

Advance CTE Newsletter

February 2016

Your voice from the nation's
Capital



Dear Members,

As you already know, we are now officially **Advance CTE: State Leaders Connecting Learning to Work**. I want to thank you again for your encouragement and support throughout this process. We've had fantastic [feedback](#) from you all, our partners and the field at large, and couldn't have gotten to this point without you. As a reminder, if you'd like any more information about the Advance CTE brand, be sure to check out the [Members Only](#) section on our website where we've provided a variety of resources to help you understand and communicate about the new brand.

I would also like to draw your attention to our 2015 Annual Report. This report focuses on two themes. First, our impact: who we serve and the impact of our collective voice in 2015. Secondly, our reach: who we engaged through our leadership, advocacy and partnerships. We also map out where we're headed for 2016. For a quick overview of the report check out our [1-pager](#), and find the full report [here](#).

Lastly, it's been exciting to see CTE Month celebrated at schools across the country, on social media, featured in blogs and the media. What a wonderful time to raise up high-quality CTE programs across the country, and honor the students, educators and partners who make it happen. We've featured weekly blog posts highlighting what is happening at the local, state and national levels during CTE month, which you can read [here](#).

We're looking forward to taking on 2016 with our new brand and a variety of exciting initiatives and work to be done. Thank you for being with us every step of the way.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Green, Executive Director

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Member Resources

We updated the members-only section on the website. Follow the

Advance CTE Goes Live!

We have been overwhelmed with the amount of support we've received around the launch of our new brand, and it only reinforces our belief that this was the perfect time to 'advance' our organization. Our Board of Directors [President](#) and [Associate Member Representative](#) both praised the new brand in a series of blog posts. Additionally, members and partners voiced their support:

"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."

links below.

[Member Directory](#)

[Advance CTE Rebrand](#)

[Organizational Resources](#)

[Members-Only Webinars](#)

[State-Specific Tools & Resources](#)

Don't forget to [log in](#) to access these members-only resources!

*The new name positions our organization for that leadership role. It inspires action with the term **Advance**, but doesn't stop there. The name defines our future - **Leaders Connecting Learning to Work...**" - Richard Katt, State Director, Nebraska Career Education, Nebraska Department of Education and Advance CTE Region VII Board Representative*

"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

Read more [statements of support](#).

Upcoming Event

National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity is hosting their annual National Summit for Educational Equity (formally the Professional Development Institute) to tackle topics including educational equity and workforce diversity. Join leaders in the field April 11-14, 2016 in Alexandria, Virginia, for professional development, inspiring speakers and networking. Learn more [here](#).

View from the Hill

The President released his annual budget request to Congress for Fiscal Year 2017 this month, formally kicking-off the federal budget and appropriations process for the coming year. The budget proposes to level-fund the Perkins Act, but Congress has largely ignored the request and begun to develop its own spending priorities for the coming year. At the same time, lawmakers have been honoring CTE Month in a few interesting ways. Read more on all of this [here](#).

State Policy Overview

Governors and legislators across the country are continuing to leverage or feature CTE prominently in their major legislative and budget proposals. Here are a few notable examples:

- In [Virginia](#), [Idaho](#) and [Massachusetts](#), the states' governors made CTE a prominent piece of their State of the State and budget proposals.
- After the Wisconsin governor proposed a [legislative package](#) taking aim at the cost of postsecondary education, the bills look poised to pass both chambers. The package includes need-based scholarships for students to attend the state's technical colleges.
- After a hard-fought campaign from [educators](#), [employers](#) and [students](#), Arizona lawmakers unanimously [passed](#) a bill to restore \$29 million of the \$30 million that was cut from the budgets of the state's Joint Technical Education Districts last year.

Additionally, the Nebraska Community College system has launched a new [career awareness campaign](#).

Where We've Been

Advance CTE staff participated in a variety of events, presentations, conferences, briefings

and meetings with key partners, agencies and organizations including:

- Opportunity America
- Ford Next Generation Learning
- Department of Labor
- National Governors Association
- Association for Career and Technical Education
- National Skills Coalition
- Transportation, Distribution and Logistics Webinar, presenter
- Advancing Equity Technical Working Group
- Learning Policy Institute
- National Career Academy Coalition
- NYS P-TECH Leadership Council
- Missouri Council of Career & Technical Administrators

6 Presentations

6 Meetings or Briefings

2 States



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