

Region II Leadership Conference

September 24-25, 2021

Schedule at a Glance

All times are Central

In-Person

Virtual

Friday, September 24, 2021


9:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Opening General Session - Grand Ballroom Central

Welcome - Chaney Mosley, Karen Pitts, and Sarah Williams

ACTE Update - Steve DeWitt

Keynote Options: Chelle Travis, ED of Skills USA

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APPLIED BIOTECH TRAINING

10:00 - 10:15 a.m.

Break/Expo Time

10:15 - 11:00 a.m.

Breakout Sessions - #1

1. Teaching Employability Skills for a New Workforce: Knox County Schools' Approach - Grand Ballroom Central

Speakers: Ulla Carr and Christy Seals (Knoxville County Schools)

We will provide an overview of how Knox County Schools is preparing students, teachers, counselors, and administrators for the demands in the workforce.

Theme: Motivate

2. CTE and Social-Emotional Learning: A Powerful Combination - Forum

Speaker: Nicole Cobb

Did you know that the number one skill employers look for in a new hire is creative problem solving? In fact, many hiring managers feel that while technical job knowledge is desired, it's not as important as "soft skills" like problem-solving, critical thinking and teamwork. It's not surprising that these social and emotional competencies rank high on the list of desired employee traits. Yet, fewer and fewer young adults are entering the workforce equipped with what many employers feel should be innate social and emotional skills.

CTE offers an excellent way for students to develop social and emotional learning (SEL) competencies. SEL is the process through which individuals acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show

empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions.

Using the research from the Collaboration of Academic and Social-Emotional Learning (CASEL) framework, participants will learn how to embed core SEL competencies into CTE and core academic curriculum. These strategies can easily be implemented into your current lesson plans and units! Best practices will be shared on how to provide and enhance students' job shadowing, internship and other experiences which will empower them to practice and master these skills and attributes in a real-world setting. In addition, participants will learn easy methods to measure SEL skill acquisition as well as school climate and culture.

3. **Elevating and Leveraging the Learner Voice in CTE**

Presenter: Kate Creamer and Christina Koch, AdvanceCTE
CTE programs should be designed with learners, not simply for learners. This session will explore tools developed by AdvanceCTE and ACTE that support state and local leaders in authentically engaging learners to the improvement of high-quality and equitable CTE programs, policies and supports.

4. **Supporting English Learners in Secondary Career and Technical Education Programs**

Speaker: Meghan Gregoire-Smith

In this session you will learn about the importance of scaffolding content for English learners (ELs) enrolled in secondary CTE programs, explore best practices for scaffolding content for ELs, and set goals for incorporating these best practices into your context. You will learn a range of effective strategies, including developing vocabulary, supporting writing, preparing ELs for exams, incorporating language mini-lessons and encouraging peer learning. You will learn from real-world examples of scaffolded CTE curricular materials.

Theme: Innovate

5. **Local CTE Advocacy Strategies**

Speakers: Alisha Hyslop and Jori Houck, ACTE

How do you make a difference in CTE policy at the local level? What types of activities and events are likely to have the most impact on state and local policymakers? This session will cover an arsenal of potential tools and strategies, from coalition building and using local media, to hosting events to draw attention to your CTE programs. You'll get practical tips and tools that you can use once you return home to influence CTE policy.

11:00 - 11:15 a.m.

Break/Expo Time

11:15 - 12:00 p.m.

Breakout Sessions - #2

1. From COVID to Calm: Building Resilience in Uncertainty - Grand Ballroom Central

Speakers: Elizabeth Priller (Elizabeth Priller Consulting)

The global pandemic has without a doubt impacted every one of our lives, and the rollercoaster of emotional adjustments can be overwhelming. Do you find yourself unsure of how to stay grounded and empowered while facing the ever-changing landscape of emotional, mental, physical, social, financial, and occupational changes of the COVID-19 pandemic, or stress in general? This seminar is an interactive workshop that helps you identify what stage of resiliency you are in, and how to make an action plan towards a more robust state of resilience and equanimity.

Theme: Motivate

2. Tackling Teacher Retention with an Innovative Approach to Teacher Induction - Forum

Speaker: Jodi Adams (Kentucky Department of Education)

Through a partnership with the University of Louisville and Murray State University, the Kentucky Office of Career and Technical Education reimagined occupation-based teacher preparation and delivered a new teacher induction program, which significantly improved teacher induction retention from 64.7% to 90.4%. Given its success, this session will guide participants through the program's development, implementation, and evaluation.

Theme: Innovate

3. Esports as CTSO: Execution & Funding

Speaker: Todd Conley

Learn how Esports, the most broadly popular topic amongst students, can be implanted and funded as a CTSO and transform a school's student body and CTE adoption rates.

Theme: Integrate

4. Innovative Classroom Instruction with iCEV

Speaker: Lonnie Johnson

With iCEV's innovative, learning-on-demand platform, educators have access to pre-built, fully customizable courses complete with multimedia lessons and supporting coursework. This session will introduce teachers to the platform and demonstrate how the platform increases student engagement and assists teachers in planning lessons and assessing students.

5. ACTE Legislative Update

Speaker: Alisha Hyslop, ACTE

Congressional legislation, federal regulations and national policies all have the potential to affect your work at the local level. Come learn about the most important policy actions currently impacting CTE, including the latest on the federal response to the COVID-19 pandemic, federal funding, and other key secondary and postsecondary policy issues.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Lunch Break - Grand Ballroom East

1:00 - 1:45 p.m.

Breakout Sessions - #3

1. Integrating JROTC into CTE: How Alabama made this a Win-Win - Grand Ballroom Central

Speaker: Robert F. Barrow, Lieutenant Colonel, US Army Retired, Director of Army Instruction (Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) Program)

Description In May of 2009, the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) formally named JROTC as a Course of Study within Career & Technical Education. Placed under the Government and Public Administration cluster, JROTC programs across the state enthusiastically embraced their newfound role with CTE! As a result of this marriage, JROTC has become a legitimate pathway for students to become College & Career Ready as well as meeting all CTE expectations in terms of participation, credentialing, and recognition for having viable CTE student organizations. JROTC instructors joined the Alabama Association of Career & Technical Education (ALACTE) and stood up a stand-alone Section with over 100 members state-wide. In 2014, ALSDE recognized the JROTC Completion Certificate as a legitimate credential on par with other business and industry recognized credentials. Furthermore, ALSDE supports, including nominated JROTC cadets to serve as State Officers on par with other Career Tech Student Organizations. Cadets are eligible for membership in the National Technical Honor Society and ALSDE accepts JROTC courses as substitute credit for both Physical Education and a state-mandated Career Preparedness Course. In addition, some districts have established JROTC CO-OP courses under the cluster to which they are assigned. JROTC is considered to be on par with other state CTE programs and has equal access to Federal Perkins dollars and state monies allocated to support CTE programs. Alabama's relationship with JROTC and CTE is considered to be the best in the nation...as the role-model on how to make this work, you are invited to learn what steps are needed to make this a success for students in your respective states.

2. Increasing Rigor in CTE Assessments - Forum

Speaker: Chaney Mosley

Assessing what students know and are able to do is easier said than done. While written tests are a time honored tradition and less time consuming to grade, they may not give educators the information necessary to determine student mastery. In this workshop, we will differentiate between multiple formats for assessment, discuss the advantages and challenges of assessments, consider the connection between learning objectives and assessment items, and create rubrics for project

and/or performance based assessments. All the while, we will attend to the levels of learning in which we ask our students to engage and aim to move them beyond a "stuff and dump" mentality so that they become more engaged in learning.

3. Get To Work: How Data Can Help You Help Your Students Get Jobs

Presenter: Bryan Shelly, Ph.D (Chmura Economics & Analytics)
The world of work is constantly changing, so your school's CTE programs must change too. This session will discuss how to use labor market data to keep up with the latest trends in industry and update your curriculum and programs to maximize the chances that your students get jobs. Find out what jobs and skills will be needed in which industries in your region. The session will conclude with a discussion on how to use the data to leverage change in your school.

4. Teaching Employability Skills for a New Workforce: Knox County Schools' Approach

Speakers: Ulla Carr and Christy Seals (Knoxville County Schools)
We will provide an overview of how Knox County Schools is preparing students, teachers, counselors, and administrators for the demands in the workforce.
Theme: Motivate

5. Keep Students on Track & Engaged with Remote Learning in CTE

Speaker: Melanie Tuck, eDynamic Learning
Statistically, we all know that when students are involved in CTE programs, they have a higher chance of graduating as they see the connection between school and work. But this year has brought many difficult situations we all did not foresee. It has made it challenging for schools to offer rich activities and labs, participate in service hours, and keep students' learning on track. During this session, you'll learn how eDynamic Learning has solutions to support you to keep your students engaged and prepared, offer enriching online projects and find success in the future!

6. WBL: Quality Experiences for Informed Futures

Speakers: Kelly Hoff (Carteret County Public Schools) and Bena Weires (Carteret Community College)
How to work with your community stakeholders to collaborate and offer opportunities to Middle School and High School students, as well as educators using Business Partnerships, Industry, the local Chamber of Commerce, and the Community College. By offering a variety of Work-Based Learning activities and providing these opportunities for students to have experiences for career awareness and career exploration and networking for educators.
Theme: Integrate

1:45 - 2:00 p.m.

Break/Expo Time

2:00 - 2:45 p.m.

Breakout Sessions - #4

1. **Building a Community Together: A Collaborative Approach to Integrating, Aligning, and Managing Curriculum - Grand Ballroom Central**

Speakers: Lisa Tunnell (Sunnyvale ISD) and Kim Tunnell (Education Advanced Inc.)

How do you know that your CTE courses are meeting the standards outlined in the framework and preparing students for successful work-based learning experiences? Join us to learn the process for helping CTE teachers unpack course learning standards directly related to the work-based learning framework. Discuss how to collaborate effectively within your community to create a high-quality comprehensive work-based learning experience for your CTE programs. Learn some tools and processes to ensure accountability, appropriate funding, and equitable access that support documentation of your programs.

Theme: Integrate

2. **From Problem to Possibility: 10 Questions for Creative Educational Leaders - Forum**

Speaker: Carrington Faulk (Newport News Public Schools)

Through the lens of 10 essential questions, attendees will engage in the thought process of a leadership style that values creativity and collaboration to embrace, generate, and execute new and fresh ideas. Attendees will develop the skills to motivate and engage others, especially when the path forward is unclear.

Theme: Innovate

3. **Math and Real Jobs: New Algebra and Geometry Curricula that Put Math to Work**

Speaker: Danielle Tallent

Why should I learn this stuff? This is an increasingly common question in math classes that suggests students are struggling to find purpose in their learning. In this session, we will explore new career-focused math curricula from Pathway2Careers that place algebra and geometry in the context of high-value career opportunities. Lessons will be explored that align with Common Core State Standards in algebra and geometry and demonstrate the real application of these standards in authentic on-the-job examples. Seeing the why behind the what can enhance both motivation and retention.

4. **Inquiry Based Learning in the CTE Classroom**

Speaker: Melanie Tuck, eDynamic Learning

Oftentimes these types of real world learning experiences have too many steps or not enough flexibility, but we believe that IBL

has multiple entry points and ways to customize. Learn how to create a framework that can support whatever type of learning you are doing, whether it's completely virtual, blended or face to face.

Saturday, September 25, 2021

9:00 - 9:45 a.m.

Breakout Sessions - #5

1. Building Work Ethic in a Post-COVID World: 5 Strategies to Develop Essential Soft Skills - Grand Ballroom Central

Speaker: Josh Davies (The Center for Work Ethic Development)

The COVID pandemic has forever changed the workplace as we know it. Millions of jobs are being lost as others have been radically transformed. While technical skills are still important, the biggest concern is the declining soft skills of the emerging workforce. Nearly 9 out of 10 hiring managers in the U.S. report that the lack of these soft skills are THE most important factor in their hiring, and yet less than 20% of today's employees demonstrate these crucial work ethic behaviors. Discover how you can build work ethic and set your students up for success in this post-COVID world.

Theme: Motivate

2. Earning Industry Certifications Beyond the Classroom - The New Reality of CTE

Speaker: Ben Peterson and Greg Johnson

From districts taking their CTE programs on the road to outside-the box strategies for delivering hands-on content and skills, discover how students are sharpening technical skills and preparing for industry credentials in health science, advanced manufacturing, transportation, and agri-science career pathways - anytime, anywhere, anyplace!

9:45 - 10:00 a.m.

Break

10:00 - 10:45 a.m.

Breakout Sessions - #6

1. Pamphlets, Posters, and PowerPoints, Oh No! - Grand Ballroom Central

Speaker: Chaney Mosley (Middle Tennessee State University)

Students are tired of creating a pamphlet, poster, or PowerPoint presentation. Teachers are probably tired of grading them! This presentation will explore how to design authentic student projects that connect learning to the world of work and encourage employability skill development.

Theme: Motivate

2. Collaboration and Credits: Maximizing Opportunities for Post-Secondary Readiness While in High School - Forum

Speakers: Jeff Blythe (Monroe County Area Technology Center), Mitzi Holland (Monroe County High School), and Ali Bomar Bechtold (Southcentral Kentucky Community and Technical College)

Attendees will learn how our High School College and Career Counselor, Area Technology Center Principal, and our Director of K12 Partnerships collaborate using Post Secondary Readiness Data to usher our students to success. We focus on each individual students' strengths while each of the three partners do their specific parts to remove barriers.

Theme: Integrate

10:45 - 11:00 a.m.

Break

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Closing Session (Awards)

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