

STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT FOR ADVANCE CTE: STATE LEADERS CONNECTING LEARNING TO WORK

Advance CTE Leadership

"The new brand represents the direction we are moving as an association in preparing individuals for career success. With CTE so central to education and workforce efforts, Advance CTE and its members are poised to provide the leadership and vision necessary to support high-quality CTE across the nation."

Rod Duckworth, Chancellor, Division of Career and Adult Education, Florida Department of Education and Advance CTE President

"The new name Advance CTE: State Leaders Connecting Learning to Work will enhance our organization's identity and reputation as being progressive and collaborative, specifically to those outside of CTE. The new name points to the growing recognition of CTE being seen as a major catalytic force that connect education, workforce and economic development."

Dr. Pradeep Kotamraju, Career and Technical Education (CTE) Bureau Chief, Division of Community Colleges, Iowa Department of Education and Advance CTE Secretary/Treasurer

"As our CTE community is being charged to boldly address the issues of skills gap, worker shortage, and career preparation facing our country, it is essential that our organization continue our strong leadership position. The new name positions our organization for that leadership role. It inspires action with the term **Advance**, but it doesn't stop there. The name defines our future – **Leaders Connecting Learning to Work**. This name clearly expands our purpose beyond the implementation of state and federal CTE legislation. It projects a strong leadership role for CTE in state and national workforce systems while keeping our roots in the education arena."

Richard Katt, State Director, Nebraska Career Education, Nebraska Department of Education and Advance CTE Region VII Board Representative

"The re-branding process was a terrific opportunity for the entire field to think about the value and impact of CTE – what it is now and what it can be. I am excited about the passion and commitment that was generated for CTE and for our national organization."

Eleni Papadakis, Executive Director, Washington Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board and Advance CTE Region X Board Representative

"Speaking as both an institutional leader and as the Board of Directors representative for all Advance CTE associate members, I believe this is the perfect time for the organization to undertake a rebrand, particularly one that better highlights the many voices it takes to deliver high-quality CTE. The Advance CTE: State Leaders Connecting Learning to Work brand clearly articulates the many state leaders who are necessary to build the partnerships and programs that are key to workforce and economic growth in our communities."

Dr. Sheila K. Ruhland, President, Tacoma Community College and Advance CTE Associate Member Board Representative

Advance CTE Partners

“We congratulate Advance CTE on this next step in building the CTE enterprise nationwide. The transition to this new brand will allow Advance CTE to more fully represent its members and goals, and I am thrilled to continue our partnership with them in this new phase of their work.”

LeAnn Wilson, Executive Director, Association for Career and Technical Education

“Advance CTE is a critical partner in helping states as they transform education to ensure every child has access to meaningful career pathways. It is great to see the name of the organization reflects the positive work they do each and every day.”

Chris Minnich, Executive Director, Council of Chief State School Officers

“Every leader in education and business is looking for the same thing: graduates who are prepared for success in their careers and lives. Advance CTE is the organization that exists to make sure that happens. I’m excited that the new name clearly reflects that vision.”

Dr. Tim Hodges, Director of Research at Gallup and public board member, The Center to Advance CTE

“I have long been an avid supporter of The National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium (NASDCTEc). Their mission has never been more important, and their work will be enhanced by the new name of *Advance CTE: State Leaders Connecting Learning to Work*. I believe the rebranding of this vital organization helps to poise CTE as a whole to flourish through their leadership, advocacy and partnerships. This new name is a more accessible expression of their mission to advance career and technical education, as well as their intention to work collaboratively. Congratulations on this rebranding initiative. This organization supports an innovative CTE system that prepares individuals to succeed, and your work has never been more important to our nation’s future.”

Timothy W. Lawrence, Executive Director, SkillsUSA

“While the career and technical education field is broad, we have always had one go-to source to help us think through the public policies our coalition could be promoting to help move CTE toward the center of our nation’s education and employment debates. Thank you to *Advance CTE* – both its excellent staff and its state-level leadership – for the partnership it has shown to our affiliated businesses, colleges, unions, community organizations and workforce boards. We look forward to continuing the collaboration.”

Andy Van Kleunen, Chief Executive Officer, National Skills Coalition