education (CTE), advance the field and connect with your CTE peers. Happening **Dec. 4–7**, ACTE’s CareerTech VISION will feature keynote speakers — NASA veteran and former astronaut Dr. Garrett Reisman and best-selling author Dr. Marcia L. Tate — offering insider insights into future career fields on Earth and in space. Register by **July 12** to secure the early bird rate!

July 6, 2019

Quality CTE Program of Study Framework—Element No. 2

2. Sequencing and Articulation

This element addresses the key components of the definition of a program of study and the articulation, coordination and collaboration that support programs of study, career pathways and accelerated learning.

1. The program of study includes a sequence of courses and/or competencies across secondary and postsecondary education that incorporates technical, academic and employability knowledge and skills.
2. The program of study starts with broad foundational knowledge and skills and progresses in specificity to build students' depth of knowledge and skills.
3. Content and standards within the program of study are non-duplicative and vertically aligned to prepare students to transition seamlessly to the next level of education.
4. The program of study sequence leads to one or more recognized postsecondary credentials, including industry certifications, licenses, apprenticeship certificates, postsecondary certificates and degrees.
5. The program of study allows for multiple entry and exit points that incorporate recognized postsecondary credentials.
6. Students in the program of study have opportunities to earn credit that articulates to the next level of education, such as through dual or concurrent enrollment programs or stackable credentials.
7. Secondary and postsecondary CTE staff collaborate regularly on course sequencing, vertical alignment and opportunities for credit transfer agreements.
8. The program of study is coordinated with broader career pathways systems, as defined in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, as appropriate and available.

Great News about Perkins!

[Perkins V Officially in Effect!](#)

Posted: 05 Jul 2019 08:02 AM PDT

On July 1, 2019, changes made to the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act by the reauthorization bill passed last summer, the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act, officially went into effect. The Department of Education marked the occasion with a Perkins "Happy New Year" [video message](#) and a [press release](#) describing early implementation efforts.

As part of kicking off the new plan year, the Department also announced that every state's one-year transition plan to cover the start of Perkins V had been approved. To mark the occasion, Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos said, "Our team is so encouraged by the way states have embraced the spirit of this new law and are rethinking career and technical

education on behalf of their students. The work is just beginning though. As states begin to think about their long-term career and technical education strategies, I would encourage them to continue to act boldly and break down the silos that exist between education and industry so that all students are prepared for the in-demand, high-paying jobs of today's economy and tomorrow's."

States are now moving full-steam ahead with work on their full four-year Perkins V implementation plans, which are due to the Department of Education next spring. During the transition year, most states are making minimal operational changes to their CTE system, but focusing on planning and stakeholder engagement around the new Perkins V requirements, like the local needs assessment. A few changes states are making in their transition plans were highlighted in the Department's release, including shifting funding allocations, encouraging more regional collaboration between secondary and postsecondary institutions, and focusing on quality CTE program elements, including a specific mention of those in ACTE's Quality Program of Study Framework. You can read more about our Framework at <https://www.acteonline.org/professional-development/high-quality-cte-tools/> and find Perkins implementation resources at <https://www.acteonline.org/perkins-implementation/>.

July 11, 2019

Quality CTE Program of Study Framework—Element No. 3

3. Student Assessment

This element addresses the types and quality of assessments used in the program of study, including the types of knowledge and skills that should be assessed, and assessments that lead to recognized postsecondary credentials.

1. Formative and summative assessments are integrated throughout the program of study to validate student learning gains, including both classroom/school-based and standardized, third-party assessments, as appropriate.
2. Assessments are aligned to program standards and curriculum and appropriate to students' current level of knowledge and skill attainment.
3. Assessments are valid, reliable and developed or chosen in accordance with relevant quality standards.
4. The program of study incorporates multiple forms of assessment, including performance-based assessment where students must demonstrate the application of their knowledge and skills.

5. Assessments within the program of study provide objective information on student attainment of industry-validated technical knowledge and skills.
6. Assessments within the program of study provide objective information on student attainment of academic knowledge and skills.
7. Assessments within the program of study provide objective information on student attainment of employability knowledge and skills.
8. The program of study prepares students for assessments that lead to recognized postsecondary credentials, as available and appropriate.

July 12, 2019

High Quality CTE Program of Study Framework—Element No. 4

4. Prepared and Effective Program Staff

This element addresses the qualifications and professional development of program of study staff, including secondary CTE teachers, postsecondary CTE faculty, administrators and other personnel.

- a. CTE staff supporting the program of study meet appropriate state, district and/or institution certification and licensing requirements.
- b. CTE educators maintain up-to-date knowledge and skills across all aspects of an industry.
- c. CTE educators maintain relevant evidence-based pedagogical knowledge and skills.
- d. CTE staff engage in ongoing, rigorous professional development on a wide range of topics covering all elements of a high-quality program of study, as described in ACTE's *Quality CTE Program of Study Framework*, which might include pursuit of advanced educator certification.
- e. CTE staff demonstrate leadership and commitment to the profession.
- f. CTE administrators ensure that other program staff have the time, resources and supports to implement each element of a high-quality program of study, as described in ACTE's *Quality CTE Program of Study Framework*.
- g. CTE and academic staff collaborate regularly and frequently to coordinate curriculum, instruction, assessment and extended learning activities and to analyze data for program improvement.

July 14, 2019

High Quality CTE Program of Study Framework—Element No. 5

5. Engaging Instruction

This element addresses instructional strategies within a student-centered learning environment that support student attainment of relevant knowledge and skills.

1. Program of study instruction is driven by relevant content area standards and learning objectives.
2. Project-based learning and related instructional approaches, such as problem-based, inquiry-based and challenge-based learning, are fully integrated into the program of study.
3. Contextualized instruction results in students applying technical, academic and employability knowledge and skills within authentic scenarios.
4. Instruction emphasizes the connection between academic and technical knowledge and skills, including through cross-disciplinary collaboration.
5. Instruction incorporates relevant equipment, technology and materials to support learning.
6. Instruction is flexible, differentiated and personalized to meet the needs of a diverse student population.
7. Management of the educational environment builds a culture of learning and respect.

July 16, 2019

High Quality CTE Program of Study Framework—Element No. 6

6. Access and Equity

This element addresses program of study promotion, student recruitment and strategies that support access and equity for various student populations, including by gender, race and ethnicity, and special population status (such as individuals with disabilities, individuals from economically disadvantaged families and English learners).

1. The program of study is promoted to all potential participants and their parents/guardians (as appropriate), in a manner that is free from bias, inclusive and non-discriminatory.
2. Students are actively recruited from populations that have been traditionally underrepresented, including by gender, race and ethnicity, and/or special population status.
3. Career guidance is offered to all potential and current program of study participants in a manner that is free from bias, inclusive and non-discriminatory.
4. Facilities, equipment, technology and materials are provided in a way that ensures all students have the opportunity to achieve success in the program of

study, including by meeting Title IX, Americans with Disabilities Act and other accessibility requirements.

5. Curriculum, instruction, materials and assessments are free from bias, inclusive and non-discriminatory, and offered in a way that ensures all students have the opportunity to achieve success in the program of study, including through accommodations, as appropriate.
6. Supportive services, such as tutoring and transportation assistance, are provided to ensure all students have the opportunity to achieve success in the program of study, as appropriate.
7. Appropriate actions are taken to eliminate barriers to extended learning experiences, such as work-based learning, CTSO participation and articulated credit, for all students, including special populations.

July 18, 2019

High Quality CTE Program of Study Framework—Element No. 7

7. Facilities, Equipment, Technology and Materials

This element addresses the alignment, appropriateness and safety of the physical/material components of the program of study, including laboratories, classrooms, computers, industry-specific equipment, and tools and supplies that support learning.

1. Facilities, equipment, technology and materials used in the program of study reflect current workplace, industry and/or occupational practices and requirements.
2. Facilities, equipment, technology and materials support and align to curriculum standards and program objectives.
3. Facilities, equipment, technology and materials meet federal, state and local standards for occupational safety and health in the related industry, as appropriate.
4. Students demonstrate safe and appropriate use and maintenance of facilities, equipment, technology and materials within the program of study.
5. Processes are defined and resources provided to regularly inspect, update and replace facilities, equipment, technology and materials.
6. The program of study maximizes student access to relevant facilities, equipment, technology and materials through partnerships and flexible delivery models.

July 12, 2019

High Quality CTE Program of Study Framework—Element No. 8

8. Business and Community Partnerships

This element addresses business and community partner recruitment, partnership structure and the wide variety of activities partners should be engaged in to support the program of study and ensure programs are aligned with workforce needs.

1. Representatives of the program of study actively conduct outreach activities to develop partnerships to ensure the program of study is informed by employer and community needs.
2. Partnerships are formed with a diverse range of stakeholders who represent differing perspectives, including employers from small, medium and large businesses; industry representatives; community, workforce and economic development agencies; and other education stakeholders.
3. The program of study has a formalized, structured approach to coordinating partnerships, such as an advisory board or sector partnership.
4. Partners ensure that the program of study meets current and future workforce demand and skill needs by:
 - identifying, validating and reviewing curriculum
 - identifying appropriate assessments and recognized postsecondary credentials
 - evaluating facilities, equipment, technology and materials to ensure consistency with industry standards
5. Partners support students' and teachers' extended learning by:
 - identifying, providing and evaluating work-based learning experiences for students
 - participating in CTSO activities; for example, by serving as mentors and judges
 - offering opportunities, such as externships, for educators to stay current with industry-relevant knowledge and skills
6. Partners support the program of study in tangible ways, such as by investing funds, providing in-kind support and/or helping raise external funds to meet program of study goals.
7. Partners support program of study sustainability by advocating for and promoting the program of study.

8. Partners help to evaluate the effectiveness of the program of study in preparing students for further education and careers.

July 24, 2019

High Quality CTE Program of Study Framework—Element No. 9

9. Student Career Development

This element addresses strategies that help students gain career knowledge and engage in education and career planning and decision-making, including career counseling, career assessments, curricula that helps students learn about careers, information about educational opportunities and workforce trends, and job search information and placement services.

- a. Comprehensive career development is coordinated and sequenced to promote and support the career decision-making and planning of all students, including prior to entering the program of study.
- b. Each CTE student in the program of study has a personalized, multi-year education and career plan that reflects exploration of the student’s interests, preferences and abilities; and informs course selection, planning for further education and a career, and involvement in extended learning.
- c. Career development activities are aligned with relevant national, state and/or local standards.
- d. Students in the program of study and their parents/guardians (as appropriate) are provided accurate and timely information on extended learning experiences available through the program of study, such as work-based learning, CTSO participation and articulated credit.
- e. Students in the program of study and their parents/guardians (as appropriate) are provided accurate and timely information on further education and training options, including application procedures, enrollment, financing, and their projected educational, employment and earnings outcomes.
- f. Students in the program of study and their parents/guardians (as appropriate) are provided accurate and timely information on regional occupational trends and outlooks, high-demand and high-wage career opportunities, and the educational pathways that lead to current and projected career opportunities.
- g. Students in the program of study have access to job search information and placement services as they near completion of the program of study.
- h. Career development professionals have access to professional development and up-to-date information on extended learning experiences, education and training options, and regional occupational trends to aid students in education and career planning and decision-making.

July 23, 2019

High Quality CTE Program of Study Framework—Element No. 10

10. Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs)

This element addresses CTSOs, which are organizations for individuals enrolled in CTE programs that engage in activities as an integral part of the instructional program, including the delivery and availability of CTSO opportunities for student skill and leadership development.

1. The organization is an integral, intra-curricular part of the program of study, available to every student at some point during the program of study.
2. The organization is aligned with relevant national, state and/or local standards.
3. Organization activities develop and reinforce relevant technical, academic and employability knowledge and skills.
4. The organization provides opportunities for students to interact with business professionals.
5. The organization provides opportunities for students to participate in relevant competitive events.
6. The organization provides opportunities for students to participate in relevant community and school service activities.
7. The organization provides opportunities for students to participate in leadership development activities.
8. The organization is supervised by CTE staff with clearly defined roles.

August 21, 2019

Fwd: CTE Policy Watch: A blog for CTE advocates

Thought some of you might be interested in these Webinars.

[Webinar Series: CTE for Students with Disabilities](#)

Posted: 29 Jul 2019 03:47 AM PDT

Beginning in August, ACTE is collaborating on a webinar series about secondary CTE as a viable pathway for developing the skills of students with disabilities (SWD) and preparing them for the future. Changes in Perkins V and an increasing emphasis on college and career readiness for all students are bringing the needs of SWD to the forefront of the CTE conversation. This [five-part webinar series](#) will take a deep dive into programs, practices and partnerships among CTE and special education practitioners that support SWD in CTE.

Each webinar will last 90 minutes, including Q & A, and will be available for later viewing at CTELearn.org.

This series is a collaboration among [Penn State University's Workforce Education program](#), the [National Technical Assistance Center on Transition \(NTACT\)](#) and ACTE.

[Webinar 1. CTE for Students with Disabilities: A Framework for Understanding](#)

Thursday, August 29, 2019 3:00 – 4:30 pm EST **Register [here](#)**

[Webinar 2. Effective Partnerships: Communication, Collaboration and Professional Practice](#)

Thursday, September 19, 2019 3:00 – 4:30 pm EST **Register [here](#)**

[Webinar 3. Classroom Supports: Universal Design for Learning, Differentiated Instruction](#)

Wednesday, October 16, 2019 3:00 – 4:30 pm EST **Register [here](#)**

[Webinar 4. Classroom Management: Behavioral Supports, Motivation, Reflective Teaching](#)

Thursday, November 21, 2019 3:00 – 4:30 pm EST **Register [here](#)**

[September 8, 2019](#)

In Case you Missed It—Study Affirms Importance of CTE Classes

[Study affirms importance of CTE classes](#)

A study shows that students achieve the same success in college whether they focus on academic courses or career and technical education classes in high school. Students who took CTE courses were only slightly less likely to go to college, and the data shows that they earned 2% more per year for every upper-level CTE course they took, whether they attended college or not.

[Inside Higher Ed](#) (7/30)

Benefits of Belonging to ACTE/ACTEN, which includes insurance!

Thank you for being a member of ACTE/ACTEN. As a member of ACTE/ACTEN, you are well aware of the many benefits of belonging to this organization. Those benefits include:

Techniques Magazine

Techniques, the award winning magazine of ACTE,[®] is published eight times per year and features articles that delve into CTE trends, case studies and in classroom innovations. Please note, international and student members receive *Techniques* electronically.

Networking and Professional Development

Whether it's online or in person, ACTE's events – [CareerTech VISION](#), [National Policy Seminar](#), [Best Practices and Innovations in CTE Conference](#), and [online seminars](#) – provide you with high-quality professional development and a knowledgeable network of CTE professionals for sharing and exchanging the latest information in CTE.

Advocacy and Awareness

ACTE's Public Policy Department advocates, analyzes and informs policymakers, members and the public about the impact of proposed legislation and funding decisions affecting CTE programming. See what ACTE's been up to by checking out On the Move & in the News. Get the latest legislative and policy updates via [CTE Policy Watch Blog](#).

ACTE on the Move

Check out where ACTE has represented your interests over the last month in the media and via meetings, collaborations and presentations.

CTE News, Research and Updates

Stay informed with these electronic publications, including member-only *ACTE News* and Legislative Alerts along with *Career Tech Update* and *STEM SmartBrief*.

Member Discounts

Receive member-only discounts to all ACTE events and on the latest CTE publications and products at [ShopACTE](#).

Professional Recognition

ACTE's Excellence Awards recognizes individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to CTE programs that exemplify the highest standards, and organizations dedicated to supporting CTE programs.

Career Advancement

Check out the [ACTE Job Bank](#) to help you find new and exciting work or to locate the perfect candidate for your institution.

Member Insurance Program

ACTE provides you with a \$25,000 policy for common carrier accidental death and dismemberment insurance within the first year of annual membership through [Forrest T.](#)

[Jones Insurance Company](#). The policy increases by \$5,000 annually with continuous renewal of membership (up to a maximum of \$50,000). In addition, you have access to professional liability and other insurance options at discounted rates through ACTE's group buying program. Please note, this is available to U.S. members only.

The liability insurance rates through Forrest T. Jones are \$94 a year for a \$1 million policy or \$131 for a \$2 million policy. Very reasonable for the peace of mind of having coverage should we need it.

September 11, 2019

Spotlight School—Interesting article in switching roles in Lexington Public Schools

[Teachers become students in STEM lab training](#)

Some teachers in Nebraska found themselves are learning how to use STEM labs when school starts this fall. Some public schools in the state will get Makerspace STEM trailers through a public-private partnership involving Orthman Manufacturing, a local power utility and a school district.

[Lexington Clipper-Herald \(Neb.\)](#) (8/3)

September 17, 2019

In Case You Missed It—Horatio Alger Scholarship for Students

[Scholarships still available for CTE students](#)

The Horatio Alger Association will continue to accept student applications for its career and technical scholarships on a rolling basis until all scholarships are awarded. The association will award 1,020 new CTE scholars to pursue their academic programs at community colleges and nonprofit institutions with a maximum award amount of \$2,500 depending on the length of program and need of the student. [Learn more.](#)

Spotlight School—NECC

[Northeast Community College readies Neb. students for wind jobs](#)

Northeast Community College in Norfolk, Neb., has been preparing students for jobs in the wind industry for 10 years. Renewables continue to grow in the US and so will demand for wind technicians, says Wind Energy Instructor Nathan Simpson.

[KTIV-TV \(Sioux City, Iowa\)](#) (8/8)

September 24, 2019

Construction Career Day

Construction Career Day introduces students to high-demand professions by Heather Johnson, Mid-Plains Community College

If Thursday's turnout was any indication, area employers could soon have a good selection of workers to pick from for construction-related jobs.

Approximately 100 eighth through 12th grade students from six area high schools attended Construction Career Day on North Platte Community College's north campus. All had expressed interest in learning about the various aspects of construction and supporting industries.

The students rotated around to various stations throughout the morning, spending half an hour at each one. They learned about everything from drywalling, roofing and masonry to electrical circuits, welding and heavy equipment.

Demonstrations were given by instructors and students in the college's applied technology programs as well as by industry partners. The industry partners also participated in a new option this year – a panel that allowed students to hear experts discuss what they look for in employees.

September 26, 2019

CTE Month Video Challenge

CTE Month® and NASA HUNCH 2019-2020 Student Video Challenge

ACTE and NASA HUNCH are excited to host, in our second year, the student video challenge, celebrating career and technical education (CTE) and project-based learning programs.

Purpose: Offer students the opportunity to showcase the application of CTE and project-based learning programs in high-demand 21st century career fields on Earth as well as in space.

Goal: Inspire students by sparking their imagination and creativity as well as broadening their knowledge about STEM careers through the CTE Month and NASA HUNCH student video challenge.

Video Challenge and Theme: *Living and Working on the Moon and Beyond*

- Celebrate the 50+ year anniversary of the Apollo 11 mission by “looking back and looking ahead” — discuss some ideas of what lies ahead in lunar exploration and colonization.
- The moon is our closest planetary neighbor (average distance of 384,400 kilometers or 238,900 miles). Feature a project (hosted on Earth or the moon) that could advance our understanding of living and working in extreme environments.

- Showcase a future scenario on the moon that incorporates CTE and/or project-based learning.

The contest is open to **middle school (6th-8th grades), high school and post-secondary students** in any CTE or project-based (hands-on) class or program, or NASA HUNCH school. Students may enter as individuals or as a team.

Video Submission Guidelines

- Deadline to submit your video is on Monday, **March 2 at 11:59 p.m. EST.**
- Video entries must be 2 minutes or less in length and include name of school, year (2020), and names of video creators and participants (credits)
- Sound cannot be over 0 dBFS.
- Entries must incorporate the [CTE Month and NASA HUNCH logos](#).
- Entries must incorporate the following message, presented as text on-screen and/or spoken by talent: “Learn more about career and technical education at [ctemonth.org](#) and NASA HUNCH at [nasahunch.com](#).”
- Videos must be a minimum video resolution of 1280 x 720 format, or an audio independent format (e.g., Instagram square composition).
- Teachers and students will need to fill out different forms that can be found [here](#). The password is **HUNCHTALENT** (same as last year). The new Talent and Authorization form is simplified and contains several dropdown boxes. On the first screen where it reads “HUNCH Program associated with your class,” check Video/Media (HUNCH-ACTE Collaborative Program). Students under 18 must have a parent or guardian sign the form as well, which will require a parent’s email. Students and teachers who fill out the Talent Release before **Tuesday, Feb. 4**, will receive a NASA HUNCH certificate at the end of the school year.
- To finalize a submission, email the YouTube link to videochallenge@acteonline.org and provide a phone number, email and mailing address for both student and educator contacts.
- Entries that contain music or other copyrighted media must be accompanied by proof that entrants have the expressed permission of the original copyright holder. The following are examples of appropriate proof:
 - The name of the song along with the receipt from the school’s purchase of the song
 - A link to the website or Youtube video featuring the song
 - A signed letter or form stating that the music was created by a student in Garage Band or another program and that the student has been given permission for the music to be used royalty free

Please note: ACTE and NASA HUNCH retain the copyright on any submitted material and reserve the right to use the material in any way or format they see fit. Entries cannot be used for any commercial activity.