

QUICK UPDATES

Upcoming Advance CTE and Center to Advance CTE Board Meetings

Advance CTE Board Meetings

- Board Meeting on Governance - March 29, 2017 at 1-2 p.m. ET via conference call
- Board Meeting - May 1, 2017 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at the 2017 Spring Meeting in Washington DC
- Board Meeting on FY18 Budgets - June 22, 2017 at 2-3 p.m. ET via conference call

The Center to Advance CTE Board Meetings

- Board Meeting - May 1, 2017 from 3-5 p.m. at the 2017 Spring Meeting in Washington DC
- Board Meeting on FY18 Budgets - June 22, 2017 at 3:30-4:30 p.m. ET via conference call

Joint Board Meeting

- Joint Board Meeting – May 1, 2017 from 2-3 p.m. at the 2017 Spring Meeting in Washington DC

State CTE Director Changes

- In January, there were two new vacancies: Indiana's Peggy Wild and Arizona's Jeanne Roberts. Advance CTE is maintaining contact with both offices in the interim.
- Illinois State Director Dora Welker notified staff of her intent to retire in late February. Staff will work to facilitate this transition to maintain contact.
- Two states – New Mexico and Nevada – named new State Directors in January.
 - New Mexico: Elaine Perea, of New Mexico, previously served three years as the Deputy CTE Director under Eric Spencer, the former State Director. Perea's background is in business and finance. Staff held an informational call with Perea in January and paired her with Tiffany Sanderson of South Dakota.
 - Nevada: Kristine Nelson was appointed to the position in early January. She previously served as the liaison to the state Workforce Development Board. Staff are working to schedule a call with her.
- Two new State Director blogs have been posted. Learn more about Texas' [Quentin Suffren](#) and Maryland's [Lynne Gilli](#).

Strategic Priority: Ensure strong organizational governance and fiscal security for both Advance CTE and The Center to Advance CTE

Finance Update:

Advance CTE Budget Snapshot
Received 80% of budgeted income
Expended 39% of budgeted expenses

Center to Advance CTE Budget Snapshot
Received 107% of budgeted income
Expended 47% of budgeted expenses

Fundraising

Advance CTE is currently pursuing a variety of federal, corporate and foundation contacts to discuss potential grants and contracts. Below is a chart explaining this month’s engagement with various development opportunities.

<i>Grant/Proposal/ Contract</i>	<i>Organization /Partner</i>	<i>Engagement in Past Month</i>	<i>Status</i>
Siemens Foundation		This month, Advance CTE’s research firm to conducted 8 focus groups to begin to identify the most effective messages to parents, students and the public around CTE. These focus groups will serve as the foundation for a national survey to be in the field in February. In addition, we received applications from 8 out of 20 states who applied to receive technical assistance and small grants to support their student recruitment strategies. States will be selected and notified in February.	Ongoing
New Skills for Youth	JP Morgan Chase CCSSO	A fuller update is below about recent and upcoming initiatives and deliverables supported by the NSFY grant.	Ongoing
IDIQ – Connecting Secondary CTE & Apprenticeships	OCTAE	Advance CTE’s and partners’ updated draft on CTE-apprenticeship programs was approved by OCTAE in January. Planning began on a webinar to release the report, but USED then paused the webinar until they can receive approval from the new administration.	Ongoing
Workforce Matters	Multiple	Through an introduction from Siemens, we have been working with Workforce Matters, a coalition of foundations that are committed to supporting workforce development, about how to engage and support their members around CTE. In February, we will be leading webinar on work-based learning for this group.	Relationship Building
Arconic Foundation		We have been in discussions with Arconic – formerly part of Alcoa – for the last year and submitted a series of fundable ideas in December. We found out they have decided to focus on local, community-based investments but we are keeping the conversation open.	Stalled
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation		We have had a number of discussions with John Fischer, laying groundwork for potential opportunities under a reauthorized Perkins. In January, we learned they are considering a new strategy around CTE/Perkins and we provided information for an internal brief. We hope to learn	Early discussions

		more about the prospects of support for CTE in coming weeks.	
NSF	EDC	Advance CTE is being written into a new proposal for the National Science Foundation related to careers in “big data.” The goal would be to work with employers and partners to identify the skill set needed for careers in this field and then to build out a program of study/pathway. This proposal is a vetting proposal. If NSF is interested, we would find out in November. Then a full proposal would need to be submitted.	Early discussions

Strategic Priority: Provide, encourage and support professional learning to expand the skills, content knowledge and leadership of state CTE leaders.

Membership Update

In January, Advance CTE received 1 new Associate, State membership and 3 new Associate, Non-state memberships.

Total membership as of January 31, 2017: 333

- State Director: 54
- Associate, State: 90
- Associate, Non-state: 90
- Organizational: 34 organizations (representing 99 individuals)

Meetings/Events

Event Name	Date	Total Participants	Total Participating Members	% of Participation Goal (if applicable)
2017 Spring Meeting	May 2-4	21	21	14%

Registration for the 2017 Spring Meeting opened on January 17, 2017. This year’s meeting will feature our annual Excellence in Action and Congressional Star of Education awards. Staff requested, and received approval from the Executive Officers, to move the member-focused Star of Education awards to the Fall Meeting, where they can be better featured.

Staff are also putting together the final details of the agenda, which will be released during the first week of February. This year’s agenda will feature a mix of general session panels featuring national experts, breakouts that “go deep” on a specific state, and small-group discussions. New this year – staff are developing a series of workshops to bring a new dimension to our meetings.

Member Resources and Supports

State Policy and New Skills for Youth Update: On January 11, the NSFY team announced 10 states that would be receiving Phase Two funding. The announcement was marked with an event on Capitol Hill, where Elaine Quijano moderated a panel including JPMorgan Chase CEO Jamie Dimon, Michael Bloomberg, Rhode Island governor Gina Raimondo, Senators Tim Scott, Tim Kaine and Michael Bennet.

The team has been working on planning supports for Phase Two participants. These supports include publications and tools created by Advance CTE, as well as Advance CTE input into progress monitoring,

affinity groups and other technical assistance. Additionally, staff presented on a webinar with over 100 participants to discuss the findings of the December 2016 State of CTE report on industry experts.

Also in January, Advance CTE and the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) released the fourth installment in the annual Year in Review series, highlighting legislation, board rules, executive actions and other CTE-relevant state policies that were passed during the calendar year. Staff presented on a webinar discussing the report on January 25.

The Learning that Works Resource Center continues to sustain high engagement in the beginning of 2017. In January, the Resource Center received more than 8,300 hits, driven in part by the launch of the second phase of the New Skills for Youth initiative. On January 11, Advance CTE, in partnership with CCSO and ESG, released ten snapshots profiling work in the Phase Two funded states. These snapshots, along with increased attention around the initiative, resulted in approximately 1,300 hits to the Resource Center - the highest amount of traffic in a single day since the Resource Center was launched in June. Staff will release snapshots for the remaining NSFY states in late February.

In January, Advance CTE also issued a call for additional resources, which generated 20 submissions from eight partners. Moving forward, the Advance CTE team aims to strengthen the quantity and quality of resources available in the Learning that Works Resource Center by developing new policy profiles, continuing to add new resources, and completing a scheduled audit of the existing resources to ensure they are relevant and high quality.

Strategic Priority: Lead a cross-organizational and cross-state effort to successfully build awareness, advocacy and accomplishment of the *Putting Learner Success First: A Shared Vision for the Future of CTE*.

In May, Advance CTE and six partner organizations released [Putting Learner Success First: A Shared Vision for the Future of CTE](#). Since the release, tens of thousands of copies have been distributed across the country and state and local leaders have begun to signal their commitment to its implementation. Over 20 states have including *Putting Learner Success First* in their professional development and/or strategic planning in some capacity.

Since the release, we have signed on five additional supportive organizations, most recently National FFA in December. Their signed letter of support can be found [here](#).

We have been doing monthly blog posts on Putting Learner Success First, with the January [post](#) featuring [National FFA](#) and a new resource we created in partnership with the National Council for State Directors of Community Colleges on the [role of postsecondary leaders](#) in supporting the vision.

Finally, in January, Advance CTE staff launched an informal committee of its members to provide input and help generate ideas for ensuring Putting Learner Success First achieves impact and reach throughout the nation. In total, over 30 individuals – including State CTE Directors, counterparts, state agency staff, local administrators and key partners – signed on to participate and 15 individuals were able to join the first call (and another 8 individuals gave initial input electronically). Some of the early suggestions and ideas that emerged from this group include:

- Focusing our supports and efforts around helping the community use *Putting Learner Success First* as an advocacy tool to show the value proposition of CTE and its potential impact on education in the short term
- But, in the long term, focusing our supports and efforts around helping the community align their strategic plans/visions to *Putting Learner Success First*

- Develop a plan for the development of resources that can be used at the local level by administrators and educators to better understand how their practice aligns with – or needs to align with – the principles of *Putting Learner Success First*. Anything created would need clear direction for use by those local leaders and state officials supporting such professional development
- Focusing attention on engaging business and industry partners to be advocates for CTE and *Putting Learner Success First*

Strategic Priority: Build on our existing strong public policy leadership by developing and disseminating legislation and public policy that impacts education, economic and workforce development in support of expanded access to and quality of CTE.

Federal Advocacy Plan: Given Steve’s departure, we encourage you to make sure you are getting the blog posts, as it’s our main vehicle for timely, legislative updates. In case you missed any of the recent posts, here are links:

- **Betsy DeVos’s Narrowing Path to Confirmation** – February 3, 2017 - <http://blog.careertech.org/?p=12842>
- **President Trump’s First Week in Office** – January 29, 2017 - <http://blog.careertech.org/?p=12822>
- **Betsy DeVos on CTE** – January 18, 2017 - <http://blog.careertech.org/?p=12808>

Perkins: We continue to work with our coalition of education and employer partners to advocate for our Perkins reauthorization priorities. Recently, a letter, signed by 85 organizations, was sent to the CTE Caucus chairs, calling for reauthorization and emphasizing the important role CTE has to nation’s employers, infrastructure and security.

You can learn more, as well as see the letter, here: http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2017/02/career-technical-education-advocates-trump-presidency.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzRss&utm_campaign=campaignk-12

The House Education and Workforce Committee has signaled its intent to pick up Perkins reauthorization in March. The expectation is that they will begin with the bill that passed the House last year, H.R. 5587. Another hearing is expected but we don’t know if that will happen before or after introduction of the bill and if the hearing will be a full committee or subcommittee hearing. We are meeting with House staff next week and will continue to share updates as we have them.

Budget / Appropriations: While nothing specific has been circulated by the new Administration related to their budget plans, the rumor mill is suggesting that the budget will be informed by the Heritage Foundation’s proposal. This proposal includes:

- Eliminating all funding for WIOA
- Eliminating “competitive and project grant programs that fall under” ESSA and “remaining ARRA programs.
- “At the same time, reduction spending on formula grant programs managed by the Department of Education by 10 percent.” This would include Perkins.

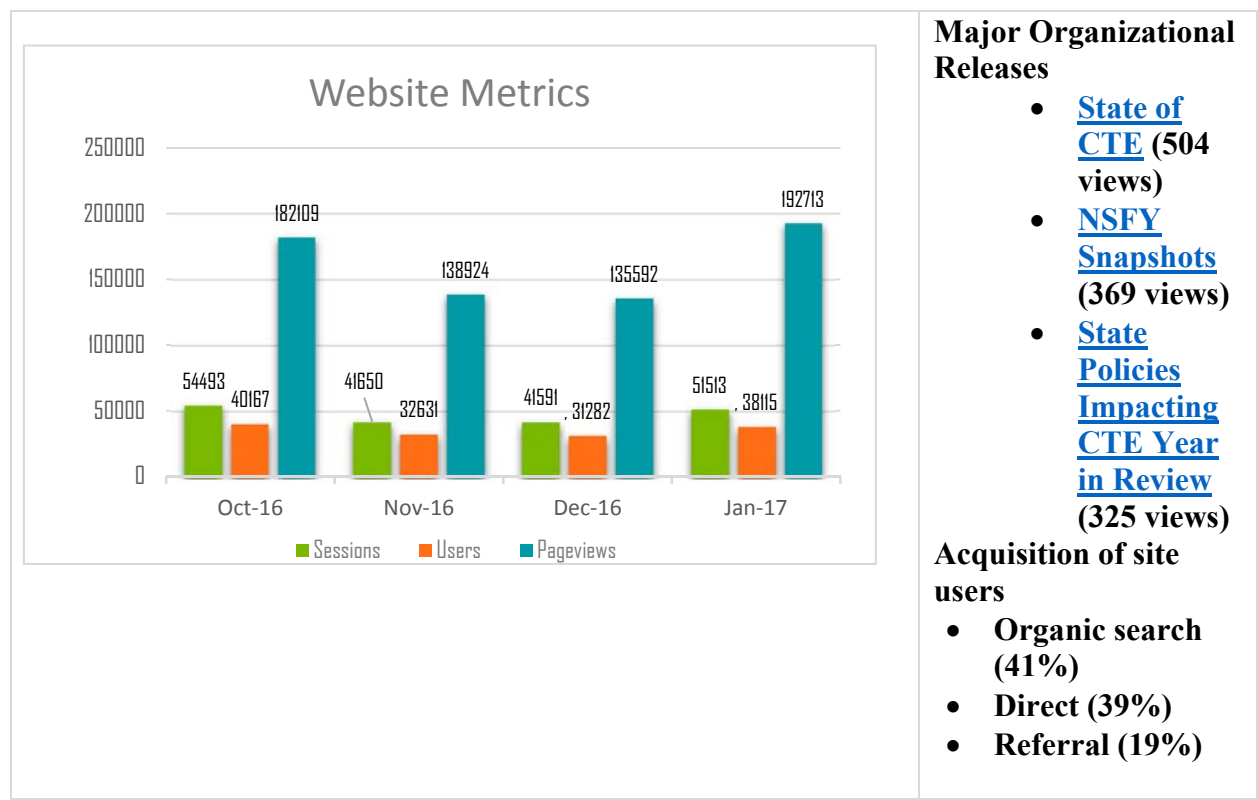
Here are links to the Heritage Foundation’s proposal:

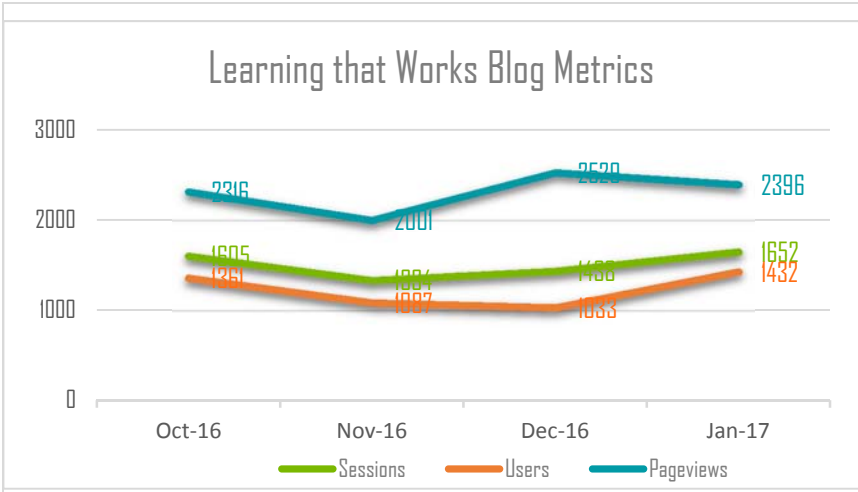
- <http://www.heritage.org/budget-and-spending/report/blueprint-balance-federal-budget-2017>
- <http://thf-reports.s3.amazonaws.com/2016/BlueprintforBalance.pdf>

Advance CTE is an active member of the Committee for Education Funding (<http://cef.org/>), which works to increase and protect education funding. We are also a partner of NDD United (<http://www.nddunited.org/>), a diverse coalition dedicated to protecting the funding dedicated to nondefense, discretionary programs, which includes education. The funding battle, at this stage, is at the macro level - trying to protect the spending cap for labor, health and human services and education programs. There is nothing specific that has been shared about Perkins funding.

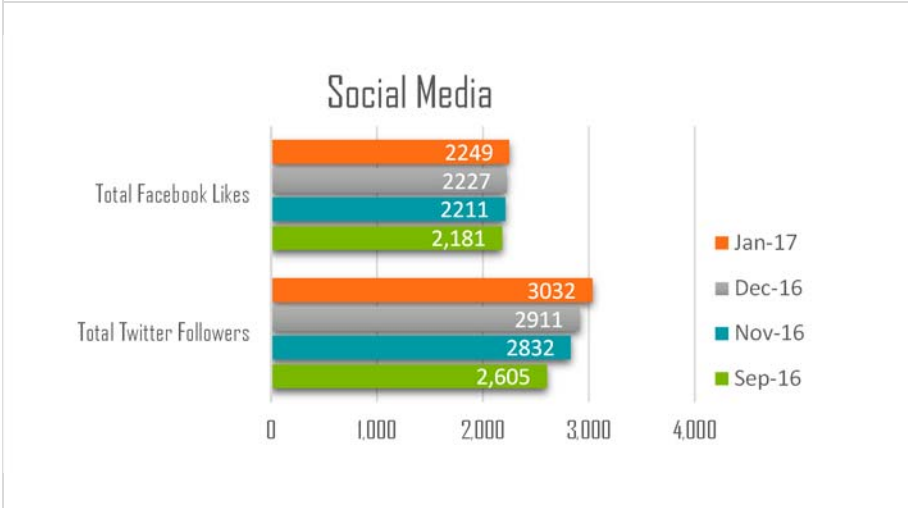
WIOA: As mentioned in a recent blog post, we are working to analyze the recent WIOA infrastructure memo. <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/pi/AdultEd/octae-program-memo-17-3.pdf>. The memo, directed to Adult Education, includes a lot of relevant information that is important for all mandatory partners to be aware of, including CTE. Our analysis is expected out this week.

Communications Update:





- 11 Blog Posts Published**
Most visited blogs:
- [Betsy DeVos on CTE: Students Need to Have a Full Menu of Options](#)
 - [\\$20 Million Grants Awarded to 10 States to Improve Career Pathways for all Students](#)
 - [Registration Now Open for 2017 Spring Meeting](#)



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Media

The New Skills for Youth initiative Phase II announcement resulted in a number of articles mentioning Advance CTE as a partner in this work, including in national pieces in [Education Week](#), and [The Journal](#) in addition to a handful of local articles in Phase II states such as [Kentucky](#), [Louisiana](#), and [Nevada](#). Kimberly Green was also quoted in a national [press release](#) about the announcement. Additionally, [Education Week](#) covered our State of CTE report in their report roundup in January. Staff also provided background information to Education Week for a series of CTE-related articles to be released in the coming months.

Excellence in Action Award

The selection committee will meet in early February to select the final award winners.

Strategies for Attracting Students to High-Quality CTE

Staff and Edge Research conducted focus groups in Mississippi, Ohio and Maryland. The State RFP for the second phase state competition applications were due January 25. Staff will review applications and select up to four states to move forward in mid-February.

Strategic Priority: Expand awareness of, support for, and access to high-quality CTE by leading, building and maintaining strategic partnerships.

Below is a list of Advance CTE’s staff most impactful or otherwise notable engagement activities from last month

PRESENTATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented a webinar for the <i>State of CTE</i> report release to FCCLA’s state advisors, with over 100 participants • Presented to group of STEM researchers through STELAR partnership • Presented at Ohio’s New Skills for Youth announcement • Served as resource expert on NGA’s Talent Pipeline: Career Pathways call • Presentation at Florida Career Pathways Symposium
EVENTS ATTENDED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Defense Education Activities pathways meeting • CCSSO’s Critical Friends meeting on ESSA implementation • NCC-CTSO quarterly meeting • Attended the AIR Center on Great Teachers and Leaders semi-annual advisory board meeting • Attended panel discussion entitled “Public Education Agenda for America’s Success” hosted by National School Boards Association • Attended launch event for Phase Two of New Skills for Youth on Capitol Hill hosted by JPMorgan Chase & Co. • Senate CTE Caucus event on infrastructure • Kim and Kate attended a professional development seminar “Managing to Change the World” from the Management Center
OTHER PARTNERS ENGAGED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engaged with the AIR Center on Great Teachers and Leaders in the development of the State of CTE Industry Experts report webinar • Met with National Governors Association’s Office of Management Consulting to share best practices about leadership transitions. • ACTE • NOCTI

Advance CTE Newsletter

January 2017

Your voice from the nation's capital



Dear Members,

Hello! It feels a bit late to say *Happy New Year*, but since it is the first newsletter in 2017, Happy New Year! Across the country, newly elected federal, state and local leaders are beginning their work and so are we! Collectively, we are working to inform and educate new leaders about the success and potential of Career Technical Education. I'm excited to share some insights to the many things Advance CTE has planned for 2017 to help support your role as a leader and advocate.

This month, in partnership with the Association for Career and Technical Education, we released [State Policies Impacting CTE: 2016 Year in Review](#). So much great work has been happening in states - new investments, changes to state accountability systems, piloting innovative programs, and more.

Next month, we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Smith Hughes Act and CTE Month. We will be out and about, using this as platform to share where CTE has been and is going. We'd love to know what you are doing. Follow us on social media, and be sure to use the CTE Month hashtag, [#CTEMonth](#) throughout the month!

And finally, with the support of the Siemens Foundation, we have been conducting focus groups of students and parents to help us learn how to better communicate the value and promise of CTE. I am super excited to share this work with you at our annual Spring Meeting, May 2-4 in Washington, D.C. At this meeting we will also celebrate a year of implementing [Putting Learner Success First: A Shared Vision for the Future of CTE](#) and will feature our fourth year of Excellence in Action Award Winners. I hope you can join us!

Sincerely,

Kimberly Green,
Executive Director

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Member News

New Member Resource!

One of your yearly member benefits is the State Policy Tracker from the previous year. For the past four years, we've released this tracker in addition to the *State Policies Impacting CTE: 2016 Year in Review*, to allow you to see what CTE-related policies were passed in your state. You can find the tracker in our [Members Only](#) section on the website.

Member Updates:

Advance CTE would like to welcome and congratulate our two newest State CTE Directors. Congratulations to Kristine Nelson of Nevada and Elaine Perea of New Mexico!

Be sure to check out new blogs on two other new State Directors - [Quentin Suffren](#) of Texas and [Lynne Gilli](#) of

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

Maryland.

Connecting Secondary Students to Apprenticeship Programs Webinar

To enrich our students' high school experiences and secure a path to career and postsecondary success, communities across the country are strengthening the pipeline between CTE and apprenticeship. This U.S. Department of Education, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE) project explored programs that connect CTE students and apprenticeships. Please join us for two live webinars to learn the results of this work. Register for the [first on February 15](#) and [second on March 23](#).

Spring Meeting: Get the early-bird rate before it ends!

Join us May 2-4 in Washington, DC, for the 2017 Advance CTE Spring Meeting! This year's meeting will explore the major issues influencing CTE today; provide critical updates on major federal legislation and implementation, including Every Student Succeeds Act, Higher Education Act and Perkins; celebrate the one-year anniversary of *Putting Learner Success First: A Shared Vision for the Future of CTE*.

Make sure to [register](#) by February 28 to lock-in our Early Bird rate, and keep an eye out next week for key updates, including the meeting's agenda!

Job Announcements:

Field Team Associate for Central and Northern NYS: CTE Technical Assistance Center of NY. [Apply here](#).

Head of the Department of Adult and Career Education: The Dewar College of Education and Human Services, Valdosta State University. Email rlmartinez@valdosta.edu for more information.

View from the Hill

On January 17, members of the Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions (HELP) Committee held a hearing with President Donald Trump's Education Secretary nominee, Betsy DeVos. Over more than three hours of questioning, Senate Democrats and Republicans pressed DeVos on issues ranging from public school accountability, education for students with disabilities, and protections for victims of campus sexual assault. During her opening statements, DeVos called for need to "embrace new pathways of learning," by "support[ing] all postsecondary avenues, including trade and vocational schools and community colleges." Read [more on the blog](#).

State Policy Overview

As states gear up for a new 2017 legislative session, CTE is front and center once again. Already, several states have introduced legislation to strengthen and advance career readiness, including a [proposal](#) in Florida to substitute foreign language graduation requirements with computer coding courses, an [Indiana bill](#) to create a career readiness

improvement committee, and a [proposal](#) in Oklahoma to extend concurrent enrollment tuition waivers to high school juniors. These proposals have yet to be considered for a full vote.

Additionally, the beginning of the new year means governors are giving their annual state of the state addresses, celebrating accomplishments and outlining priorities in their states for the coming year. Speeches are scheduled to continue over the next few months, but some governors have already made bold statements in support of CTE. These include:

- Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper, [celebrated](#) his state's efforts to strengthen career-focused education through initiatives like Skillful and CareerWise Colorado;
- Newly-elected Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb [proposed](#) a \$1 million investment to spur a statewide effort to coordinate K-12 STEM education; and
- Washington Gov. Jay Inslee [proposed](#) more funding for career-connected opportunities from elementary through high school.

Learning that Works Resource Center

A good teacher can change lives, but quality instructors and leaders need appropriate supports and professional development to ensure they are equipped for the classroom. There are many approaches state and local education agencies can take to strengthen the CTE teaching workforce. Additionally, CTE students benefit from access to and mentorship from industry professionals, who can bring career-relevant expertise into the classroom. In this month's Resource Center update, we dive into a few tools and resources that can support instructor and leader quality.

Report - [The State of CTE: Increasing Access to Industry Professionals in the Classroom](#)

This report from Advance CTE, with support from the Center on Great Teachers and Leaders at AIR, draws on data from two national surveys to examine the shortage of industry experts in secondary classrooms and how to address it.

Policy - [South Dakota: CTE Teacher Certification Rule Changes](#)

To address the teacher shortage, the South Dakota State Board of Education changed administrative rules for Career Technical Education (CTE) teacher certification in November 2015, introducing more consistency and flexibility to the certification process.

Guide - [Improving the Quality of Career and Technical Alternative Teacher Preparation: An Induction Model of Professional Development and Support](#)

This report from the Southern Regional Education Board presents key elements of a CTE teacher induction model and provides findings from a five-year field test.

Where We've Been

We've attended a number of events, meetings and presentations this month including:

- Presented at the Pathways Summit
- Presented at the FCCLA State Advisers Meeting
- Presented at the Ohio New Skills for Youth Announcement
- Attended Public Education Agenda for America's Success, National School Boards Association
- Attended Career Education and Economic Opportunity, JPMorgan Chase & Co.
- Attended Critical Friends Meeting, Council of Chief State School Officers
- Attended meeting with NCC-CTSO

7 states

10 Meetings and Events

3 Presentations



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