

QUICK UPDATES

Upcoming Advance CTE and Center to Advance CTE Board Meetings

Advance CTE Board

- August 24, 2017 from 1 – 2 p.m. E.T. via conference call
- Topic: Governance

Fall Board Meetings: October 16, 2017 – BWI Marriott

- 9 a.m. – Noon - Advance CTE
- 12:30 – 3:30-p.m. - Joint Board meeting of Advance CTE & The Center to Advance CTE
- 3:30 – 5 p.m. – The Center to Advance CTE

State CTE Director Changes

Transitions

- In May, Advance CTE received a number of notices regarding State Director transitions:
 - **Connecticut:** Melissa Hickey was promoted and Harold Mackin assumed the State Director title in late May. Harold has been paired with Meg Harvey of Maine.
 - **Oregon:** Laura Roach retired on May 1 and the point of contact is Donna Brant.
 - **Texas:** Quentin Suffren resigned his role at the Texas Education Agency. Diane Salazar has been named the interim.
 - **New York:** Eric Suhr retired on June 1. The interim State Director is Mary Cahill.
 - **South Carolina:** Ron Roveri has accepted a position at the local level, effective July 1.
- Additionally, the following states remain without permanent leadership: **Alabama, DC, and Tennessee.**

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 100.30% of budgeted income |
| Expended 64.71% of budgeted expenses |

| Center to Advance CTE Budget Snapshot |
|---------------------------------------|
| Received 138.75% of budgeted income |
| Expended 92.38% 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.

| Grant/Proposal/ Contract | Organization /Partner | Engagement in Past Month | Status |
|--|----------------------------------|---|---------------|
| Siemens Foundation | | A fuller update is below about <i>Strategies for Recruiting Students into High-quality CTE</i> below | 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 | OCTAE, Advance CTE and RTI International held a webinar on April 26 on the upcoming release of the report “Opportunities for Connecting Secondary Career and Technical Education (CTE) Students and Apprenticeship Programs,” which can be found here . The report is in the final stages of approval and is expected to be released in June. While this contract was supposed to end by January 2017, we have a contract modification, with the final deliverables submitted by September 2017. | Ongoing |
| Misc. | | Staff had calls with representatives from the Joyce Foundation and GE Foundation in May to share information and build relationships. We have scheduled tentative meetings with both in July and August. Advance CTE will also be participating in a funder-led meeting in June around career pathways, with a number of other national partners and funders. | Preliminary |

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

Membership Update

In May, Advance CTE received two new memberships – one Associate, State and one Associate, Non-state

Total membership as of May 30, 2017: 352

- State Director: 54
- Associate, State: 93
- Associate, Non-state: 98
- Organizational: 36 organizations (representing 107 individuals)

FY 18 State Membership

Following the Spring Meeting, a few more states submitted their state members, bringing the total to 44 participating states and 149 state members. Advance CTE continues to prepare for the July 1 implementation and will share more details in the next month’s board report.

Member Resources and Supports

State Policy Update:

New Skills for Youth: The NSFY team continues to work with Phase Two states on refining their outcomes goals and designing an effective progress monitoring system. The project team has recently begun working on the NSFY Fall Convening, tentatively scheduled for November 1-3, 2017.

Staff also began planning for future publications, including kickoff calls with the American School Counselor Association on the next State of CTE report, which will focus on career development.

Rural briefs: Advance CTE staff are working on a three-part series examining access and quality of CTE in rural communities. The series will explore vexing challenges -- such as providing diverse program offerings, expanding the rural CTE teacher pipeline and increasing learning access to opportunities -- and will highlight innovative state solutions. Our team aims to conclude research shortly and plans to release the first brief in July or early August.

Resource Center: With more than 6,700 hits in May, the Resource Center continues a strong trend of high monthly engagement. Advance CTE's two most recent publications made the top of the list. "The Value and Promise of Career Technical Education," summarizing a recent national survey of student and parent perceptions of CTE, was the most accessed resource. It was followed by "Raising the Bar," a report documenting program approval in Tennessee, New Jersey and Delaware. For the third month in a row (and ninth overall), the top resource topic was "Career Advisement." Later in June we plan to mark the one-year anniversary of the Learning that Works Resource Center with a feedback survey. The survey will be sent to subscribers of the Resource Roundup newsletter and will help build our understanding of how people are using the system and what we can do to improve the usability and content.

Program Approval Policy Benchmark Tool: Staff used the Advance CTE Spring Meeting to test with members a draft slice of the program approval policy benchmark tool. This tool lists core elements necessary for any effective program approval policy, elements which were chosen based on research and interviews with State Directors in secondary and postsecondary. The tool also contains an illustrative rubric which further defines the core elements and helps states identify gaps in current policy.

Based on feedback from the Spring Meeting, the tool is being updated, and will be shared again with volunteer states and partners in July for their review and feedback. The tool will be released in the fall, and staff are planning to offer a few states the chance to participate in an Advance CTE-led self-assessment on the tool's criteria.

CTE Virtual Institute: Staff have also begun planning for a project tentatively titled the Virtual Institute. The Institute is a web-based, comprehensive crash course on high-quality CTE designed for new audiences with limited knowledge or awareness of the field. It will build upon resources in the Learning that Works Resource Center to guide participants along a modular exploration of the world of CTE, and will feature informative new videos and interaction with experts on staff. The Virtual Institute is scheduled to launch later this fall.

Industry Expert Working Groups: Following the release of the 2016 State of CTE report on increasing access to industry experts and the sustained level of interest it generated, staff have again partnered with the AIR Center on Great Teachers and Leaders to lead two working groups inspired by the report. These groups will include representatives from six to eight states and will meet virtually five times

between now and the end of the year. At the end of the year, there will be a report produced summarizing the lessons learned from both groups. Invitations to states and national partners will likely be sent out in June 2017.

Meetings/Events

| Event Name | Date | Total Participants | Total Participating State Directors | % of Registration Goal |
|--|---------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Value & Promise of CTE webinar | 5/16/17 | 68 | 22 | NA |
| Perkins Update Webinar for State Directors | 5/19/17 | 53 | 53 | NA |

The 2017 Spring Meeting far surpassed registration and sponsorship targets. Overall, the meeting evaluation showed high levels of satisfaction throughout the meeting. Some of the newer features of the meeting – such as the mobile-friendly agenda, Sched – received high marks with a majority of respondents saying they would like to see something like this at future meetings. Additionally the workshop format was very well received with some constructive notes for future meetings. Sponsors also rated their meeting experience highly with all saying they were satisfied with their sponsorship and 100% said they would sponsor future meetings.

Plans are already underway for the 2017 Fall Meeting in Baltimore, Maryland. Registration is expected to launch in early July.

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.*

This month marks the [one year anniversary](#) of the release of [Putting Learner Success First: A Shared Vision for the Future of CTE!](#) While we have continued to release materials in support of *Putting Learner Success First*, we are in the process of creating a more intentional strategy for year two and beyond.

In May, we:

- We released a short animated [video](#) on *Putting Learner Success First* at the Spring meeting.
- We collaborated with ACTE and some of our non-state Associate members to develop a [self-assessment](#) practitioners can use (or state leaders can use with practitioners) to evaluate how well they are aligned with *Putting Learner Success First*
- We refreshed a [self-assessment](#) tool for state leaders to use to reflect on the progress they have made around the vision and its principles.
- We are planning a blog series to highlight the opportunities and initiatives aligned with each principle.

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:

As Congress looks to the 2018 Fiscal Year (FY18), we are revamping our efforts to draw attention to the need for a strong federal investment in the Perkins Basic State Grants. As detailed below, the President's proposed FY18 budget cuts these grants by 15 percent and increases the National Programs line item by \$20 million to "support a competition to promote the development, enhancement, implementation, or expansion of innovative CTE programs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields" according to the Department of Education (ED) FY18 Budget [Summary and Background Information](#). Given this proposal, we will continue to meet with Congressional budget and appropriations committee staff to make the case for an increased investment in the Basic State Grants. We also submitted a question about the rationale for the \$168 million cut to members of the House Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee, in hopes it would get asked during their ED budget hearing on May 24. Unfortunately, the question wasn't asked directly, so Secretary DeVos didn't comment on it specifically, but we plan to submit it again prior to the Senate's hearing next week. Our efforts off the Hill include an upcoming op-ed and a blog series on how these proposed cuts would impact CTE on the ground - we have asked the readers of our *Legislative Updates* to send us their stories to feature. We are also partnering with other organizations to send a clear message about the importance and value of the investment in Basic State Grants. For example, both the National Governors Association (NGA) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) have included Perkins funding in their letters to Congressional appropriators.

Perkins: 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) was introduced on May 4 by Representatives Glenn "GT" Thompson (R-PA) and Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-IL). This bipartisan bill builds on last year's effort to reauthorize Perkins (H.R. 5587), which passed the House by a 405-5 margin in September 2016. On May 17, the House Education and the Workforce Committee [marked up H.R. 2353](#) (you can watch the mark up [here](#)) and unanimously passed it. Prior to the mark up, Advance CTE and ACTE sent a [letter](#) to the committee outlining our support of many provisions included in H.R. 2353 and our main outstanding concern around how the bill defines a secondary CTE concentrator (you can find a summary and analysis of [H.R. 2353 here](#)). We anticipate that H.R. 2353 will go for a vote before the full House of Representatives this summer and we will continue conversations with Congressional staff in the coming weeks to address the secondary CTE concentrator definition and other technical fixes that are needed.

HEA: The roundtable discussion at the Spring Meeting on how HEA can better support a broader spectrum of students who are pursuing post-secondary experiences (e.g., community college, industry-recognized credentials, etc.) was a great kick-off event for our new "kitchen cabinet" group. While we will continue to use our [HEA Recommendations](#) as the baseline for discussions with Congressional staff, the kitchen cabinet group will be an excellent sounding board for us as we consider HEA proposals and ideas with partner groups.

Budget / Appropriations: On Friday, May 5, the President signed an omnibus appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2017 (FY17). Perkins Basic State Grants remained level-funded (\$1,117,598). On May 23, the [President’s Fiscal Year 2018 \(FY18\) Budget](#) was released. This proposal includes a \$168 million cut to the Perkins Basic State Grant, a 15 percent decrease from the current level of funding and also includes an increase of \$20 million for National Programs for innovative CTE programs in STEM. Our full statement on the budget can be found [here](#). As noted above, we are expanding and intensifying our advocacy efforts around the budget and appropriations processes to ensure that these cuts do not come to fruition.

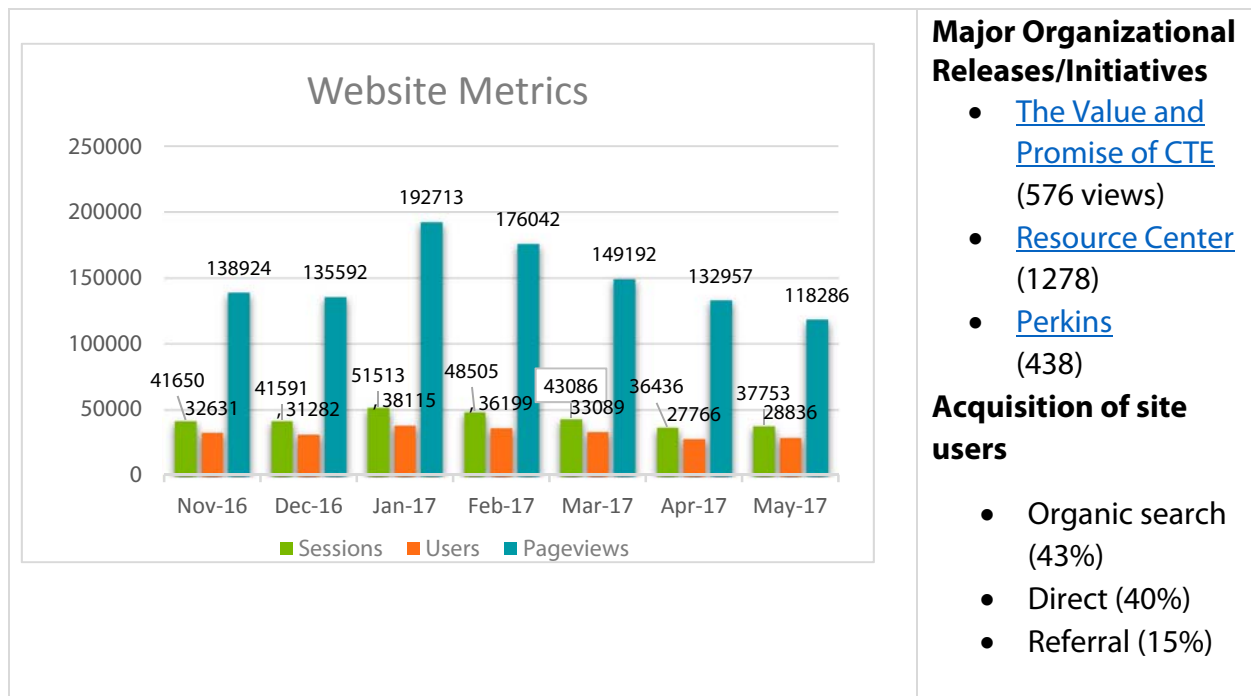
Congressional Offices Engaged in May 2017:

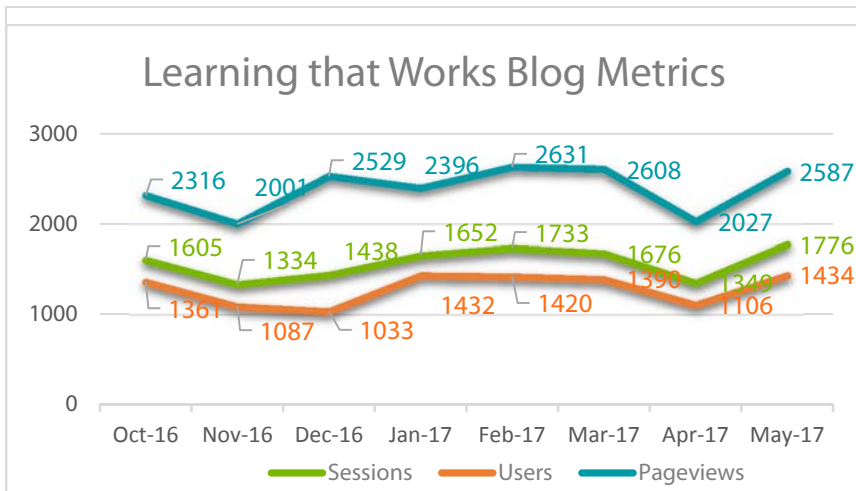
- Meeting with Mackensie Burt, Sen. Alexander (R-TN) Office
- Meeting with Katie Dwyer, Sen. Kennedy (R-LA) Office
- Meeting with Desiree Mowry, Sen. Blunt (R-MO) Office
- Meeting with Colin Hayes, Rep. Womack (R-AR) Office
- Calls with James Redstone, House Education and the Workforce Committee, Majority Staff

The Following Congressional Staff Participated in the “View from the Hill” Panel at the Spring Meeting:

- Alex Payne, Education Policy Advisor, House Education and the Workforce Committee, Minority Staff
- James Redstone, Professional Staff Member, House Education and the Workforce Committee, Majority Staff
- Allie Kimmel, Senior Education Policy Advisor, Senate HELP Committee, Minority Staff
- Steve Townsend, Professional Staff Member, Senate HELP Committee, Majority Staff

Communications Report:

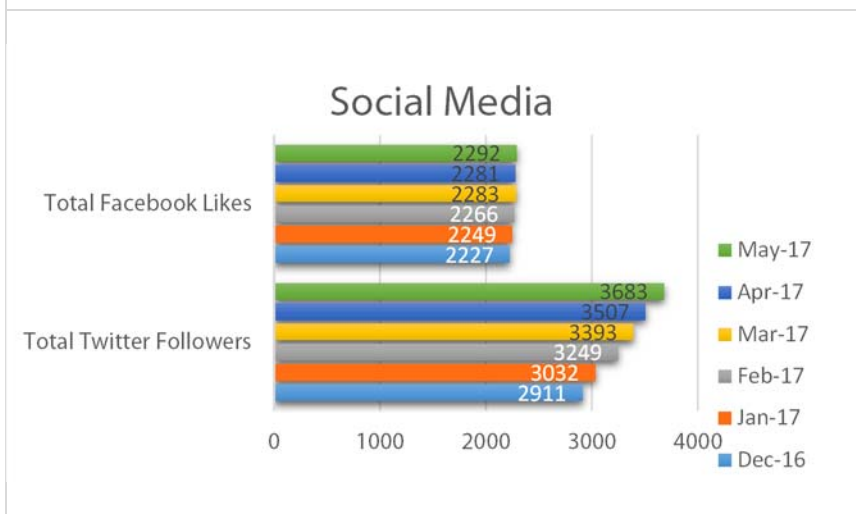




16 Blog Posts Published

Most visited blogs:

- [President's Budget Proposal Raises Questions](#)
- [Welcome to Arizona's New SD](#)
- [Perkins Reauthorization Bill Introduced](#)



Facebook: 11

Twitter: +176

Media

Advance CTE was featured 17 times in the media this month, with multiple quotes from staff, links to the website, and covering a range of projects and initiatives. Staff provided quotes on two separate occasions to Education Daily, however Advance CTE is not subscribed so mentions are not recorded. Media links are:

Administration Budget Announcement

5/26/17 – [Career and Technical Education Faces Cuts in President's FY 18 Budget](#), Collision Week

5/25/17 - [STEM Funding Uncertain in Trump White House](#), U.S. News & World Report

5/24/17 - [Trump Budget Would Slash Student Aid and Research](#), Inside Higher Ed

5/23/17 - [Trump's Education Budget Takes Aim at the Working Class](#), The Atlantic

5/23/17 – [Report: Trump Education Budget Slams the Working Class that Helped Elect Him President](#), The Progressive Pulse

5/23/17 - [Trump Spending Plan Triggers Many Negative Reactions From K-12 World](#), Education Week

Perkins Reauthorization

5/18/17 - [Career and Technical Education is a Bipartisan Priority](#), Education Dive

5/10/17 - [CTE Reauthorization Draws Congressional Attention](#), The Journal

5/5/17 - [Bipartisan Bill to Reauthorize Perkins Act](#), Inside Higher Ed

Siemens Foundation Work

5/11/17 - [Stigma Hobbles Career and Technical Education](#), Education Week

State of CTE

5/10/17 - [Demand for Tech Teachers Rises in Clark County Amid National Shortage](#), Springfield News-Sun

5/23/17 - [Perkins Reauthorization: An Opportunity to Address Career and Technical Education Teacher Shortages](#), Learning Policy Institute

Awards: Excellence in Action & Star of Education

5/26/17 - [JCJC's EMT Program Earns "Excellence in Action" National Award](#), WDAM

5/24/17 - [Summit Tech Earns National Recognition](#), Lee's Summit Journal

5/4/17 - [Milton Hershey School Receives National Excellence in Action Award for Law, Public Safety and Security Career Pathway](#), Benzinga

5/4/17 - [Oakland Mechatronics Program Among Nation's Best](#), Daily News Journal

5/3/17 - [Tester Given National Award for Continuing Education Work](#), Billings Gazette

Excellence in Action Award

The Excellence in Action Award honored 11 programs of study across as many Career Clusters in 10 states at the 2017 Spring Meeting, as well as highlighted in a national release, resulting in a number of media pickups. Staff provided each winner with a press release, [two-pager](#) and banner. Staff will feature the winners throughout the year in a monthly blog series, at conferences and on webinars.

Strategies for Attracting Students to High-Quality CTE

Edge Research presented the research findings during the Spring Meeting, and staff conducted two workshops to help state leaders begin to use the messages and empower locals to do the same. Additionally, staff led a webinar on May 16th to further explore the research findings and tools. In addition, staff released a number of new tools including:

- [Core Messages for Attracting Students to Career Technical Education](#)


- [Dos and Don'ts for Engaging Students and Parents around CTE](#)
- [Summary of Messages to Engage Parents & Students](#)
- [The Value and Promise of Career Technical Education Fact Sheet](#)
- [Making a Winning Case for CTE: How State Leaders Can Put This Research to Work](#)
- Coming soon: Advocacy 101, How Local Leaders Can Put This Research to Work, PowerPoint and Talking Points

Staff is continuing to work with the four states selected for technical assistance through monthly technical assistance calls, and bi-monthly cross-state calls.

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 last month

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <p>PRESENTATIONS</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderated panel at Apprenticeship Forward conference • Presented at US News World & Report STEM Solutions conference • Presented on New Skills for Youth accountability affinity group call • Presentation on Federal Policy at the 37th Annual National Association for Career and Technical Education Information (NACTEI) Conference in Little Rock, AR |
| <p>EVENTS ATTENDED</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in Career Readiness Expert Working group (CREW) around credentials of value • PostSec Data Working Group Monthly Meeting (by phone) • Four Committee for Education Funding (CEF) Meetings • Coalition to Invest in America's Workforce Meeting (by phone) • <i>The Cybersecurity Workforce: Challenges and Potential Solutions</i> panel event hosted by the Senate CTE Caucus • <i>The opportunities of career and technical education: Remarks and discussion with House Education and Workforce Chairwoman Virginia Foxx (R-NC)</i> event hosted by American Enterprise Institute • The House Labor, Health and Human Services, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee Hearing on the Department of Education Budget • <i>Pathways to College Completion</i> event hosted by House Education & Workforce Committee Democrats • U.S. Department of Education Briefing on the President's Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18) Budget Request • Opportunity America's Higher Education Act Meeting |
| <p>OTHER PARTNERS ENGAGED</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked with AIR Center on Great Teachers and Leaders to plan workshops and working groups related to our December 2016 State of CTE report on industry experts • Began planning for the next State of CTE report with the American School Counselors Association, focused on career development |

- 
- Department of Defense Educational Activities (DoDEA)
 - Co-hosted annual meeting of ACTE and Advance CTE officers
 - Associated Equipment Distributors
 - Education Trust
 - National Adult Education Professional Development Consortium
 - NCT3
 - Harris Solutions
 - OCTAE
 - Education Advisory Board

Advance CTE Newsletter

May 2017

Your voice from the nation's capital



Dear Members,

It's been an incredibly active month for Career Technical Education! It was so great to see so many at our annual Spring Meeting in Washington, D.C. earlier this month. Whether you were able to join us or not, be sure to check out the collection of [resources](#). Among the resources are the amazing stories of our 2017 [Excellence in Action award](#) recipients, which prove that high-quality programs of study are possible in every Career Cluster, in every type of community in the nation! Carl D. Perkins Act reauthorization was on the move, with the House Education and Workforce Committee once again unanimously approving its bill, [H.R. 2353](#), followed by the [disappointing](#) Trump Administration budget release, which proposed to cut Perkins by 15%.

Together, our collective advocacy is both the cause for many of these successes and will be the way we defeat these devastating proposed cuts. This newsletter features what Advance CTE has been up to, as well as [asks for your stories](#) to help us personalize the advocacy messaging. Together, we have strength in numbers and in our message. And together, we can work to ensure a strong reauthorization and federal appropriation for CTE.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Green,
Executive Director

In This Issue

[View from the Hill](#)

[State Policy Overview](#)

[Resource Center](#)

[Where We've Been](#)

Member Resources

[Member Directory](#)

[Organizational Resources](#)

[State-Specific Tools & Resources](#)

Don't forget to [log in](#)

See You Next Week!

Spring Meeting:

It was wonderful to see so many of our members at the 2017 Advance CTE Spring Meeting earlier this month! This year's Spring Meeting was one of Advance CTE's largest to date with more than 200 national, state and local leaders coming from across the country including 41 State CTE Directors.

Now that you are back home, we wanted to make sure you knew how to find the session slides and resources so you can share them with your colleagues -- or even use them for your own reference. The process is simple: Just go to our [Spring Meeting agenda](#), and the resources can be found as links or attachments within each session.

We look forward to seeing you all again for our [Fall Meeting](#), which will be October 16-18 in Baltimore, MD. Registration will open in July!

Member transitions

We've seen some more State Director transitions over the past month. **Oregon's** Laura Roach retired on May 1, and **New York's** Eric Suhr will retire at the end of the month.

A

Thank you both for your service!

We've also welcome a few new State Directors recently! Specifically, **Illinois'** Marci Johnson, **Connecticut's** Harold Mackin, **Indiana's** Amanda McCammon, and **Arizona's** Cathie Raymond. Be sure to check out our blog post to learn more about [Cathie](#). Keep your eyes on our Learning that Works blog to learn more about our newest state CTE leaders.

In case you missed it:

You can view two webinars, [Connecting Secondary Students to Apprenticeship Programs](#): A Discussion of Lessons Learned from Site Visits to Eight CTE and Apprenticeship Programs, and [The Value and Promise of CTE: Results from a National Survey of Parents and Students](#).

View from the Hill

This month was full of advocacy activities related to both H.R. 2353, the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act, which would reauthorize the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (Perkins) and the 2017 Fiscal Year (FY17) and 2018 Fiscal Year (FY18) budget and appropriations processes.

Leading up to both the introduction on May 4 and mark up on May 17 of H.R. 2353 (find our summary [here](#)), the *Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act*, we were in close contact with the Congressional staff who were at the negotiating table. In addition, we submitted a joint letter with ACTE to the House Education and the Workforce committee prior to the committee's mark up of the legislation that outlined our support, with the caveat that we have a remaining concern around how the legislation defines a secondary CTE concentrator. Conversations with Congressional staff are ongoing as we work to address this concern and fix other technical issues. We also worked in tandem with partner organizations and Congressional staffers to share information about the bill and its impact on CTE in specific states and districts - thank you to those of you who provided examples and expertise over the past few weeks! We anticipate that H.R. 2353 will go to the House floor for a vote in June, after which it will move to the Senate. The timeline for Senate consideration is unknown at this time.

We have continued to partner with both education and workforce coalitions to meet with Congressional appropriators to share the importance of a strong investment in Perkins (find more here in our [fact sheet](#)). On May 5, Congress finished the FY17 Appropriations process by approving an omnibus measure that level-funded Perkins Basic State Grants. Following this vote, our attention immediately turned to the 2018 appropriations process, as the government's 2018 fiscal year begins October 1. On May 23, the President's FY18 budget proposal was officially released and we were [extremely disappointed](#) to learn of the proposed \$168 million (or 15 percent) cut to the Perkins Basic State Grants. This proposal also included an increase of \$20 million for National Programs for a competitive grant program to fund innovative science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) CTE programs according to the [Department of Education's FY18 Budget Summary and Background Information](#).

This description was confirmed at the Department of Education's FY18 Budget briefing on May 23, during which Advance CTE asked specifically about the rationale behind the cut and the increase to National Programs. We also submitted a question about the rationale for the \$168 million cut to members of the House Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and

Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee, in hopes it would get asked during their ED budget hearing on May 24. Unfortunately, the question wasn't asked directly, so Secretary DeVos didn't comment on it specifically (you can watch the hearing [here](#) and read the written testimony from Secretary DeVos [here](#)).

Given this budget proposal, we are ramping up our advocacy efforts with Congressional appropriators and focusing on drawing attention to the impact these proposed cuts to Perkins could have on CTE at the state and local levels. While previous administrations have proposed similar cuts to Perkins (and even elimination of the investment entirely) that never came to fruition, it is important that Congress know the value of their continued commitment to a strong investment in Perkins. Now is the time to [reach out to your Members of Congress](#) to encourage them to support a strong investment in Perkins and let them know how these cuts would impact CTE in your state (you can find your state's potential allocation in FY18 [here](#) - see page 21). If you need assistance in planning your advocacy efforts, please reach out to Kathryn Zekus at Advance CTE at kzekus@careertech.org.

[State Policy Overview](#)

Twenty-three states and Puerto Rico have [adjourned their legislatures](#) for the year, and with many other states soon to follow, state legislators are working hard to get budgets and bills across the finish line. As we [reported earlier this month](#), 2017 is proving to be a significant year for CTE. Below are a few highlights from the states:

- In **Maryland**, the [More Jobs for Marylanders Act of 2017](#) allows eligible employers to claim tax credits for apprenticeships, requires the state board of education to establish career readiness performance goals, and calls for apprenticeships to be included in the state accountability system.
- The **Arizona** State Board of Education [approved](#) a comprehensive (albeit somewhat convoluted) college and career readiness accountability indicator that includes no less than 17 independent measures ranging from work-based learning to credential attainment.
- **Indiana** Governor Eric Holcomb approved two bills that together [reconfigure](#) the state's CTE funding schedule to prioritize high-wage, high-demand pathways; create a pilot program to integrate career exploration into the eighth grade curriculum; and [to provide for](#) more flexible graduation options (yet to be determined by the State Board of Education).
- Last week, **Tennessee** Governor Bill Haslam signed the [Tennessee Reconnect Act](#) into law, expanding the state's last-dollar tuition scholarship to allow adult learners to attend a community college or College of Applied Technology.
- In **Iowa**, [SF274](#) establishes a computer science professional development fund and calls for a computer science education workgroup to put together a plan to better integrate computer science into K-12 pathways.
- The **South Dakota** State Board of Education voted in its May meeting to adopt new [CTE standards](#) in six Career Clusters®: Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources; Arts, Audio-Video Technology and Communications; Finance; Health Science; Human Services; and Manufacturing.

With more state CTE policies in the pipeline, Advance CTE's [State Policy Updates blog](#) is your best source for the latest updates and analysis. Check back often for the latest intel on state CTE policy.

[Learning that Works Resource Center](#)

This month's Resource Center update explores an urgent, yet thorny, issue: [funding and financing CTE](#). States fund CTE programs in different ways. Some use add-ons to foundation formulas or categorical funds for area CTE centers. Still others, like Alabama through the 21st Century Workforce Act, have made significant one-time investments to upgrade CTE facilities and equipment. The resources below describe different approaches and strategies to help state leaders finance CTE.

[Report - State Strategies for Financing Career and Technical Education](#)

The report from the National Center for Innovation in CTE, published by the U.S. Department of Education, uses survey data collected from State CTE Directors to examine how state funding is distributed to local secondary and postsecondary programs.

[Policy - Alabama: 21st Century Workforce Act](#)

Alabama's 21st Century Workforce Act authorized the procurement of equipment for Career Technical Education (CTE) programs across the state. The legislation offers a model for other states to revise the quality of their own CTE programs.

[Report - "Billion Dollar Bets" to Establish Pathways to Careers Creating Economic Opportunity for Every American](#)

This brief from Bridgespan Group examines the return on philanthropic investments in high-quality career pathways, exploring how career pathways create economic opportunity for low-income individuals. The authors estimate a return of 7.3 to 14.7 times the initial investment in high-quality career pathways.

Where We've Been

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

- Presented at Texas Education Service Center (ESC) CTE Specialist Spring Meeting
- Presented at 37th Annual NACTEI National Conference
- Presented at Apprenticeship Forward Conference
- Presented at U.S. News & World Report STEM Solutions Conference
- Attended Higher Education Act Meeting, Opportunity America
- Attended Committee for Education Funding Meeting
- Attended Briefing on the President's Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Request
- Attended Pathways to College Completion, House Education & Workforce Committee Democrats
- Attended Department of Education Budget Hearing, House Labor, Health and Human Services and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee
- Attended the opportunities of career and technical education: Remarks and discussion with House Education and Workforce Chairwoman Virginia Foxx (R-NC)
- Attended The Cybersecurity Workforce: Challenges and Potential Solutions, Senate CTE Caucus
- Attended PostsecData Working Group Monthly Meeting, Institute for Higher Education Policy
- Attended Career Readiness Expert Working Group on Credentials of Value
- Attended Joint Executive Committee Meeting, Association for Career and Technical Education
- Attended Department of Defense Education Activity

[Forward this email](#)

STAY CONNECTED

