

Advance CTE Board of Directors' Meeting

**AGENDA**

April 3, 2018

9 - 11 a.m.

Meeting Room: Hampton Ballroom

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1. Welcome, Overview of Agenda  
*9 – 9:03 a.m. (3 minutes)*  
..... Pradeep Kotamraju  
President  
*Pages 1-4*
  
2. Approval of January 30, 2018 Minutes  
*9:04 – 9:05 a.m. (2 minutes)*  
..... Sarah Heath  
Secretary/Treasurer  
*Pages 5-6*
  
3. Approval of Consent Agenda  
*9:06 – 9:07 a.m. (2 minutes)*  
..... Pradeep Kotamraju  
President  
*Pages 7-10*
  - ACTE Partnership Update
  - New State Director Leadership Program Update
  
4. Advance CTE Financial Reports and Budget Modification  
*9:08 – 9:23 a.m. (15 minutes)*  
..... Sarah Heath  
Secretary/Treasurer  
*Pages 11-19*
  
5. Star of Education Revision  
*9:24 – 9:39 a.m. (15 minutes)*  
..... Andrea Zimmermann  
Senior Associate, Member  
Engagement and Leadership  
Development  
*Pages 20-27*
  
6. Federal Policy Update/Discussion  
*9:40 – 10 a.m. (20 minutes)*  
..... Kathryn Zekus  
Senior Associate, Federal Policy  
*Pages 28-33*
  
7. Liaison Updates and Discussion  
*10:01 – 10:46 a.m. (45 minutes)*  
..... Kate Kreamer  
Deputy Executive Director  
*Pages 34-42*
  
8. FY19 Elections and Nominations Committee Update  
*10:47 – 10:57 a.m. (10 minutes)*  
..... Rod Duckworth  
Past President  
*Page 43*

9. Other items to be added/next meeting  
*10:57 – 11 a.m. (3 minutes)*

Pradeep Kotamraju  
President

**Upcoming Meeting**

**Advance CTE Conference Call**

June 20, 2018: 2- 3 p.m. ET

Purpose: Approve FY19 Budget

**ADVANCE CTE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
FY 17-18**

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**President**

Dr. Pradeep Kotamraju, State Director, Iowa  
Director, CTE Bureau Chief  
Division of Community Colleges  
Iowa Dept. of Education  
400 east 14<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
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**Vice President**

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**Secretary-Treasurer**

Dr. Sarah Heath, State Director, Colorado  
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**Past President**

Mr. Rod Duckworth, State Director, Florida  
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Margaret Harvey  
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Term expires: 6/30/20

Vacant

Region II – New Jersey, New York, Puerto  
Rico, Virgin Islands  
Term expires: 6/30/18

Lee Burket, Pennsylvania  
Region III – Delaware, District of Columbia,  
Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West  
Virginia  
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Term expires: 6/30/20

Jean Massey, Mississippi  
Region IV – Alabama, Florida, Georgia,  
Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South  
Carolina, Tennessee  
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Term expires: 6/30/19

Jeralyn Jargo, Minnesota  
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Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin  
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Term expires: 6/30/19

Charisse Childers, Arkansas  
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Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas  
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Term expires: 6/30/20

Rich Katt, Nebraska  
Region VII – Iowa, Kansas, Missouri,  
Nebraska  
301 Centennial Mall South  
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Term expires: 6/30/18

Thalea Longhurst, Utah  
Region VIII – Colorado, Montana, North  
Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming  
250 E 500 S, PO Box 144200  
PO Box 144200  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4200  
[thalea.longhurst@schools.utah.gov](mailto:thalea.longhurst@schools.utah.gov)  
Term expires: 6/30/19

Vacant  
Region IX – Arizona, California, Nevada  
Term expires: 6/30/18

Eleni Papadakis, Washington  
Region X – Alaska, Idaho, Oregon,  
Washington  
P. O. Box 43105  
Olympia, WA 98504  
[epapadakis@wtb.wa.gov](mailto:epapadakis@wtb.wa.gov)  
Term expires: 6/30/18

Vacant  
Region XI – Hawaii, Republic of Palau,  
Guam  
Term expires: 6/30/20

Sheila Ruhland  
Associate Member Representative  
9 Flad Circle  
Madison, WI 53711  
[ruhland11@gmail.com](mailto:ruhland11@gmail.com)  
Term expires: 6/30/20

## Advance CTE Board of Directors' Meeting

January 30, 2018

Conference Call

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**ATTENDEES:** Pradeep Kotamraju, Sarah Heath, Meg Harvey, Lee Burket, Jean Massey, Jeralyn Jargo, Charisse Childers, Rich Katt, Thalea Longhurst

**STAFF:** Kimberly Green, Kate Kreamer

**ABSENT:** Rod Duckworth, Bernadette Howard, Eleni Papadakis, Sheila Ruhland

**Welcome and overview of agenda:** Kotamraju welcomed the Board and staff to the call. He noted the upcoming Board retreat and encouraged the Board to be sure to participate in the February 12, 2018 pre-retreat webinar and to review the Board reports (the recently published Year in Review report, the monthly Board reports and the 2017 annual report) prior to the retreat.

**Review and approval of October Board minutes:** Heath presented the minutes from the October 16, 2017 Board Meeting.

**MOTION: To approve the October 16, 2017 Board minutes, as presented.  
Jargo; Harvey.  
MOTION ADOPTED.**

**Update on Perkins Reauthorization:** Green shared an update on Perkins reauthorization efforts in the Senate, which include the option for states to distribute funds via the formula, by competition or to distribute as an individual scholarship to students. The Senate proposal would also open the funding up to non-accredited postsecondary institutions. The Board discussed the proposal, shared concerns about the alternative distribution methods and the burden it would put on states and the potential negative impact on learners, in particular disadvantaging rural and low-income communities.

**FY19 State Dues Increase:** In 1994, the Board and membership approved a policy to annually increase the state dues by the consumer price index (CPI). Since 1994, the staff has analyzed the annual percentage gain of the CPI from December to December. This percentage gain is the amount that is brought to the Board for confirmation as the percentage the dues should increase the following fiscal year. The December 2016 to December 2017 CPI increase is 2.1%. This represents an increase of \$11,628 over FY18, bringing total proposed invoiced state dues to \$565,388. Staff clarified for the Board that the source of the CPI data is the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

**MOTION: To approve the FY19 state dues by 2.1%.  
Childers, Burket.  
MOTION ADOPTED.**

**2017 Annual Report Overview:** Kreamer provided an overview of the 2017 annual report, which is organized by the five “p’s” of policy, partnerships, promotion, professional learning and protocols/processes. There are many accomplishments to note, including a very high member retention rate (all states but Michigan), 100,000 page views on the website and over 50 resources shared. In general, all the metrics are higher than the year before.

Meeting closed at 2:30 p.m.

## ACTE Partnership Update

*Report submitted by Kate Kreamer, Deputy Executive Director*

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Since 2014, Advance CTE and ACTE have collaborated on a joint work plan to enable more intentional coordination and identify new partnership opportunities.

The work plan helped facilitate a number of successful collaborations in the past two and a half years, such as monthly calls between ACTE's and Advance CTE's policy teams and communications teams, the development of an MOU that formally integrated the National Career Clusters® Institute into CareerTech VISION starting in 2015, and joint legislative language in support of Perkins. Over the past three years, our leadership have quarterly meetings scheduled to discuss the work plan, make key updates and strategize next steps.

Given the progress made, ACTE and Advance CTE decided to update the approach to collaboration and move away from activities-based work plan and towards a set of shared goals for the year.

### **GOAL 1: Strengthen & Support Collaboration between State CTE Directors and State ACTE Executive Directors**

#### ***Shared commitments:***

- Host bi-annual events for State Directors and ACTE Executive Directors, including at least one in-person meeting at CareerTech VISION
- Highlight successful collaborations already happening within states on a webinar and/or other platforms
- Conduct a bi-annual survey of State CTE Directors and State ACTE Executive Directors to monitor collaboration and efforts
- Develop tools, such as joint work plan template, to support collaboration in states
- Hold an annual joint meeting of Advance CTE and ACTE officers

#### ***Progress to date:***

- Hosted the second annual joint session at CareerTech VISION for State Directors and state ACTE leaders in December 2017, attended by leaders from about half of all states.
- Early discussions are underway for planning next year's joint meeting and to revive the survey of State Directors and ACTE state leaders.

### **GOAL 2: Maintain and Build Upon Strong and Sustained Coordination to Maximize Impact in the Field**

#### ***Shared commitments:***

- Collaborate on how Career Clusters can be used as the framework for CTE and has a visible role in the design of the CareerTech VISION conference
- Continue effective monthly policy calls, development of annual state policy in review publication and other policy-focused collaborations
- Leveraging regular communications calls and other mechanisms, develop and implement a strategy for proactively coordinating and sharing:
  - Content priorities
  - Planned publications and resources

- Upcoming events or activities
- Collaborative funding opportunities

***Progress to date:***

- Advance CTE and ACTE are working to update our MOU around CareerTech VISION and the Career Clusters to better reflect organizational priorities and capacity. At a minimum, a Career Cluster strand – managed by Advance CTE – will continued to be offered. The MOU is also expanding to address the joint session of State CTE Directors and ACTE state leaders to formalize that program.
- Advance CTE and ACTE continue to collaborate effectively around federal policy, releasing joint press releases/statements on the budget and Perkins reauthorization efforts. Advance CTE and ACTE also partnered on an op-ed published in The Hill during CTE month.
- In January 2018, Advance CTE and ACTE released its fifth annual Year in Review report, and co-hosted a webinar to share the results.
- The monthly communications calls have been restructured to focus on research, resources and promotion to ensure we are coordinated and can be more proactive about finding ways to collaborate.
- Advance CTE, ACTE and ASCA are partnering on the delivery of workshops for counselors and career development specialists, as part of Advance CTE’s grant from the Siemens Foundation.

**GOAL 3: Help Achieve the Goals of *Putting Learner Success First: A Shared Vision for the Future of CTE***

***Shared commitments:***

- Regularly share major updates to organizational priorities (e.g., ACTE’s strategic direction and Advance CTE’s strategic plan) to support collaboration and alignment (including funding opportunities)
- Continue to partner in support of *Putting Learner Success First*, by jointly creating resources and leveraging opportunities to present and co-present at national and state events on the shared vision
- Collaborate on ACTE’s High Quality CTE initiative, with Advance CTE reviewing and providing input into materials and supporting promotion opportunities.

***Progress to date:***

- Through the monthly policy calls, research and resource calls, and quarterly check in’s between executive directors and deputy executive directors, Advance CTE and ACTE staff are regularly sharing organizational priorities and initiatives.
- ACTE also provided feedback on Advance CTE’s *Program Approval Policy Benchmark Tool* and Advance CTE made sure to include a description of ACTE’s High-Quality Framework in the document.

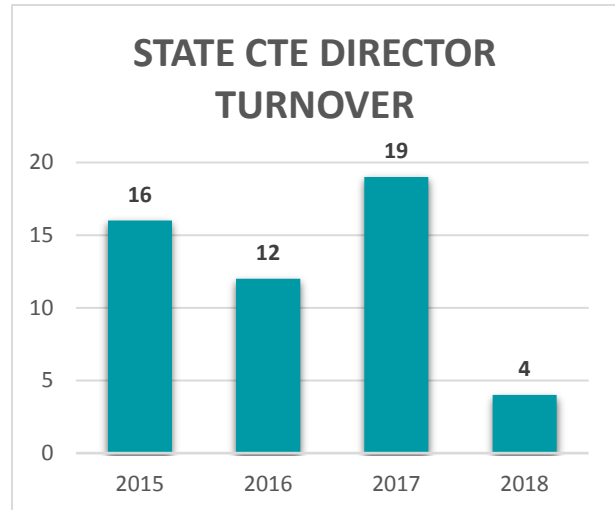
**Board action:** None



## New State CTE Director Leadership Program

*Submitted by Andrea Zimmermann, Senior Associate for Member Engagement and Leadership Development*

The ongoing turnover rate of state CTE leadership has been a subject of investment and support since 2015. In that time, the Board has directed staff to increasingly build programmatic supports to help on-board these new leaders and ease their transition while simultaneously bringing them into the Advance CTE community at a faster, more intentional rate.



Part of these supports is the New State Director Leadership Program, which was launched in October 2017 and offers 10 months of content and leadership development programming on a range of topics. Each new leader is also offered to be paired with an experienced State CTE Director who can serve as a sounding board and mentor.

As of March 12, 2018, staff are supporting 13 State CTE Directors as part of the New State Director Leadership Program cohort. Two of these new leaders – from Indiana and Texas – recently joined the cohort in February but due to their experience and background, staff decided to allow them to join the cohort mid-year. The current cohort includes State Directors from AK, AZ, CT, DC, IL, IN\*, NM, NV, OR, SD, TN, TX, WI. It should be noted that Indiana’s leadership turned over twice in one year. Additionally, there are eight states with no permanent leadership (AL, MI, NC, NJ, NY, ND, SC, VA).

Currently, the new State Directors are paired with mentors as follows (Note: not all new State Directors have chosen to participate in mentorship):

<b>New State Director</b>	<b>Mentor</b>
Alaska (Deb Riddle)	Washington (Eleni Papadakis)
Arizona (Cathie Raymond)	Utah (Thalea Longhurst)
Connecticut (Harold Mackin)	N/A
D.C. (Chad Maclin)	Maryland (Lynne Gilli)
Illinois (Marci Johnson)	Wyoming (Guy Jackson)
Indiana (Stefany Deckard)	Florida (Rod Duckworth)
Oregon (Laura Foley)	Washington (Eleni Papadakis)
Nevada (Kristine Nelson)	N/A
New Mexico (Elaine Perea)	N/A
South Dakota (Laura Scheibe)	Colorado (Sarah Heath)
Tennessee (Casey Haugner)	Kentucky (Laura Arnold)
Texas (Heather Justice)	Ohio (Emily Passias)
Wisconsin (Colleen McCabe)	Minnesota (Jeralyn Jargo)

In the fall, it was announced that former State CTE Director Danielle Mezera would serve as a consultant to this program and provide both content expertise and capacity. However, in practice, those expectations were not quite the right fit and due to unrelated personal circumstances, Mezera ended her consultancy work in mid-February. These issues have impaired the rapid and full development of the program, but staff have stepped in to write and produce the program's modules, which have been very well received by the cohort.

The following modules are available and can be viewed by any State Director on the Advance CTE website through the [Members Only Section](#):

- Maximizing the Impact of Your State's Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act Allocation
- Driving Quality through Programs of Study
- Engaging Employers to Strengthen Your State CTE System
- (Under Development) Data and Accountability

In this current format, staff have continued to evaluate and tweak the program as it goes along. A common refrain from the new State Directors is, "I don't know what I don't know," which has presented some unique challenges to delivering content that is both tailored and specialized but also sufficiently broad and high level for the cohort. Though not originally planned, staff began holding monthly check-in calls, which have been very popular and valuable for the cohort. On these calls, staff make themselves available as content experts, and this has gone a long way in helping establish a rapport with the State Directors and led to further offline conversations and support. Additionally, the Fall Meeting workshop was highly attended by the cohort, and a similar number are expected to attend the Spring Meeting workshop.

### **Looking Ahead**

While the modules have been very well received, the reality is that these new leaders have very limited time available to devote to long, thorough modules. To that end, due to capacity both of the State Directors and staff, we have tabled the planned mini-curriculum that would have offered much lighter content on smaller, though important issues such as work-based learning and career advisement. These topics are covered through the modules.

Staff plan to conduct a full analysis of the program, its impact and effectiveness later this summer as the yearlong program concludes, through surveys of and/or interviews with new State Directors and their mentors, and will report that analysis to the Board for discussion in October 2018.

**Board Action:** No action required.

**FY18 Advance CTE Financial Report**  
*Report prepared by Kimberly Green, Executive Director*

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This report provides summary financial information for July 1, 2017 through February 28, 2018 or 67% of the fiscal year.

**INCOME:** Advance CTE has received 102% of its budgeted income, ahead of projections due to strong interest/dividends, spring meeting registrations and sponsorships.

**EXPENSES:** Advance CTE has spent 66% of its budgeted expenses, with no expense category over budget. The first two quarters of payroll reconciliation have occurred with The Center to Advance CTE. The third quarter (January – March 2018) will take place in April 2018.

**ASSETS:** Assets total \$3,640,902.91 with equity at \$2,888,645.98.

**INVESTMENTS:** The report from the Merrill Lynch advisor does not call for any adjustments to the portfolio at this time. The portfolio has a time weighted rate of return of +5.42%. The equity portion has -.23% rate of return for 2018 and +10.24% for 2017. This compares to the Dow Jones Index (2018: +1.25% and 2017: +15.78%) and the S & P 500 (2018: +1.50% and 2017: +10.32%).

**BUDGET MODIFICATION:** Advance CTE is requesting a modification to the FY18 budget to accommodate a new contract from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for \$100,000 to conduct a landscape analysis of CTE, career readiness and career pathways policies, practices and opportunities to inform their investment strategy. The budget modification would be an increase of \$100,000 and aligned \$100,000 in expenses. The contract runs from January – June 2018, although it is possible the contract could be extended into FY19.

**Board action required:**

- Approve FY18 financial reports.
- Approve the proposed FY18 budget modification.

Advance CTE FY18 Budget				
	Approved FY18	Actuals as of 2/28/2018	Budget to actuals	Explanatory Notes
<b>INCOME</b>			67% of fiscal year	
State Memberships	\$526,387.00	\$509,547.00	97%	Outstanding balance is from California; the second half of dues cannot be paid until the end of the fiscal year.
Associate & Organizational Memberships	\$56,000.00	\$60,025.00	107%	Higher than projected. We have been getting a fairly steady pace of new non-state associate members.
Spring meeting registration	\$87,500.00	\$105,050.00	120%	Actuals as of March 18, 2018.
Fall meeting registration	\$62,500.00	\$75,501.68	121%	Final numbers.
Spring meeting sponsorships	\$58,000.00	\$76,750.00	132%	Actuals as of March 18, 2018.
Fall meeting sponsorships	\$30,000.00	\$23,000.00	77%	Final numbers. Below budget target.
Interest/Dividend	\$78,000.00	\$61,796.96	79%	Investment and dividends recorded through February 28, 2018. \$38,117.92 in interest. \$23,679.04 in realized gains.
Other income	\$6,608.00	\$10,830.01	164%	Includes unexpected speaking honorarium, Asia Society contract.
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$904,995.00</b>	<b>\$922,500.65</b>	102%	
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
<b>Allocated Expenses to Specific Projects</b>				
Member Services	\$35,753.34	\$13,704.38	38%	Due to postponement of the second policy framework, some contractor expenses will not be utilized this year. Other expenses on target.
Member Supports	\$29,831.25	\$12,316.61	41%	On target. This is for the new State Director Leadership program which is still under development. Final modules to be created by contractor and expenses for spring meeting to be incurred.
Government Relations	\$15,927.60	\$9,926.62	62%	On target.
Fall Meeting	\$43,511.00	\$40,373.34	93%	Slightly lower than projected due to active fiscal management of expenses.
Spring Meeting	\$91,505.00	\$3,516.62	4%	Limited expenses incurred for spring meeting. These will increase after meeting is held.
Communications	\$4,881.50	\$3,085.09	63%	On target.
Advance CTE Board	\$54,737.20	\$13,658.16	25%	Majority of expenses for Board retreat have not been recorded. Expect to be below budget as facilitator was less than projected, as are total retreat costs for travel/lodging.
Lobbying	\$1,230.00	\$684.81	56%	On target. May exceed budget depending on how aggressive we get with appropriations lobbying and if Perkins begins to move again.
<b>Subtotal - Specific Projects</b>	<b>\$277,376.89</b>	<b>\$97,265.63</b>		
<b>General &amp; Administrative Expenses</b>				
Salaries and benefits	\$479,231.24	\$394,534.13	82%	Recorded through February 28, 2018. Salaries and benefits reconciled through December 31, 2017. First quarter of 2018 reconciliation will take place in April 2018.
Telephone/Comm	\$75.00	\$13.86	18%	
Office Supplies	\$286.70	\$116.25	41%	
Rent	\$86,105.17	\$64,818.19	75%	Includes expenses through March 2018.
Licenses/Fees	\$1,920.00	\$1,680.00	88%	On target, as these expenses are annual.
Merrill Lynch Charges	\$30,000.00	\$19,626.23	67%	Recorded through February 28, 2018.
Accounting	\$30,000.00	\$20,182.43	67%	Includes accountant fees through end of January 2018.
<b>Total G&amp;A Expenses</b>	<b>\$627,618.11</b>	<b>\$500,971.09</b>	80%	
<b>Total Project Expenses</b>	<b>\$277,376.89</b>	<b>\$97,265.63</b>	35%	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$904,995.00</b>	<b>\$598,236.72</b>	66%	
<b>INCOME LESS EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$324,263.93</b>		

**Advance CTE  
Balance Sheet  
As of February 28, 2018**

	<b>Total</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Bank Accounts</b>	
1010 Cash- Bank of America	243,546.80
1017 Merrill Lynch Cash - 749	124,141.45
1018 Merrill Lynch Cash - 7WD	8,341.43
<b>Total Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$ 376,029.68</b>
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>	
1200 Accounts Receivable	518,376.13
<b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>	<b>\$ 518,376.13</b>
<b>Other Current Assets</b>	
<b>1100 Investments</b>	
1131 Government Bonds	599,384.86
1159 Equities	2,131,027.27
<b>Total 1100 Investments</b>	<b>\$ 2,730,412.13</b>
1275 Security Deposit	9,000.00
1299 Accrued Interest Receivable	2,150.49
1300 Prepaid Expense	516.42
1499 Undeposited Funds	2,235.00
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<b>\$ 2,744,314.04</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$ 3,638,719.85</b>
<b>Other Assets</b>	
1400 Furniture and Fixtures	25,107.21
1405 Accumulated Depreciation - Furniture and Fixtures	-24,652.30
1410 Equipment	19,038.73
1450 Accumulated Depreciation- Equipment	-17,310.58
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>\$ 2,183.06</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 3,640,902.91</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
<b>Accounts Payable</b>	
2000 Accounts Payable (105)	5,923.05
<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>	<b>\$ 5,923.05</b>
<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>	
2070 Accrued Vacation	87,703.16
2099 Deferred Revenue	3,500.00
2144 Deferred Revenue FY 17-18 State Dues	199,884.36
2145 Deferred Revenue FY 17-18 Associate Dues	25,758.36
2146 Deferred Revenue FY 18-19 State Dues	429,488.00
<b>Total 2099 Deferred Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 658,630.72</b>
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 746,333.88</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 752,256.93</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 752,256.93</b>
<b>Equity</b>	
3000 Unrestricted Net Assets	2,675,890.29
3005 Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	6,106.00
3900 Earnings	0.00
Net Income	206,649.69
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$ 2,888,645.98</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$ 3,640,902.91</b>

## **Executive Investment Recommendation Summary February 2018 – Prepared by Mark Friese, Merrill Lynch**

The U.S. stock markets have continued to be more volatile than the historical average. At the same time the Federal Reserve has continued to predict higher interest rates for the future. We have had a long recovery from early 2009 and history would indicate that a correction of some degree would be likely. We have positioned portfolios in sectors of the market that are more defensive and should decline less in a correction. This would include sectors like consumer staples and utilities. In addition, a large percentage of the equity portion of portfolios is also focused on conservative, dividend producing, stock based indexes. These indexes provide income which has historically risen over time and should also provide additional stability in a declining market.

Much of the current increase in the market has been focused on sectors that are historically more volatile, like technology. These sectors tend to be more susceptible to greater declines in a correction, so we are under-weighted in them. Due to this under-weighting short-term recent performance is below the market. However, the long-term performance of both the association and foundation accounts remains above the general market.

International markets this year have also been volatile. For both the Association and the Foundation international exposure remains below 1%.

Interest rates are currently near all-time historic lows, but are expected to continue to be increased. Bonds move inversely with interest rates, so we are expecting a decline in bonds looking forward. For this reason both the Advance CTE account and the Center to Advance CTE accounts are at the lower range of the investment policy statement for bonds. When interest rates start to increase and bonds decline in price we will reallocate from equities to bonds.

Both the organizations' equity exposure is in line with the investment policy statement. *Recent deposits will be allocated accordingly.*

Sufficient cash is available to meet intermediate cash flow needs that were estimated by the association.

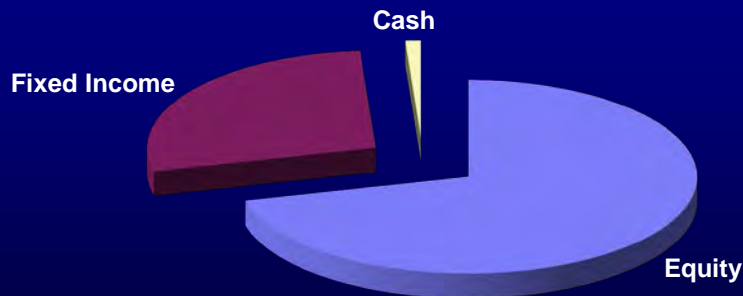
**Summary of recommended changes:** The above changes are intended to improve long-term performance and increase income from fixed income investments. Certain sectors of the market are recommended to be over-weighted also to improve long-term performance. These are sectors that tend to perform well during a difficult economic environment and tend to lead the market when things improve.

No direct costs are associated with making these changes.

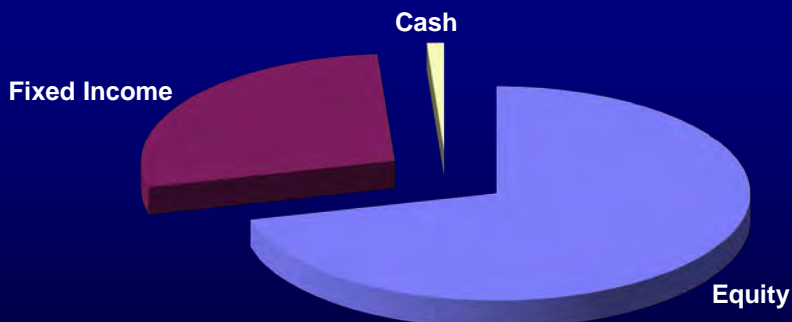
**Board Action Needed:**           None

National Association of State Directors  
 Current Asset Allocation  
 Advance CTE Accounts 749-04H01 & 7WD-04H50  
 Period: July 1, 2017 - February 28, 2018

<i>Current Portfolio</i>	Asset Allocation Type: Per Investment Policy Statement	
	Equity	71%
Fixed Income	28%	\$ 765,992
Cash	1%	\$ 30,083
Sub-Total	100%	\$ 2,750,993
Cash Reserves		\$ 100,000
Total Portfolio Value		\$ 2,850,993



<i>Proposed Portfolio</i>	Asset Allocation Type: Per Investment Policy Statement	
	Equity	71%
Fixed Income	28%	\$ 765,992
Cash	1%	\$ 30,093
Sub-total	100%	\$ 2,750,993
Cash Reserves		\$ 100,000
Portfolio Value	100%	\$ 2,850,993



# Relative Performance - Equity: Yearly

Performance period: 07/01/2017 to 02/28/2018

Period	Actual ROR(%)		Dow Jones Industrial Average PR(%)		MSCI World PR(%)		S&P 500 PR(%)	
	Year	Cum	Year	Cum	Year	Cum	Year	Cum
<b>2018</b>	<b>(0.23)</b>	<b>9.98</b>	<b>1.25</b>	<b>17.23</b>	<b>0.69</b>	<b>10.52</b>	<b>1.50</b>	<b>11.98</b>
US Equity	(0.21)	10.00						
International Equity	(5.62)	(5.62)						
<b>2017</b>	<b>10.24</b>	<b>10.24</b>	<b>15.78</b>	<b>15.78</b>	<b>9.76</b>	<b>9.76</b>	<b>10.32</b>	<b>10.32</b>
US Equity	10.24	10.24						

With respect to performance shown, various factors, including unpriced securities, and certain adjustments, holdings or activity may cause report results to differ from actual performance. Report results may also differ from results reported by other Merrill Lynch services. Past performance does not guarantee future results.

Reference Indices are included in this report as a general source of information regarding the performance of various types of investments. Allocation models and Indices should not be used to benchmark the performance of a specific account or portfolio. Your Financial Advisor can provide further information regarding the particular allocation models and Indices shown, including how the composition of an index compares to the composition of your account or portfolio.



# Time Weighted Rate of Return by Period: Yearly

Performance period: 07/01/2017 to 02/28/2018

Period	Opening Balance(\$)	Contributions/ (Withdrawals)(\$)	Interest/ Dividends(\$)	Appreciation/ (Depreciation)(\$)	Closing Balance(\$)	ROR Period(%)	ROR Cum(%)
2018	2,964,438	(75,000)	3,676	(28,069)	2,865,045	(0.92)	5.42
2017	2,610,886	175,000	36,945	141,607	2,964,438	6.40	6.40
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,610,886</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>40,622</b>	<b>113,538</b>	<b>2,865,045</b>		<b>5.42</b>

Note that various factors, including unpriced securities, and certain adjustments, holdings or activity may cause report results to differ from actual performance. Report results may also differ from results reported by other Merrill Lynch services. Past performance does not guarantee future results.

## Account Review Summary 07/01/2017 - 02/28/2018

Account 749-04H01

Security Name	Quantity	Cost Basis	Date Purchased	Date Sold/Mat	Sales Price	Market Value	Gain or (loss)	Realized Gain/Loss	Yield
<b>Advance CTE-E.T.F.'s (749-04H01)</b>									
Ishares DJ US Consumer Goods (IYK)	340	\$ 24,558	07/10/12			\$ 41,099	\$ 16,541		n/a
Ishares DJ US Consumer Goods (IYK)	72	\$ 5,337	10/31/12			\$ 8,703	\$ 3,366		n/a
Ishares DJ US Consumer Goods (IYK)	5	\$ 471	01/22/14			\$ 604	\$ 133		n/a
Ishares DJ US Consumer Goods (IYK)	69	\$ 6,946	08/24/15			\$ 8,341	\$ 1,395		n/a
Ishares Russell Midcap (IWR)	1000	\$ 96,760	10/20/06			\$ 207,722	\$ 110,962		n/a
Ishares Russell Midcap (IWR)	466	\$ 26,967	04/03/09			\$ 96,798	\$ 69,831		n/a
Ishares Russell Midcap (IWR)	298	\$ 32,577	10/31/12			\$ 61,901	\$ 29,325		n/a
Ishares Tr Dow Jones US Tech (IYW)	352	\$ 24,756	07/10/12			\$ 61,726	\$ 36,970		n/a
Ishares Tr Dow Jones US Tech (IYW)	119	\$ 8,376	10/31/12			\$ 20,868	\$ 12,492		n/a
Ishares Tr Dow Jones US Tech (IYW)	28	\$ 2,118	05/10/13			\$ 4,910	\$ 2,792		n/a
Ishares Tr Dow Jones US Tech (IYW)	126	\$ 17,631	05/02/17			\$ 22,095	\$ 4,464		n/a
Ishares TR Dow Jones (DVY)	516	\$ 28,575	06/07/12			\$ 49,789	\$ 21,214		n/a
Ishares TR Dow Jones (DVY)	1733	\$ 97,546	07/10/12			\$ 167,217	\$ 69,671		n/a
Ishares TR Dow Jones (DVY)	541	\$ 31,251	10/31/12			\$ 52,201	\$ 20,950		n/a
Ishares TR Dow Jones (DVY)	32	\$ 2,100	05/10/13			\$ 3,088	\$ 988		n/a
Ishares TR Dow Jones (DVY)	851	\$ 59,965	12/10/13			\$ 82,113	\$ 22,148		n/a
Ishares TR Dow Jones (DVY)	277	\$ 19,729	01/22/14			\$ 26,728	\$ 6,999		n/a
Ishares TR Dow Jones (DVY)	109	\$ 7,711	02/14/14			\$ 10,517	\$ 2,806		n/a
Ishares TR Dow Jones (DVY)	57	\$ 4,605	12/30/14			\$ 5,500	\$ 895		n/a
Ishares TR Dow Jones (DVY)	96	\$ 7,671	02/19/15			\$ 9,263	\$ 1,592		n/a
Ishares TR Dow Jones (DVY)	221	\$ 12,238	06/07/12	02/01/18	\$ 22,082	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,844	n/a
S&P US PFD STK Index Fund (PFF)	91	\$ 3,446	02/23/10			\$ 3,401	\$ (45)		n/a
S&P US PFD STK Index Fund (PFF)	471	\$ 17,977	07/15/10			\$ 17,603	\$ (374)		n/a
S&P US PFD STK Index Fund (PFF)	322	\$ 12,593	07/10/12			\$ 12,034	\$ (559)		n/a
S&P US PFD STK Index Fund (PFF)	292	\$ 11,689	10/31/12			\$ 10,913	\$ (776)		n/a
S&P US PFD STK Index Fund (PFF)	254	\$ 10,400	05/10/13			\$ 9,493	\$ (907)		n/a
Vanguard Consumer (VCR)	258	\$ 16,731	04/26/11			\$ 42,049	\$ 25,318		n/a
Vanguard Consumer (VCR)	62	\$ 4,589	10/31/12			\$ 10,105	\$ 5,516		n/a
Vanguard Consumer (VCR)	6	\$ 632	01/22/14			\$ 978	\$ 346		n/a
Vanguard Dividend (VIG)	338	\$ 17,806	08/03/11			\$ 34,811	\$ 17,005		n/a
Vanguard Dividend (VIG)	429	\$ 24,144	06/07/12			\$ 44,183	\$ 20,039		n/a
Vanguard Dividend (VIG)	1734	\$ 98,102	07/10/12			\$ 178,584	\$ 80,482		n/a
Vanguard Dividend (VIG)	538	\$ 31,647	10/31/12			\$ 55,409	\$ 23,762		n/a
Vanguard Dividend (VIG)	812	\$ 59,982	12/10/13			\$ 83,628	\$ 23,646		n/a
Vanguard Dividend (VIG)	266	\$ 19,716	01/22/14			\$ 27,395	\$ 7,679		n/a
Vanguard Dividend (VIG)	107	\$ 7,855	02/14/14			\$ 11,020	\$ 3,165		n/a
Vanguard Dividend (VIG)	56	\$ 4,599	12/30/14			\$ 5,767	\$ 1,168		n/a
Vanguard Dividend (VIG)	94	\$ 7,748	02/19/15			\$ 9,681	\$ 1,933		n/a
Vanguard Industrial ETF (VIS)	24	\$ 965	05/13/09			\$ 3,423	\$ 2,458		n/a
Vanguard Industrial ETF (VIS)	374	\$ 19,968	07/15/10			\$ 53,340	\$ 33,372		n/a
Vanguard Industrial ETF (VIS)	210	\$ 14,507	10/31/12			\$ 29,950	\$ 15,443		n/a
Wisdomtree Total Divid ETF (DTD)	159	\$ 10,482	12/10/13			\$ 14,528	\$ 4,046		n/a
Wisdomtree Total Divid ETF (DTD)	195	\$ 13,026	01/22/14			\$ 17,817	\$ 4,791		n/a
Wisdomtree Total Divid ETF (DTD)	529	\$ 35,327	01/22/14			\$ 48,335	\$ 13,008		n/a
Wisdomtree Total Divid ETF (DTD)	27	\$ 1,789	02/14/14			\$ 2,467	\$ 678		n/a
Wisdomtree Total Divid ETF (DTD)	61	\$ 4,614	12/30/14			\$ 5,574	\$ 960		n/a
Wisdomtree Total Divid ETF (DTD)	25	\$ 1,896	02/19/15			\$ 2,284	\$ 388		n/a
Wisdomtree Tr Midcap Div Fc (DON)	85	\$ 6,227	12/10/13			\$ 8,701	\$ 2,474		n/a
Wisdomtree Tr Midcap Div Fc (DON)	322	\$ 24,124	01/22/14			\$ 32,960	\$ 8,836		n/a
Wisdomtree Tr Midcap Div Fc (DON)	175	\$ 13,107	01/22/14			\$ 17,913	\$ 4,806		n/a
Wisdomtree Tr Midcap Div Fc (DON)	21	\$ 1,566	02/14/14			\$ 2,150	\$ 584		n/a
Wisdomtree Tr Midcap Div Fc (DON)	55	\$ 4,669	12/30/14			\$ 5,630	\$ 961		n/a
Wisdomtree Tr Midcap Div Fc (DON)	20	\$ 1,733	02/19/15			\$ 2,047	\$ 314		n/a
Ishares US Financial Services ETF (IYF)	72	\$ 5,820	01/22/14			\$ 8,721	\$ 2,901		n/a
Ishares US Financial Services ETF (IYF)	221	\$ 18,382	10/21/14			\$ 26,770	\$ 8,388		n/a
Ishares US Financial Services ETF (IYF)	378	\$ 39,399	05/02/17			\$ 45,787	\$ 6,388		n/a

Prudential Jennison Health (PHSZX)	961.013	\$ 47,368	10/01/14			\$ 48,570	\$ 1,202		n/a
Powershares Exch Traded Fund (PEY)	84	\$ 1,074	08/24/15	02/01/18	\$ 1,521	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 447	n/a
Powershares Exch Traded Fund (PEY)	2443	\$ 30,854	08/24/15	02/01/18	\$ 44,245	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,391	n/a
Vanguard High Div Yield ETF (VYM)	954	\$ 62,386	08/21/15		\$ 81,228	\$ 18,842			n/a
Vanguard High Div Yield ETF (VYM)	164	\$ 11,134	08/13/15		\$ 13,964	\$ 2,830			n/a
Vanguard Total Bond (BND)	308	\$ 24,947	02/17/17		\$ 24,447	\$ (500)			n/a
Vanguard Total Bond (BND)	742	\$ 59,954	01/31/17		\$ 58,896	\$ (1,058)			n/a
Ishares 1-3 Year Treasury (SHY)	177	\$ 14,958	01/31/17		\$ 14,761	\$ (197)			n/a
Ishares 1-3 Year Treasury (SHY)	164	\$ 13,697	02/01/18		\$ 13,677	\$ (20)			n/a
Ishares Tr Core Dividend (DGRO)	884	\$ 32,125	02/01/18		\$ 31,033	\$ (1,092)			n/a
Ishares Intl Select (IDV)	624	\$ 22,077	02/01/18		\$ 20,866	\$ (1,211)			n/a
<b>Total</b>		\$ 1,361,555			\$ 2,134,076	\$ 772,521			
<b>Advance CTE-Money Market (749-04H01)</b>					\$ 124,139				
<b>749-04H01 Account Total</b>					\$ 2,258,215	\$ 772,521			

**Fees for period:** \$15,365.34

**Fees based on assets:** \$15,365.34

The information set forth herein was obtained from sources we believe reliable, but we do not guarantee its accuracy. Past returns are not a guarantee of future results.

**National Association of State Directors of Vocational  
Account Review Summary 07/01/2016 through 02/28/2018**

**Account 7WD-04H50 (Association)**

Cost Basis	Buy/Sell	2/28/2018	Gain/Loss
\$616,710	Various	\$599,385	-\$17,325

**Managed Fixed Income Portfolio**

<b>Estimated Accrued Interest</b>	\$2,150
<b>Money Market</b>	\$8,341
<b>Account Total</b>	<b>\$609,877</b>

## **Star of Education Awards Program**

*Submitted by Andrea Zimmermann, Senior Associate for Member Engagement and Leadership Development*

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In the fall of 2017, Advance CTE staff convened a three-person subcommittee of the Board of Directors to review and recommend changes to the organization's longstanding Star of Education Awards program. The impetus behind this review was driven by the organizational rebrand, which widened the organization's focus to include state CTE leaders. The member-focused awards program, however, only allowed State Directors to be honored for their state and national contributions to CTE.

The subcommittee, which consisted of Bernadette Howard of Hawaii, Thalea Longhurst of Utah, and Charisse Childers of Arkansas, had the following charge: To review existing member categories for the Star of Education awards program and if deemed appropriate, propose changes to the categories, eligibility and selection criteria, and/or a new, separate awards program for Board's future consideration and vote.

The scope of the subcommittee's work was to only evaluate the member awards program, not the Congressional awards program of the same name. The member awards program consists of two categories: *State Director-Emeritus* and *State Director- Rising Star*.

Based on these input conversations as well as a round of internal staff discussions, what follows is a high-level summary of the proposed changes to the awards program, which is being presented to the full Board for discussion and a vote.

### **Key proposed changes in the awards criteria and selection process**

#### *Program Eligibility*

In a desire to better reflect the organizational rebrand, the subcommittee proposed expanding the eligibility of both awards to include state CTE leaders, while still reserving at least one award for State Directors.

#### *Program Name Change*

With this shift, the subcommittee recommended a shift in the name to provide better clarity about the award and its recipient. Specifically, to change name of State Director-Emeritus to State CTE Distinguished Leadership Award, and change name of State Director-Rising Star to State CTE Leadership Rising Star Award.

#### *Nominating Statement Change*

In the past, nominations included a "nominating statement," which sometimes spoke to the award eligibility criteria, but not always. The subcommittee proposes a shift to having nominations address a series of focused questions rather than a narrative statement. This will also help with comparability across nominations.

#### *Program Criteria Change*

See the chart below for a high-level description of the existing award criteria and the proposed changes:

**State Director-Emeritus Award**

	<b>Current criteria</b>	<b>Proposed changes</b>
WHO	State Director and Advance CTE member (past or present)	State leader and Advance CTE member (past or present but living).  <u>Description of a State Leader:</u> An individual with a position of influence and leadership within a state agency or system who has administrative responsibilities over CTE. This includes but is not limited to State CTE Directors.
HOW LONG	State Director for no fewer than five years	Keeps this language but softens this as a requirement. Instead gives special consideration to nominees who have served at least five years.  <u>Rationale:</u> Given the high rate of turnover at the State Director level, five-plus years may not be realistic.
WHAT	Demonstrated highest level of commitment to goals/objectives/mission of Advance CTE through initiative and positive contributions to the organization	Clarified language to make clear that state <u>and</u> national contributions are a requirement to receive this national award. Emphasis added to signal alignment to organizational mission and vision.  <u>Rationale:</u> Past nominations have focused exclusively on state-level contributions.
OTHER CRITERIA	Nomination promotion and initial selection is managed by Advance CTE staff.	Regional board representatives will play a larger role in promoting and soliciting nominations from their regions.
NUMBER OF AWARDS	Number of awards up to discretion of the Board	Limit to two awards per year, with at least one always being reserved for State Directors.  <u>Rationale:</u> Putting a ceiling to the number of awards will assist staff for budgeting purposes.
WHO CAN NOMINATE	State CTE Director	Nominations may be solicited from myriad sources: individuals, organizations, state boards of education, special interest groups, committees, task forces, or businesses affiliated with or involved in CTE in school districts, technical institutions, community colleges, or universities. However, all nominations must be signed and submitted by State CTE Directors to their Advance CTE Board of Directors' regional representative.

### State Director Rising Star Award

	Current criteria	Proposed changes
WHO	State Director and Advance CTE member	<p>State leader and Advance CTE member (past or present but living).</p> <p>This includes but is not limited to State CTE Directors, and may include growing leaders within a state CTE or system office.</p> <p><u>Description of a State Leader:</u> An individual with a position of influence and leadership within a state agency or system who has administrative responsibilities over CTE. This includes but is not limited to State CTE Directors.</p>
HOW LONG	Served in this capacity for no more than 5 years	Kept five-year ceiling, because with current turnover rate, a five-year tenure could be considered veteran status
WHAT	Demonstrated promise and growth as state leader; actively engaged in goals/objectives/mission of Advance CTE	<p>Largely kept this criteria, but softened the “national engagement” language to say that additional consideration would be given for participation in national activities.</p> <p>Strengthened language to make clear that the nominee should demonstrate evidence of how leadership has influenced and strengthened the state CTE system at the secondary and postsecondary level.</p>
OTHER CRITERIA	<p>Special consideration for recognizing nominees in both secondary and postsecondary agencies</p> <p>2 per year</p>	<p>Original language was unclear, and thus removed.</p> <p>Changing to one award per year</p>
WHO CAN NOMINATE	State CTE Director	Nominations may be solicited from myriad sources: individuals, organizations, state boards of education, special interest groups, committees, task forces, or businesses affiliated with or involved in CTE in school districts, technical institutions, community colleges, or universities. However, all nominations must be signed and submitted by State CTE Directors to Advance CTE.

The full text of the revised programs is below.

**Board Action:** Vote needed to approve the revised Star of Education award process and criteria, effective immediately.

## **Proposed Criteria for Selection and Eligibility for Star of Education Awards**

Members of Advance CTE are encouraged to submit nominations for the Advance CTE Star of Education Awards Program. The State Director must endorse each nominee by signing the nomination form prior to its submission. Please carefully review each category. The Advance CTE Board of Directors reserves the right to present awards only in those categories where the quality of nominations is sufficient to warrant recognition and to develop its own slate of candidates. Each nomination should not exceed one, single-spaced page in length (must be typed in a font not less than 10-point).

*State CTE Distinguished Leadership Award (Two awards per year, with one being reserved for State CTE Directors)*

### **Description:**

The purpose of this award is to recognize and honor current and former state leaders of Career Technical Education (CTE) who have a distinguished history of service and have demonstrated the highest level of commitment to advancing a vision for high-quality CTE at the state and national levels.

### **Eligibility:**

The nominee must have served as a state CTE leader and a member of Advance CTE. Special consideration will be given to nominees who served in this capacity at least five years. A state CTE leader is defined as an individual with a position of influence and leadership within a state agency or system who has direct administrative responsibilities over CTE. This includes but is not limited to State CTE Directors.

### **Criteria for Selection:**

Nominations should include evidence of how the individual's leadership influenced and strengthened the state's CTE system at the secondary and postsecondary levels. Please note: State-specific contributions, alone, are insufficient to warrant recognition through this national award. However, a state model or initiative that has gone on to influence the national stage would meet the criteria of this award.

The Board will assess nominations based on the following categories:

1. **National Contributions & Leadership** – What has the nominee done to merit recognition at the national level, including furthering the mission and vision of Advance CTE?
2. **Contributions & Accomplishments** – What has the nominee done to exemplify excellence in CTE, including contributions at the state and national levels and a demonstrated commitment to quality, equity and access? What accomplishments set the nominee apart?
3. **Benefits to CTE** – To what extent has CTE benefited from the contributions of this individual? Please be specific.

### *State CTE Leadership Rising Star Award – (One award per year)*

#### **Description**

The purpose of this award is to recognize new state leaders of Career Technical Education (CTE) who are actively engaged with and dedicated to advancing a vision for CTE that is committed to quality, equity and access within their state. Additional consideration is given for participation in national activities.

#### **Eligibility**

The nominee must currently serve as a state CTE leader, have served in this capacity for no more than five years and is a current member of Advance CTE. A state CTE leader is defined as an individual with a position of influence and leadership within a state agency or system who has direct administrative responsibilities over CTE. This includes but is not limited to State CTE Directors, and may include other leaders within a state CTE or system office.

#### **Criteria for Selection**

Nominations should include evidence of how the individual's leadership influenced and strengthened the state's CTE system at the secondary and postsecondary levels. The Board will assess nominations based on the following questions:

1. **Contributions & Leadership** – What has the nominee done to merit recognition at the national level, including furthering the mission and vision of Advance CTE? This may focus on state-specific efforts, but additional consideration will be given to contributions at the national level.
2. **Contributions & Accomplishments** – What has the nominee done to exemplify excellence in CTE, including a demonstrated commitment to quality, equity and access? What accomplishments set the nominee apart?
3. **Benefits to CTE** – To what extent has CTE benefited from the contributions of this individual? Please be specific.



### **Process for All Nomination Submissions**

Nominations may be solicited from myriad sources: individuals, organizations, state boards of education, special interest groups, committees, task forces, or businesses affiliated with or involved in CTE in school districts, technical institutions, community colleges, or universities. However, all nominations must be signed and submitted by State CTE Directors to Advance CTE.

Nominations must be typed in a font not less than 10-point or exceed one, single-spaced page in length. Nominations must be submitted via email to Advance CTE.

### **Process Following Submission**

After the submission window closes, Advance CTE will review all applications to confirm qualification, and develop a slate for the Board of Directors' consideration and vote.

Winners will be notified in advance of their selection. Winners will be honored at an awards ceremony at the Advance CTE Fall Meeting.

### **Recognition:**

All winners will receive:

- Recognition during the awards ceremony at Advance CTE Fall Meeting;
- Complimentary registration for the Advance CTE Fall Meeting when being recognized (Advance CTE is unable to provide travel and lodging expenses);
- An engraved trophy; and
- Recognition through social media and a national press release.

### **Important Things to Know If a Winner Is Selected from Your State**

- If a winner is selected from your state, the State Director will be contacted and provided the option of notifying the winner of the award or allowing Advance CTE staff to make the notification.
- Additionally, if the winner is not the State Director, then the State Director will have the opportunity to introduce the winner during the awards ceremony as part of the Advance CTE Fall Meeting. If the State Director cannot be in attendance during the Fall Meeting, he/she may designate another delegate from the state or the regional Board representative introduce the winner on his/her behalf.
- Advance CTE will create a press release for all of the winners, and provide winners and State Directors with a copy that can be distributed within their own states. Advance CTE will distribute the press releases to national education media.

## **State CTE Distinguished Leadership Award – Nomination Form**

1. **National Contributions & Leadership** – What has the nominee done to merit recognition at the national level, including furthering the mission and vision [INSERT LINK TO CURRENT VISION] of Advance CTE? (Word limit: 200 words)
  
2. **Contributions & Accomplishments** – What has the nominee done to exemplify excellence in CTE, including contributions at the state and national levels and a demonstrated commitment to quality, equity and access? What accomplishments set the nominee apart? (Word limit: 300 words)
  
3. **Benefits to CTE** – To what extent has CTE benefited from the contributions of this individual? Please be specific. (Word limit: 200 words)

## **State CTE Leadership Rising Star Award – Nomination Form**

1. **Contributions & Leadership** – What has the nominee done to merit recognition at the national level, including furthering the mission and vision of Advance CTE? This may focus on state-specific efforts, but additional consideration will be given to contributions at the national level. (Word limit: 200 words)
  
2. **Contributions & Accomplishments** – What has the nominee done to exemplify excellence in CTE, including a demonstrated commitment to quality, equity and access? What accomplishments set the nominee apart? (Word limit: 300 words)
  
3. **Benefits to CTE** – To what extent has CTE benefited from the contributions of this individual? Please be specific. (Word limit: 200 words)

### **Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act**

#### Congressional action:

- On October 12, 2017, Senators Inhofe (R-OK) and McCaskill (D-MO) led the effort to send a “[Dear Colleague](#)” letter to the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee leadership encouraging them to take up Perkins reauthorization. This “Dear Colleague” letter garnered 59 signatures from Senators (of both parties).
- On November 20, 2017, Representatives Glenn “GT” Thompson (R-PA) and Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-IL) sent a similar “[Dear Colleague](#)” letter to urge their Senate colleagues to take up the *Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act* (H.R. 2353) to reauthorize the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act (Perkins). This bipartisan letter garnered 237 signatures from Representatives.

While these letters did not immediately result in Senate action on Perkins reauthorization, we believe that they helped apply pressure to Senate HELP Committee leaders to make Perkins reauthorization a priority for 2018.

#### Administration Action:

- On February 12, President Trump released his [Legislative Outline for Rebuilding Infrastructure in America](#), which addresses Workforce Development beginning on page 51.
  - The proposal does not dedicate any funds to workforce development or CTE.
  - The proposal notes that Perkins “is in dire need of reform,” yet outlines amendments to H.R. 2353 (the House-passed Perkins reauthorization bill) that are already included in the bill or allowed under current law.
  - Expanding eligibility for Pell grants and reforming the Federal Work Study programs are also included in the proposal as a way to address workforce development needs. Both of these items are being considered as Congress works to reauthorize the Higher Education Act. Advance CTE is supportive of the [Jumpstart Our Businesses By Supporting Students \(JOBS\) Act](#), which expands eligibility for Pell grants by reducing length and seat time requirements and also includes provisions to address program and credential quality.

#### Advance CTE engagement with Congress:

- We have continued to meet with staff for Senate HELP Committee members and have attended multiple meetings with staff in coordination with the Perkins coalition lead by IBM since October.
- We have had multiple discussions with Senate HELP Committee staff and have answered questions, provided state examples and shared our legislative language.
- The [Senate CTE Caucus held a briefing](#) in January, *Perkins CTE and How Reauthorization Can Improve Programs*. During the briefing, Kimberly Green, Advance

CTE's Executive Director, presented on the history of Perkins, provided state and local examples of implementation and covered how reauthorization could improve programs.

- Advance CTE and ACTE were invited to a session with staff from the Senate HELP Committee and the education staffers for Democratic members of the committee. During the closed session, we shared Perkins resources, our reauthorization principles and answered questions from staff as they consider Perkins reauthorization.

Advance CTE engagement with our members:

- In December, we held a call with the State CTE Directors for all of the states represented on the Senate HELP Committee. During this call we provided an overview of the reauthorization process thus far and shared that early discussions among Senate HELP Committee staff were beginning. In addition, we shared more about how Advance CTE coordinated with the State Directors from HELP Committee states during the reauthorization process for Perkins IV and how we would like to have a similarly open line of communication for this reauthorization.
- Advance CTE created an interactive listserv for this group of State CTE Directors and will use it to share updates on reauthorization when they become available, gather feedback and schedule impromptu calls as needed.
- We developed a set of talking points on the current status of reauthorization that we shared with this group and plan to continue to provide any resources they need to advance reauthorization.
- Based on the results of a survey of this group, we hosted a [webinar](#) on February 8 to walk through our [Perkins recommendations](#).

We signed on in support of the following legislation that promotes our policy priorities:

- House and Senate Resolutions to [Recognize February as National CTE Month](#)

### **Higher Education Act (HEA)**

Congressional Action:

- On December 1, Representative Virginia Foxx (R-NC), Chairwoman of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce, introduced H.R. 4508, the "[Promoting Real Opportunity, Success and Prosperity Through Education Reform](#)" (PROSPER) Act. This bill would reauthorize the Higher Education Act (HEA), and make significant changes to a number of provisions within the current law.
- On December 12, the [PROSPER Act was marked up and passed](#) out of Committee on a party line vote (23-17).
- The PROSPER Act has not yet gone for a vote before the full U.S. House of Representatives as of this writing.
- The Senate has been holding hearings on a variety of HEA reauthorization topics.

Advance CTE Engagement with Congress:

- Advance CTE analyzed the bill based on our board-approved HEA Reauthorization Recommendations and [submitted a letter](#) expressing our views to the Committee in advance of the Committee's markup on December 12.

- Advance CTE also signed onto a letter led by the [PostSec Data](#) coalition in advance of the Committee’s markup to reinforce our recommendations related to data transparency and availability. As a follow up, we also signed a similar letter after the markup to reinforce that these concerns had not been addressed through amendments offered during markup nor other changes to the bill reported out of Committee.
- Advance CTE plans to send a letter to House leadership prior to the vote on the PROSPER Act to express our views.
- Senator Alexander (R-TN) called for comments on an HEA accountability white paper released in February
  - Advance CTE partnered with ACTE to respond to the request with a letter emphasizing the importance of disaggregating postsecondary data at the program level.
- Senators Alexander (R-TN) and Murray (D-WA) put out a general call for input on HEA reauthorization
  - Advance CTE sent in our [HEA Recommendations](#) with a note offering to answer questions and provide additional information.
  - Advance CTE also signed onto a letter led by the PostSec Data coalition to reinforce our recommendations related to data transparency and availability.
- The [Senate CTE Caucus held a briefing](#), “How Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act Can Better Reflect Today’s CTE Landscape”
  - Kimberly Green moderated the discussion, during which Senator Kaine (D-VA) provided remarks about the power of CTE and his appreciation of the effort to share best practices.

Advance CTE engagement with our members:

- We sought input on high-priority concerns to reinforce in our letter from a group of Advance CTE’s postsecondary members that were initially convened to discuss HEA reauthorization during Advance CTE’s Spring Meeting.
- During our quarterly advocacy call with Advance CTE members, we discussed the proposal to allow federal Pell grants to be used for short-term programs in order to guide our involvement with other organizations to advocate for such proposals during HEA reauthorization conversations.

We signed on in support of the following legislation that promotes our policy priorities:

- “[Gateway to Careers Act](#),” sponsored by Senator Hassan (D-NH), which would amend HEA to create a career pathway grant program.

### **Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)**

Advance CTE engagement with partners:

All states have now submitted ESSA plans to the U.S. Department of Education (ED) and Advance CTE and the Education Strategy Group partnered to produce an updated report, [Career Readiness & the Every Student Succeeds Act: Mapping Career Readiness in State ESSA Plans](#), on how career readiness fared in these states in December.

- Advance CTE has continued to use this report in a number of webinars, presentations and meetings to both highlight the gains made in terms of states’ adopting career readiness strategies and accountability indicators and point out missed opportunities.

We signed on in support of the following legislation that promotes our policy priorities:

- The “Careers Act,” sponsored by Senator Stabenow (D-MI), which would amend ESSA to establish a career counseling program.
- The “[GIRLS-STEM Act](#)”, sponsored by Representative McNerney (D-CA), which would create a grant program under ESSA for local education agencies to encourage female students to pursue STEM studies and careers.

### **Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)**

Advance CTE is currently developing a strategy to better support states’ WIOA implementation. Early work to better understand states’ experience submitting a Combined State Plan began in the Fall with interviews on that topic and the coordination between CTE and workforce development, which informed the creation of the brief, [Coordination between Career Technical Education & State Initiatives](#).

Advance CTE engagement with partners:

- We are in early discussions with the National Skills Coalition about collaborating on resources to highlight best practices and coordination happening between WIOA and CTE in states.
- We participated in a roundtable discussion of WIOA partners hosted by the National Governors Association about implementation and plan to stay involved with the groups represented during the discussion.

### **Engagement with the Administration**

Much of our engagement with the Administration since October has been in the form of letters to communicate our views on a variety of topics (additional details below).

Advance CTE’s engagement with the U.S. Department of Education:

- In partnership with ACTE, we submitted a [letter](#) to Secretary DeVos outlining our concerns regarding the proposed shift to merge the Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education (OCTAE) and the Office of Postsecondary Education.
- Advance CTE submitted comments to the U.S. Department of Education related to a request for actions the Department can take to “increase the consideration and participation of rural schools and rural local educational agencies in the development and execution of the processes, procedures, policies and regulations of the Department.” We highlighted lessons learned from our CTE on the Frontier series and provided related recommendations.
- In partnership with ACTE, we submitted a letter to the U.S. Department of Education related to a request for comments of the Department’s proposed supplemental priorities, which would be used to award competitive grants.

Advance CTE's engagement with the Office of Management and Budget:

- Advance CTE signed on to a letter developed by the Campaign to Invest in America's Workforce, a coalition of which we are a member, which asked the OMB Director to include adequate funding for education and workforce programs in his FY19 budget requests.

### **Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 and 2019 Budget and Appropriations Update**

Congressional action and Advance CTE engagement on tax reform:

- In November, the House of Representatives and the Senate passed tax reform bills.
- On December 15, the conference committee released its proposal for a final bill.
- Advance CTE signed onto a letter to both the House and Senate with 42 other organizations in opposition to specific provisions in the tax reform bill.
- Advance CTE partnered with ACTE to send letters to both the Leadership of the House Ways and Means Committee and Senate Committee on Finance on their respective tax reform proposals outlining our concerns and how they would impact CTE.
- While the final bill removed a number of problematic provisions, we remained concerned about the \$10,000 cap on the deduction for state and local taxes and the overall cost of tax reform, both of which are likely to have negative implications for the overall investment in CTE. Advance CTE partnered with ACTE to [send a letter](#) to the conference committee expressing our outstanding concerns.
- On December 20, the final bill passed both the House and Senate and President Trump signed it in time for it to go into effect on January 1, 2018.

Fiscal Year 2018 Congressional action on appropriations:

- Congress has continued to enact continuing resolutions to fund the government at its current levels for FY18.
- In February 9, [Congress passed a measure](#) to fund the government through March 23 and raised the previous budget caps in place by \$296 billion for FY18-FY19.
- With the new caps in place, Congressional appropriators will likely turn their attention to finalizing an omnibus appropriations package for FY18 before March 23 to avoid a government shutdown.

Advance CTE's engagement with Congress on appropriations:

- Advance CTE signed on to a letter developed by the Campaign to Invest in America's Workforce, a coalition of which we are a member, which asked congressional appropriations leaders to make strong investment in education and workforce programs as they finalize FY18 appropriations bills.

Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19) Appropriations activity:

- On February 12, President Trump released his [FY19 Budget proposal](#), which included [level funding for Perkins](#) as well as steep cuts to the Departments of Education and Labor.
  - To accompany the President's Budget, the U.S. Department of Education released a more [detailed summary](#), which also addressed the need for Perkins



reauthorization and included recommended ideas (almost all of which are already allowed under current law (and the others would be addressed if the Perkins reauthorization bill passed by the U.S. House of Representatives in 2017 (H.R.2353) were to become law)).

- The two co-chairs of the House CTE Caucus (Representatives Langevin (D-RI) and Thompson (R-PA)) will be sending a letter to the Chairman, Tom Cole (R-OK) and Ranking Member, Rosa DeLauro (D-CT), of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies encouraging that they consider strong support for Perkins in the FY19 appropriations bill. Right now, Reps. Langevin (D-RI) and Thompson are asking for their colleagues in the House to [join them in signing this letter](#) (their request is formally called a “Dear Colleague” letter).

**Discussion Questions:**

Advance CTE’s federal policy team remains committed to supporting our members in all areas of federal policy that intersect with CTE. As Congress moves forward reauthorization of HEA, Advance CTE has advocated for our members’ interested based on our policy recommendations. During this process, we have realized that there are a number of areas within HEA that are of interest to the CTE community and we have been more engaged in policy conversations around Pell grants for short-term programs and transparency of postsecondary data.

- Are there additional provisions within HEA that should be our top priorities for reform/reauthorization?
- Which policy recommendations warrant further clarification?
- What kinds of HEA resources would be most helpful to our members?
- Similarly, as WIOA implementation continues, what aspects are of most concern to our members?
- What kinds of WIOA resources would be most helpful to our members?

**Board action required:**      Response to discussion questions.

## **Advance CTE Board Report** **March 15, 2018**

**Strategic Plan** – The ACTE® Board of Directors approved a new Strategic Plan for the organization in December. The plan focuses on five themes and is in the process of being incorporated into our FY 2019 budget planning process.

([https://www.acteonline.org/uploadedFiles/Who We Are/About ACTE/ACTE Strategic%20Plan.docx](https://www.acteonline.org/uploadedFiles/Who_We_Are/About_ACTE/ACTE_Strategic%20Plan.docx))

**CareerTech VISION** – Our December 2017 event in Nashville was a great success. Now we are looking forward to CareerTech VISION 2018 which will take place November 28 – December 1 in San Antonio, a new location for us! The Call for Proposals has closed and we had more entries submitted than ever in recent history. Please plan to attend and promote to your field. Thanks to Advance CTE for their session submissions. (<https://www.careertechvision.com/>)

**Credentials Summit/Best Practices & Innovations Conference/Region II Conference** – ACTE is partnering with NOCTI to host a new Credentials Summit in Louisville, KY on September 25. The event will take place just prior to our annual Best Practices and Innovations Conference (Sept. 26-28) that targets CTE administrators, and the ACTE Region II Conference (Sept. 28-29). (<https://www.acteonline.org/BestPractices/>)

**State Conferences** – North Carolina ACTE is our most recent state to unify with the national ACTE organization. We continue to work with our state associations to build stronger organizations. July 30-31 we will be working in partnership with Oregon ACTE and Portland Community College to host a Summer Professional Development Event (<https://www.acteonline.org/portland/>). Finally, we are working with Advance CTE to plan a meaningful state leaders event at CareerTech VISION in San Antonio.

**Industry Insider Tours** – ACTE has launched a new set of “Industry Insider Tours” aimed at highlighting successful education-employer partnerships that are addressing skills needs in various sectors. Our first three events will take place in Fall 2018 with tours highlighting the Architecture and Construction sector in Baton Rouge, Hospitality and Tourism sector in Orlando and Advanced Manufacturing sector in Kenosha, WI. You can find additional information and our list of partners on ACTE’s website. (<https://www.acteonline.org/iitours/>)

**Public Policy** – In partnership with Advance CTE, ACTE continues to advocate on the Perkins reauthorization, federal funding and other legislative and regulatory policy matters impacting CTE. ACTE held another successful National Policy Seminar in March which included over 360 CTE advocates and a reception on Capitol Hill in partnership with seven of the Career and Technical Student Organizations. The event drew a very large crowd and featured outstanding student projects. (<https://www.acteonline.org/nps/>)

**Harbor Freight Tools for Schools** – ACTE will be supporting the Harbor Freight Tools for Schools this year to help identify awardees of the 2018 HFTFS Prize for Teaching Excellence that honors U.S. public high school skilled trades teachers. The prize includes a significant monetary award (\$100,000 this year!) for each national winner/school and is helping to not only recognize exemplary teachers but also improve the image around skilled trades.

(<https://harborfreighttoolsforschools.org/2017-hftfs-prize-teaching-excellence/>)

**CTE Month®** – Thank you to Advance CTE and all who helped celebrate today’s CTE during CTE Month in February. We had more activity than ever before to help raise the profile and understanding about our programs! (<https://www.acteonline.org/ctemonth/>)



## Career and Technical Student Organizations



To: Advance CTE Board of Directors

Thank you for the opportunity for the CTSOs to share a brief update from our organizations. As you can tell from these reports CTSOs are doing well and continue to be an integral part of high quality CTE.



Business Professionals of America (BPA) continues to remain an active promoter of career and technical education and a supporter of the education of students in the field of business and information technology education. The organization's membership has remained steady and continues to stay committed to current members, sponsors, and partners. BPA has a total membership of 42,500 students across 25 states and the territory of Puerto Rico. We continue to serve 40,500 secondary students and 2,000 post-secondary students. The organization is looking forward to a new year, new opportunities, and a new direction in the coming years.

A change in leadership has sparked the enthusiasm for a new direction for BPA. This year the Board of Trustees has been diligently searching for a new Executive Director. As of March 5, 2018, Business Professionals of America named a new Executive Director, LouAnn Ross. The new Executive Director will begin on April 2, 2018.

BPA is gearing up for the National Leadership Conference in Dallas, Texas, May 9-13, 2018 at the Gaylord Texan Resort and Convention Center with an expected average attendance of 5,100 for the event.

The 2017-2018 year has been an exciting one for BPA, and 2018-2019 year will continue to be an exciting year of growth and new opportunities. The organization is on track to learn from the past and harnesses the full potential of a new leader, a new era of possibility, and a brand new perspective on career and technical student organizations, as well as, career and technical education.

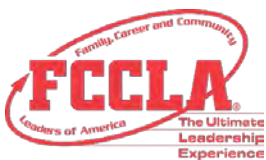


- Educators Rising's membership continues to grow! We are now at 47, 352 (at the end of February 2018) with increases in the following categories: students, teacher leaders, state and regional coordinators and administrators.

- Educators Rising is excited to be forging partnerships with more states! Over the past two months, we have secured official agreements with Oregon, Wyoming and Wisconsin, our new state affiliates. In total, we now have official affiliations in 23 states and 3 regions.
- PDK International is currently conducting interviews for the Educators Rising Director position. We hope to be able to fill this important position as soon as possible.
- The 2018 Educators Rising National Conference will take place June 21–24, 2018, in Orlando. Everyone is invited to participate in this action-packed event filled with networking, learning, competing, and celebrating. The conference will be held at the Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista. Conference registration is now open, and early bird registration discounts end on April 23, 2018. For more information and to register, please visit our conference page. And, thank you for helping us spread the word!



- After another record attendance in 2017, the FBLA-PBL National Leadership Conference will be held in Baltimore, Maryland for the first time this summer. Over 14,000 members and advisers are expected to attend. New this year, the FBLA-Middle Level division will have its own competitions and recognition ceremony.
- The FBLA-PBL National Student Officer teams have engaged in a number of outreach activities, including conducting a Food Drive at the National Fall Leadership Conferences (held in Buffalo, St. Louis, and New Orleans), which collected over 2,800 cans for local food pantries, and a Disaster Relief campaign that raised money for areas devastated by the fall hurricanes.
- The national board of directors adopted a new mission statement to ensure alignment and relevance with industry and our student membership:  
*FBLA-PBL inspires and prepares students to become community-minded business leaders in a global society through relevant career preparation and leadership experiences.*
- In addition, to better meet the needs of an evolving student population, the board voted to adopt an updated dress code, <http://www.fbla-pbl.org/cmh/dress-code/>.



**FCCLA Week** – Please view a highlight video from FCCLA Week showcasing our appearance on Good Morning America at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ufMm4Tq0Yt4>

#### **Career Pathway Focus**

- In an effort to help our advisers and members better identify the career pathways that Family and Consumer Sciences and FCCLA support we developed and implemented a new Career Pathway logo and are making programmatic efforts to reflect this emphasis including:

- Creating a one-page handout with the Career Pathway logo and potential career options listed under each pathway
- Developed and implemented a new structure for the FCCLA national magazine Teen Times that highlighted two career pathways in each edition
- Identifying the workshops, competitive events, and other programmatic activities by putting a mark in the color of the pathway to help members and advisers locate the opportunities that best align with their career pathway focus
- Updating the Career Connection national program to be released in June
- Offering career exploration options for attendees at our National Leadership Conference for each pathway

### **National Leadership Conference Dress Code**

- Three years ago, the FCCLA adopted a new dress code for the National Leadership Conference requiring all youth attendees to be in official dress for all workshops, general sessions, and participation in the exhibit hall. We have taken several steps to assist our members in preparation for this transition including:
  - Lowering the cost of the blazer to \$65
  - Securing two vendors to assist in meeting the demands
  - Allocating funds from National FCCLA to each state association to purchase blazers in the amount of the average of their past three attendance data and covering the shipping costs for these in addition to the cost of the blazers
- Additionally, the FCCLA Board of Directors updated all dress code policies to be non-gender specific
- We look forward to being Inspired! at our national leadership conference as we all unite in red

### **State Adviser Training**

- FCCLA invested funds this year in our “newer” state advisers (those who have been in their role three years or less)
  - FCCLA traveled up to four state advisers in at a time for three days of specific hands on training with our national staff (all expenses paid)
  - In this first year of this program we hosted 15 new(er) state advisers at our headquarters for this training
  - We have found this investment very helpful and plan to continue this program as new state advisers are hired



### **National FFA Board**

- Sending a recommendation to the 2018 delegates to raise individual national FFA dues from \$7 to \$9 and to increase the Program Affiliation option by 50 cents per student in each tier.
- Recommended moving FFA membership to full adoption of program affiliation by the year 2021.
- Approved a process to adjust the future delivery of the National FFA magazine - toward 25 printed magazine copies per teacher/advisor drop shipped to the school
- Renamed FFA Alumni to “National FFA Alumni and Supporters”
- Approved and Adopted National FFA Inclusion Statement 2018
- Relocated collegiate membership within alumni in the National FFA Constitution

- Set the 2018-19 National FFA Alumni affiliation fee at \$100 per chapter, individual dues at \$10 and Life dues at \$200.
- Converted the National FFA Alumni Bylaws to Operational Policies

Approved sending the following three constitutional proposals to the delegates in October 2018

- Changing National FFA Membership Type from “Active” to “Student”
- Change National FFA Membership Type “Alumni” to “Adult”
- Moving National FFA Honorary Degree from National FFA Membership Types to Degrees.

*National FFA Convention*

- Record of 67,000 attendees at the 90th (2017) National FFA Convention & Expo.
- Developing a potential addition to the 91st Natl FFA Convention & Expo titled “Blue Room 365” which will put an emphasis on technology in Agriculture.
- The 2025-2031 National FFA Convention search committee has narrowed down future convention sites election to two locations.

*National FFA Organization*

Buddy Deimler (Utah) will assume the role of the National FFA Organization Treasurer at the completion of Nancy J. Trivette’s (New Jersey) term in January 2019.



**HOSA-Future Health Professionals**

In February, HOSA, Inc. Chair Dr. Peg Enslin and HOSA International President Priya Rathakrishnan led a HOSA delegation to the International Day of Women and Girls in Science Forum which included HOSA members and corporate partners from Johnson & Johnson and CVS Health. Ann Powell with J&J wrote, “I cannot begin to express how honored I am to have attended the event at the UN. But even more impressive were the HOSA students. The future is bright with these individuals leading the way. HOSA has been a well-kept secret. I hope to help change that.”

In the first quarter of 2018, HOSA welcomed new members to the HOSA-100 National Advisory Council including: Ann Powell, Johnson & Johnson; Dr. William Barnes, National Association of County and City Health Organizations; and, Patricia Cornet,, Bristol-Myers Squibb. Other members represented include: Cardinal Health, CVS Health, Deloitte, IBM, GlaxoSmithKline, Medical Reserve Corps, Pfizer Pharmaceuticals, Solamed Solutions, University of Phoenix, and Boys & Girls Clubs.

In March, Dr. Jim Koeninger, Executive Director, and Karen Koeninger, Deputy Executive Director, were invited to China to present HOSA as part of an education reform program advocated by SKT Education Group. SKT-CEO Houston Hou attended the 2017 International Leadership Conference in Orlando and recognized the value of including HOSA-Future Health Professionals as part of the reform efforts in 100 schools collaborating with SKT. The goal is to launch HOSA in 2018-2019 in China.

In June, more than 12,000 delegates are expected to attend the 2018 International Leadership Conference in Dallas, Texas, June 27-30.



### SkillsUSA Update

SkillsUSA is in a time of tremendous growth and change. Membership for 2017-18 is hitting record numbers of more than 350,000 members. Including alumni, SkillsUSA membership will be over 400,000 for the first time in our history. A few highlights:

- We launched the *SkillsUSA Career Essentials* suite this school year, an online solution to help instructors produce career-ready graduates prepared to face the 21st-century demands of employers. It centers on the SkillsUSA Framework of personal, workplace and technical skills. It includes modules for instructors, students and assessments.
- For SkillsUSA Week in February, SkillsUSA held its most comprehensive celebration including teacher appreciation, member outreach, advocacy, mentoring younger students in STEM skills and performing community service. A highlight of the week was a meeting with secretary of education Betsy DeVos and assistant secretary Dr. Michael Wooten at the U.S. Department of Education.
- SkillsUSA has launched a new PSA featuring TV host, carpenter and business owner Kayleen McCabe. We released a new partner video, our FY17 annual report has been published and we held a *Facebook Live!* event featuring Kayleen McCabe and national officer Maci Keys to celebrate International Women's Day, March 8.
- SkillsUSA is beginning work on Phase One of *SkillsUSA CONNECT*, a member portal envisioned as a comprehensive hub for interaction between members, partners and staff.
- SkillsUSA hired Gene Dudley as the Regional Manager, a new position in Region 2 designed to strengthen SkillsUSA programs. In this new role, Dudley is working with SkillsUSA directors and state CTE directors and provide support and enhanced services such as more teacher training and support for the *SkillsUSA Career Essentials* suite.
- Our SkillsUSA national officer team is traveling the country and interacting with members and speaking at partner events. They met March 15-18 in St. Louis to prepare for the 2018 conference.
- SkillsUSA held an online PR Challenge to encourage more chapter outreach to the media.
- SkillsUSA has introduced a modern red windbreaker as a third official attire alternative to the red blazer. Sales begin in April.
- Recent national trainings included a meeting for state association leaders at the SkillsUSA Headquarters in November, a national certified trainer workshop in Atlanta was held Feb. 16-19, and a boot camp on Jan. 13-14 at SkillsUSA Headquarters for leaders using our conference management software (CMS) to score state events.
- SkillsUSA now has 33 fulltime staff; our newest hires were a corporate development officer and a program manager for our competitive events. We are now interviewing for a program specialist in the education department. Our HR staff is revising our employee handbook for compliance and relevancy.





The Technology Student Association (TSA) is proud to be celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year with a record number of 250,000 middle and high school student members.

This past fall, TSA received funding from the Verizon Foundation for a new membership program, *The TSA 100*. One hundred eligible schools with historically underserved and underrepresented populations were selected to participate through an application process. The grant provided the schools the opportunity to affiliate and experience the benefits of TSA for the 2017-2018 school year.

Additionally, TSA has partnered with a leading IT association. In an effort to interest young people in technology careers, this partnership will help with the important task of filling the STEM career pipeline. TSA's competitions, leadership programs, professional development, communications/marketing, and technology applications will be enhanced. This newly formed partnership will provide a pathway for TSA's members to strengthen their personal development, address real-world challenges, and consider a STEM career.

TSA manages two programs for the U.S. Army – the Junior Solar Sprint contest, and Unite, a pre-collegiate, academic summer program for historically underrepresented and underserved STEM high school students. TSA also offers TEAMS – a one-day national competition for middle and high school students where they apply their STEM skills to solve an issue facing our global society.

## SkillsUSA Report for Advance CTE

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**FY19 Elections and Nominations Committee Report**  
*Report prepared by Kate Kreamer, Deputy Executive Director*

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In 2017, the Advance CTE Board of Directors approved a new nominations process to align with the member-approved change in the organization’s governance structure. Starting with the FY19 elections, the Nominations Committee was tasked with developing a slate of candidates for Secretary/Treasurer, the three open Regional Representatives positions and a new At-Large State Director representative position.

The Nominations Committee’s composition also changed, based on Board approved policy; it was chaired by current Past President Rod Duckworth, and included other Past Presidents (Rich Katt, Phil Berkenbile and Pat Ainsworth), the current Advance CTE/The Center to Advance CTE Vice President (Bernadette Howard), former Advance CTE Board members (Vanessa Cooley and Wayne Kutzer), and one Associate-State member (Donna Brant).

As is the tradition, the Committee recommends that the Executive Committee move “up” one position, Bernadette Howard to President, Sarah Heath to Vice President and Pradeep Kotamraju to Past President.

A call for nominations was sent out to all State CTE Directors in early 2018, which included the nominations criteria and form. Advance CTE received one nomination for Secretary/Treasurer (Marcie Mack of Oklahoma); one nomination for the At-Large position (Charisse Childers); one nomination for Region B (Charisse Childers); and one nomination for Region D (Thalea Longhurst). The Nominations Committee identified Thalea Longhurst as a strong candidate for the Secretary/Treasurer position and Donna Wyatt of California for Region E. Both confirmed interest in the positions after being contacted. All positions will be voted on at the Business Meeting on April 5, 2018.

**Secretary/Treasurer**

1. Marcie Mack – Oklahoma
2. Thalea Longhurst – Utah

**At-Large Representative**

1. Charisse Childers – Arkansas

**Region B Representative (Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia & West Virginia)**

1. Charisse Childers – Arkansas

**Region D Representative (Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Texas, Utah & Wyoming)**

1. Thalea Longhurst – Utah

**Region E Representative (Alaska, Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon & Washington)**

1. Donna Wyatt – California

**Board action:** Vote to approve slate of candidates, including succession of officers