



President's Message
By: Kelly Dunkelberger

We are nearing the end of the second quarter of school and right in the middle of the Holiday season. I hope you all had a great Thanksgiving break and were able to spend time with your family. Christmas break will be upon us before we know it and my wish is that everyone takes the time to use this break to relax and remember the great things we have in life and recharge for a strong second semester of school. If you attend the VISION conference in Phoenix, AZ Christmas break could be a great time to look through everything you brought home and at all the materials you gathered at the conference sessions to see what you are able to implement and help make the second semester a great one for yourself and your students.

During the annual SDACTE BOD Leadership Retreat in September, the Board members took time to share ideas and goals for the coming year. The first goal is to Recruit, Retain, and Reconnect with members through active engagement. The board is looking to continue creating short videos that help show the many advantages of being a member of the SDACTE Association. The videos will be uploaded to the SDACTE YouTube channel and you as members can use them to help encourage other CTE teachers in your school to join the SDACTE association. Our second goal is to provide a Summer Conference with well-rounded, engaging professional development and consistent content for our members. The board is working on locking down a keynote speaker who can bring you some insight into how to be a strong educator and leader and yet still take care of yourself as a person. One area the board would like to grow in is with our new CTE teachers. We are not only talking about the teachers who have one year under their belt but also the teachers who are just hired in the spring/summer of the school year. We are working on collaborating with administrators in schools to help get the summer conference information to all CTE teachers. Please make sure your division presidents know of any ideas you have for the summer conference.

The SDACTE BOD is excited to keep working for you. Please send any concerns or questions you have to your division president to bring to our monthly meetings. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Gracias, Merci, Danke, Grazie, Tack, and Wopila!

Whether it be in English, Spanish, French, German, Italian, Swedish, or Lakota, I say "Thank you," for choosing me as SDACTE's Executive Director.

I am excited to serve an organization that I have been a member of for almost 20 years. I believe in the mission and vision of a wonderful group of career and technical educators. SDACTE has played a large part in what I have done professionally: from summer conference, to ACTE and Region V conferences, to stipends, awards, and scholarships, to networking and opportunities to learn and grow with colleagues and friends from across the state. This organization is one that has always led me to the right people in the right places when support was needed.

As Executive Director, I'm here to serve you, the members of our organization. I started the position officially at the beginning of October, even jumping right in to meet the board of directors at the annual leadership retreat in September. I'm always glad to see familiar faces and hope to meet new ones as the year progresses. I invite you to reach out with questions or concerns, or even just to say, "hello!" and encourage all of you to get involved. Of course, thank you to those that already play a big part in what makes this organization so great.

Thank You SDACTE!
By: Lenessa Keehn



SAVE THE DATE

ACTE

REGION V CONFERENCE



Early Bird Ends Feb. 1

\$475

ACTE Members

JUSTIFICATION

- ✔ Valuable teaching tools
- ✔ Industry focused sessions
- ✔ Opportunities for partnerships
- ✔ Program sustainability

APRIL 9 - 12, 2024 >

Conference Opportunities

Region V – Hawai'i
By: Bobbie Jo Donovan



If you haven't attended a Region V ACTE Leadership Conference before, this may be the year to go! Hosted by Hawai'i ACTE, the conference is aligned with ACTE's strategic plan with opportunities relating to member value and engagement, advocacy and awareness, professional and leadership development, inclusion, access, equity & diversity, teacher recruitment and retention and strategic partnerships. They have a packed schedule that includes Place Based Learning & Industry Tours, Networking opportunities, breakout sessions, and Best Practices Roundtables.

Registration is open! Early Bird rates end February 1st. For additional information visit www.hawaiiacte.org.

Region V Silent Auction

Benefitting Maui Fire Crisis

Hawai'i ACTE invites Region V members to submit items for the silent auction. All proceeds benefit the ongoing crisis and victims of the Maui fires. Monetary donations will also be accepted at the door.

Check out the flyer for more details here:

[Region V Silent Auction Flyer \(Click Here\)](#)

SDACTE

Providing leadership and assistance to educators in developing a prepared and competitive workforce.

SDACTE Conference Heads West!

By: Andy Jensen



"I think Toby Keith sang it best..." Go west young man, haven't you been told, Rapid City's full of CTE Educators, Tours and More..."

The 2024 Summer SDACTE Summer Conference will be held in Rapid City this coming July 28-30, 2024. Take a moment to get this in your calendar. It will be an exciting, western adventure with our colleagues. The Board is working hard to make sure you have a great conference! I know I am excited to head to Rapid, as I haven't been to conference there yet. Sessions will be held at the Western Dakota Technical College.

In the upcoming weeks, we will be asking our membership to help with tours and presenters. If you have any industry partners who you think would be great at presenting or have tour suggestions – please have them fill out the form. Without your help, we can't provide the top-notch conference that you are wanting!

We are here to make Career and Technical Education the best it can be for our students.

Can't wait to see you at our Summer SDACTE Conference, in Rapid City, July 28-30, 2024! Happy Holidays!



Division President Reports

A Note of Encouragement By: Kristi Dancsisin

The other day I was in my classroom feeling frustrated by the mess. The desks were in disarray, my desk had a lot of papers on it, writing was all over the boards, and more. Personally, I do not like a big mess, and I am sure many of you feel the same way. For a couple days I was feeling like a failure and generally out of control. Fortunately, after talking to family and friends, I was able to re-frame the mess and view it through a lens of gratitude, rather than stress. Over the next few days in my classroom, I was able to see the papers on my desk as a sign of how I listened to my students who wanted to do their learning on paper. When a class asked why the desks kept moving, I turned the conversation into a commercial for one of our business classes that was doing something really fun (which requires regularly re-arranging the desks). Finally, the writing on the board that didn't get erased right away led into a great conversation in another class. We all know the learning is more authentic when they are interested and asking the questions and that is exactly what happened! We all get to the point in our semester or year where things seem like they are a mess. For most CTE classrooms the only way to get to true learning is through that mess. I challenge each of you to take a step back and look at your own 'mess' with a lens of gratitude & see the amazing things that are truly happening in your classrooms!

Presidents Greeting from SDAAE By: Don Sutera

It's hard to believe that we are just a week from Thanksgiving and things are as busy as ever. It was great seeing so many of you at National FFA Convention and seeing the successes of our South Dakota FFA members. Once convention was over, I know many of you found yourself wasting no time preparing your chapter for District Leadership Development Events. I am thankful that our district is a week later this year and therefore giving me a little extra time to prepare. Every year I say we are going to get started earlier and every year it sneaks up on us and I wish I had more time. With District LDEs coming to an end everyone will get a little break from the students as we head into Thanksgiving break. I know that Thanksgiving break won't be a vacation as I know that I will be busy getting ready for a sub as I get ready to attend NAAE Conference in Phoenix. I look forward to seeing some of you in Phoenix and truly look forward to the professional development opportunities that the conference has to offer. After getting home from Phoenix many will be right back on the road as they head to Rapid City for State LDEs. Once LDEs are over many of you will be making plans for fruit sale delivery and before we know it, it will be Christmas. I hope each and every one of you find some time to relax and do what you enjoy as we all know things will be as busy as ever as we head into second semester. I hope that many of you are planning to attend the AFNR Winter Professional Development as I find it great way to learn many new things and to meet up with fellow Ag teachers from across the state. I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a great 2024!

SDACTE

Greetings from the FCS Division By: Jennifer Poulos

I hope this newsletter finds you well. As your colleague, I appreciate all that you are doing for the FCS students. Keep continuing to inspire the lives of others. FCS education is gearing up to end its 1st semester of classes. This was our first chance to embrace in our classroom what our program is all about. Take time to reflect on how that unfolded and be prepared for the new semester.

If you are in search of lesson plans and or examples of what you can bring into your classroom, reach out to the listserv. As educators, we are much better when we work towards a common goal. Our goal is to continue to inspire, engage, and embrace the students in our classrooms.

Here are a few things to remember when you are gearing up for the 2nd semester.

- Inspire confidence in your students.
- Encourage resiliency.
- Foster Inclusivity
- Cultivate a love for FCS education.
- Lead by Example

At the end of the day, remember one thing. You are only ONE person. You can only do what you can handle. Take time for yourself and know you are doing a great job.

Division President Reports



HEALTH SCIENCE Update By: Lisa Fuccello



Hello again, Health Science division members! I am pleased to share with you this month that I was able to attend the National Consortium for Health Science Conference in Seattle, WA on October 17-19. Kristin Larson (state DOE) and Natasha Presler (Health Science division president-elect) also joined me. We were told that we were the first attendees EVER from South Dakota to attend this conference, which was pretty amazing!

While attending any conference, a large benefit is the networking that occurs with other teachers using curriculum and methods similar to your own. There were over 400 attendees at this conference! Those connections are an invaluable pathway to resources and connections that might not otherwise have been made. The keynote speakers that we heard from were also spectacular. Kim Bearden and John O'Leary were inspirational and had great stories to remind us of the importance of the teaching profession and our work every day.

Along with hearing from some inspirational speakers, we were able to attend some amazing breakout sessions. Each and every breakout session helped us to improve our teaching methods while ensuring our curriculum is aligned with the most updated standards released at the national level. One of my favorite sessions was learning how to incorporate clay model building (kinesthetic, hands-on learning) into various body system units that are taught. Another session walked me through how to incorporate clinical lab skills in a classroom setting using inexpensive, everyday items instead of having to purchase expensive simulation equipment that is not always affordable for school districts. There were also several sessions that were very applicable to HOSA - Future Health Professionals.

One of Natasha's favorite sessions was called "Fun, Engaging, and Cross-curricular Activities to use in Health Science Everyday!" This session gave resources and examples for how to team up with other CTE classes to create meaningful activities for students that address problems for health care patients. Natasha also enjoyed a clay-modeling session regarding the heart, coronary arteries, and the dangers of building up plaque in the arteries. In addition, there was a session on implementing case-studies into class, where an army medic (who is now a teacher) led them through an emergency scenario that he experienced in the field.

At the conference, we were also able to attend a vendor expo where we had a chance to talk with various companies about emerging health science technology equipment coming out on the market that would help improve learning and retention for our students.

We are extremely grateful for the opportunity we were given to attend this national conference and believe it will help us move forward as we work to build the Health Science division of CTE for South Dakota in the future!

We strongly encourage you to attend NCHSE Conference or any other Health Science conference in the future if you are able. Perkins money was used to attend this conference, which can be a great way to use some of that funding on professional development. Conferences provide you with tools and encouragement for your classrooms, and help get you re-energized and excited to teach your curriculum. And of course, we hope to see you this summer at our state CTE conference!



Achieve 100 Applications

Opening Soon! Check out the newsletter article!

Achieve 100 is coming up at the end of December. Get recognized! 100% of your CTE teachers in your school need to be members of SDACTE/ACTE by Dec. 31 in order to apply for recognition. Lenessa Keehn will be more than happy to help your school apply -- more info will be coming soon, so watch for it. South Dakota is a strong CTE state! Let's keep that tradition & recognize your efforts!



Mitchell FBLA made 15 gallons of chili for Love Feast, a meal open to anyone in the community as well as participating in a community trunk or treat.

Check It Out: Calendar

SDACTE Calendar Update!

The SDACTE website calendar is updated online with important dates for SDACTE!

Check it out using the link below!

<https://www.acteonline.org/sdacte/calendar-and-newsletter/>

You can even subscribe to it and add those dates to your calendar!

Division President Reports

T&I Division Update
By: Lauren Mehlert



It is mind-blowing that we are almost halfway through this school year! Where does the time go? I hope that you are all having a good year and have found ways to apply what we learned over the summer at the SDACTE Conference or that you picked up some new ideas from VISION. With the holiday break coming up soon, I encourage you to the opportunity to recharge while you spend time with your family and friends, so you are able to finish the year strong.

Please do not forget to save the date for the SDTEA Annual Conference in Pierre, which is a great way to connect with colleagues from around the State and gain some new ideas. This year, the conference will be held at the Ramkota on January 25th – 27th. There will be college grad credit available, and the guest speaker will be John Stiegelmeier, Former Head Coach and National Champion in 2023. You can find more information about the SDTEA at www.sdtea.k12.sd.us.

Remember that we will be meeting out west next summer for the SDACTE Conference and we are looking for topic ideas to make our annual conference even more engaging. If you know someone who is willing to share new ideas or have an idea of places we can tour, please send that information to me at Lauren.Mehlert@k12.sd.us.

As always, if you need anything, please reach out. Have a wonderful Holiday Season!

Quality State Association

South Dakota ACTE

South Dakota has been recognized as a Quality State Association and was recognized at the State Leaders Breakfast at ACTE Vision Conference.

Representatives from our state association pictured below are SDACTE Executive Director, Lenessa Keehn and SDACTE President, Kelly Dunkelburger; and SDACTE President Elect, Andy Jensen.



ON THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S

Notepad:



- Innovative Program Awards opens Jan 1 and are due Feb 1. Info @ sdacteonline.org
- SDACTEonline.org: check out the new, updated calendar; easily add important dates to schedule
- Division Presidents: Reach out to yours! They are the key to your best summer conference yet!

Member Opportunities



CTE: In Action

Sioux Valley High School recently implemented FrameWrx where students are using this design platform to build their game-day experience and so much more.



Legislative Update By: Josh Hall

As we get ready for another legislative session, I would encourage you to invite your local legislators and/or the media into your programs to show off the great things that are happening in CTE programs across South Dakota. We are very grateful to the legislature for committing 5 million dollars (Senate Bill 59) toward CTE programs during the last legislative session and we want to show our appreciation-verbally, a quick email, a handwritten note, or any other idea you have would be great!

The timing of these legislative visits and gestures of appreciation will also allow our legislators to have positive and fresh insight into what is happening in CTE Education across South Dakota. Hopefully, they will take that content back to their discussions in Pierre.

As we navigate the session, please look for information on bills that are being proposed that relate to CTE Education. We know the overall education funding bill is always one of the most important as it drives salaries in education. We will keep you up to date on that bill and any others related to CTE Education. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me: Joshua.Hall@k12.sd.us



Achieve 100 By: Annika Russel-Manke

ACTE's Achieve 100 Award which is presented to schools/institutions that have achieved 100% membership among their career and technical education staff and faculty. The Achieve 100 Award is a distinguished award that showcases an institution's dedication and commitment to career and technical education. Each school/institution is given an engraved plaque that highlights their commitment to CTE the first year of eligibility and then receive a plate with the year each additional year they receive it.

SDACTE has several schools recognized every year as Achieve 100 and lead the nation in number of schools. Teachers need to be members of SDACTE/ACTE by Dec 31. Contact Lenessa Keehn if you would like help applying or want to verify teachers membership.

Get in the Know: SDACTE Calendar

Visit [SDACTEonline.org](https://www.sdacte.org) to view the newly updated calendar page. Stay up to date with all things ACTE/SDACTE by hitting the + sign and subscribing to the calendar!

Vision Stipend Creates Opportunity for Members By: Carrie Kafka



THANK YOU SOUTH DAKOTA ACTE! As a Vision stipend recipient, I was able to attend Vision 2023 in Phoenix, AZ along with 5100 other CTE inspired professionals. The conference was full of energy. Morris Morrison kicked off the opening session his message was inspiring as well as challenging. His message encouraged listeners to "trust your gut, and follow your voice." CTE offers a world of opportunities to students, Morris reminded me of all the reasons I went into this career field. I have a voice, and I use my voice every day to teach life skills to any student who enters my classroom. Morris encouraged listeners to "disrupt yourself!" He challenged listeners to ask themselves: what do I need to grow? A trip to Vision conference allowed for an opportunity to reflect and connect with other professionals in my career field. I return to the classroom with new ideas, and a clear mind to finish out the semester. Through attendance I have learned some new ways to excite my classroom learners, bridge the gap between different CTE departments, and make middle school learning fun. I am thankful for the opportunity to attend this excellent conference. If you have not had the opportunity to attend a Vision conference, do it! You will not be disappointed.



Scholarship Opportunities

CTE:
In Action

Stanley County HOSA went to West River Fall LAUNCH Academy at Western Dakota Tech on October 13 and then to HOSA mini camp in Huron on November 6th. They were able to practice skills related to physical therapy, respiratory therapy, clinical nursing and phlebotomy.

Scholarship Update
By: Alex Toupal



We hope this newsletter finds you well and ready to kickstart another year of academic and career excellence. We are thrilled to announce that the South Dakota Career and Technical Education (SDACTE) Scholarship is back, and applications for the 2024 academic year will be opening on January 8th, 2024! This is your chance to secure funding for your education and take the next step towards a promising future.

Key Dates:

Application Opening Date: January 8th, 2024.

Application Deadline: April 1st, 2024.

Whether you are a high school graduate in 2024 or a Post-Secondary Applicant with at least one year remaining in your program, this scholarship opportunity is for you. We encourage all eligible students to apply and join us in the pursuit of career and technical education excellence. There will be a total of 4 scholarships awarded for the with a minimum of one high school graduate and one Post-Secondary Applicant.

Eligibility Criteria:

High School Graduates: If you're a high school graduate in 2024 and planning to pursue a career and technical education program, you're eligible to apply. Individuals must be attending a South Dakota Technical Institute or University in any CTE related fields, will be full time for the 2024 – 2025 school year, and demonstrate scholastic achievement.

Post-Secondary Applicants: If you're currently enrolled in a career and technical education program with at least one year remaining in your studies, you're eligible to apply. Individuals must be attending a South Dakota Technical Institute or University in any CTE related fields, will be full time for the 2024 – 2025 school year, and demonstrate scholastic achievement.

Scholarship Details:

The SDACTE Scholarship is designed to support South Dakota students in their pursuit of career and technical education. This scholarship can help cover tuition, books, and other related expenses. The exact amount awarded will vary based on the number of qualified applicants and available funds. Scholarship Application can be found at the following link; [Connecting](#).

Application Process:

To make the application process as easy as possible, we've streamlined it through a Google Form. On January 8th, 2024, you will find the application link on our official website. Simply follow the instructions provided and ensure that your application is submitted by April 1st, 2024, to be considered for this year's scholarships.

Contact Us:

If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to reach out to Mr. Alex Toupal SDACTE Scholarship Chair at alex.toupal@k12.sd.us. We are here to support you in your journey towards a rewarding career and technical education. We look forward to receiving your applications and assisting you in achieving your educational and career goals. Remember, the SDACTE Scholarship is your opportunity to invest in your future, so don't miss out!

CTSO and CTE Connections



Igniting Growth and Opportunity: 2023-2024 CTSO Revitalization Grant Winners By: Katie Paulson

We are thrilled to share exciting news that promises to breathe new life into our commitment to student success and leadership development. The CTSO Center is proud to announce the winners of this year's CTSO Revitalization Grants.

Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs) play a crucial role in shaping the future of our students by providing them with invaluable opportunities to develop leadership skills, explore career pathways, and engage in hands-on learning experiences. However, we recognize that over time, the needs of our organizations evolve, and it's essential to adapt to these changes to ensure continued success.

The CTSO Revitalization Grants are designed to empower our local chapters and to rejuvenate their programs, foster innovation, and better meet the evolving needs of our students. Whether it's upgrading official dress, expanding student professional development opportunities, or implementing new community projects, these grants aim to provide the necessary support to enhance the overall CTSO experience for years to come.

The winners of the 2023-2024 CTSO Revitalization Grant are as follows in no particular order:

Educators Rising: Aberdeen/A TEC, Brandon Valley, Brookings, Harrisburg, Milbank, Mobridge-Pollock, Mitchell/MCTEA, O'Gorman, Parkston & Watertown

FBLA: Mitchell/MCTEA, Parkston, Rapid City Stevens & Tri-Valley

FCCLA: Bridgewater Emery, Brookings, Dakota Valley, De Smet, Doland, Ethan, Eureka, Faulkton, Fredrick, Gettysburg, Hamlin, Harrisburg, Hitchcock-Tulare, Iroquois, Kimball, Marion, Menno, Mitchell/MCTEA, Parker, Parkston, Redfield, Selby, Sioux Falls Lincoln, Sioux Valley, Tri-Valley & Wolsey-Wessington

FFA: Bennett County, Brandon Valley, Brookings, Faulkton, Harrisburg, Hitchcock-Tulare, Kimball, Mitchell/MCTEA, Parker, Parkston, Rapid City Central & Tri-Valley

HOSA: Brandon Valley, Brookings, Harrisburg, Milbank, Mitchell/MCTEA, O'Gorman, Parkston & Tri-Valley

SkillsUSA: Hanson & Mitchell/MCTEA



Connecting Students to Industry By: Kristin Larson

South Dakota ACTE is once again sponsoring the CTE Rookie of the Year Award. We want to send out an extra thank you to all 1st year CTE teachers and award one rock star teacher with a CTE Rookie of the Year gift. If there is a new CTE teacher – or teachers – in your school, please nominate them today! All entries must be submitted by January 15th to be considered for the gift, and the winning nominee will be announced on January 20th.

Please use the following form to nominate a 1st year CTE teacher for this award.

<https://forms.gle/snWxiA7t6xhYaFd3A>



Career Clusters Framework By: Amy Miller

We wanted to make sure each of you know about the effort underway to modernize the national CTE Career Clusters Framework. This modernization effort is being led by Advance CTE, WestEd and Indigo Education Company to ensure it remains responsive and relevant to the work and learner needs for decades to come. Your voice is needed and valued to ensure all input is received and considered prior to a new Framework design in Fall 2024.

The National Career Clusters® Framework National Implementation Survey is open to all CTE teachers and administrators. The survey takes 10 minutes and includes questions on how you use the Framework now, how you desire to do so in the future, and what tools would be useful in implementing a modernized Framework.

Please take the time to respond as this is the best opportunity to share input about the implementation and use of the Framework. Advance CTE will share topline findings from this survey in early 2024, and future opportunities to provide input on the structure and content of the future Framework will occur in Spring 2024.

Please respond to the survey by December 1, 2023 by clicking here: www.wested.org/ccfs

Check out the updated Career Clusters Framework on the next page!



