

**QUICK UPDATES**

**Upcoming Advance CTE and Center to Advance CTE Board Meetings**

- Advance CTE Board Meeting – January 16, 2017 at 1–2:30 p.m. ET via conference call
- The Center to Advance CTE Board Meeting – January 16, 2017 at 2–3 p.m. ET via conference call
- If you are unable to participate in the January Board call(s), please let Sherry know by emailing here at [squinn@careertech.org](mailto:squinn@careertech.org). The calls will require a quorum as you will be voting to accept the FY16 audit and 990s for both organizations. Advance CTE’s Board will also consider the proposed ‘business rules’ for the state team membership and some federal policy recommendation updates.

**State CTE Director Changes**

- One new State Director has been named:
  - Maryland: Lynne Gilli (effective: October 24, 2016)
    - Lynne has worked in the state CTE office since 1984, and has held the interim post since 2015.
- Two State Directors have announced their retirement:
  - Nevada: Mike Raponi (effective: October 31, 2016)
  - Arizona: Jeanne Roberts (effective: January 3, 2017)
- Two states – NM and NV – remain without an official State Director in place.

**Staff Updates:** We are pleased to welcome Sherry Quinn to the Advance CTE team! Bringing many years of project management and executive leadership to the position, Sherry joins the team as our new Office Manager. Many of you may have met Sherry at the registration desk at the Fall Meeting. Sherry can be reached at [squinn@careertech.org](mailto:squinn@careertech.org).

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

**Finance Update:** The FY16 audit is in its final stages. The staff are meeting with the auditors on December 6 to review the draft audit.

Below is a quick snapshot of the financial position of both organizations As of November 30, 42% of the fiscal year had passed. The snapshots below do not reflect payment of the fall meeting expenses, nor the first quarter payroll and benefits reconciliation between organizations.

Advance CTE Budget Snapshot
Received 76% of budgeted income
Expended 36% of budgeted expenses

Center to Advance CTE Budget Snapshot
Received 82% of budgeted income
Expended 22% of budgeted expenses

**Administrative Updates**

At the October Board of Directors meeting, a new membership structure was approved unanimously by the board. The new structure, which will be implemented in FY17, will allow a State Director to select four individuals (who meet the eligibility requirements of a state or non-state associate member) to be covered under the current state-level membership. Advance CTE and its officers are hosting a State Director-only webinar on December 13 to explain the new state membership structure and gather input to inform the guidance and intent form that will be developed in early 2017.

**Fundraising**

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

<i>Grant/Proposal/Contract</i>	<i>Organization /Partner</i>	<i>Engagement in Past Month</i>	<i>Status</i>
<i>Siemens Foundation</i>		Advance CTE has selected a research firm to conduct qualitative and quantitative research to identify the most effective messages to parents, students and the public around CTE. We are now finalizing the location and composition of 8 focus groups to take place in January. We will plan to do an announcement with Siemens in early 2017 when the messages are ready for public release.	Ongoing
<i>New Skills for Youth</i>	JP Morgan Chase CCSSO	A fuller update is below about recent and upcoming initiatives and deliverables supported by the NSFY grant.	Ongoing
<i>IDIQ – Connecting Secondary CTE &amp; Apprenticeships</i>	OCTAE	Advance CTE and partners have submitted an updated draft of the report describing eight of the CTE-apprenticeship program sites visited throughout the Spring. Initially, the report was to be released in August, but will now likely be released in December. We also are working with our partners (Vivayic, JFF and RTI) on the development of the related resource guide.	Ongoing
<i>Workforce Matters</i>	Multiple	Through an introduction from Siemens, we have been in discussions with Workforce Matters, a coalition of foundations that are committed to supporting workforce development, about how to engage and support their members around CTE. We will be conducting a “CTE 101” webinar in December and have a series of future webinars and meetings planned around key topics, such a work-based learning and industry credentials.	Relationship Building
<i>Arconic Foundation</i>		We have been in discussions with Arconic – formerly part of Alcoa – for the last year and were asked after a productive meeting in the fall to submit a series of fundable ideas before the end of the calendar year. We will be focusing on key topics where additional work and research are needed – that also support Putting Learner Success First – and hope to procure a grant in 2017.	Early discussions

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Joyce Foundation</i></p>		<p>We had an initial call with a program officer from Joyce to discuss potential alignment in our work, with a focus on Putting Learner Success First and our work with their six focus states (MI, OH, IL, IN, MN, WI). We committed to following up with some potential funding ideas – including the state policy framework around program approval processes – by the end of the year.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Early discussions</p>
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**Strategic Priority: Provide, encourage and support professional learning to expand the skills, content knowledge and leadership of state CTE leaders.**

**Membership Update**

In October and November, Advance CTE gained one new Associate, State member; six Associate, Non-state; and one organizational member.

Total membership as of November 30, 2016: 328

- State Director: 54
- Associate-State: 89
- Associate-Non State: 86
- Organizational: 34 organizations (representing 99 individuals)

**Member Resources and Supports**

**New Skills for Youth Update:** On October 25-26, the NSFY project team held a convening of 24 Phase One states. Each of the states presented on their work during Phase One and their plans for Phase Two. The project team facilitated the review committee conversations and identified follow-up questions. During November, the project team focused on answering those follow-up questions through deeper review of Phase Two submissions and a few phone interviews with NSFY state teams.

Also during October, staff released "[Connecting the Classroom to Careers: A Comprehensive Guide to the State's Role in Work-based Learning.](#)" This report combined previous briefs on work-based learning with new information on scaling and sustaining work-based learning reforms, and provided key considerations and guiding questions for other states wishing to reform their work-based learning system.

The Learning that Works Resource Center - a repository of high-quality reports, tools and policies related to CTE and career readiness - has seen tremendous growth since it was launched earlier this year. To date, the Resource Center has received more than 33,000 page hits at an average of approximately 5,600 hits per month. The most popular topic page for November was "Career Advisement" and the most popular resource was Advance CTE's new report, published in partnership with Ford Next Generation Learning: "[In Their Words: Why Business Leaders Support CTE, Career Pathways and Career Academies.](#)"

Looking ahead, Advance CTE is taking the lead on developing resources for NSFY based on state (and member) needs. Our calendar of planned publications over the next month include:

- *State of CTE report on industry experts in schools:* We recently wrapped up the 2016 State of CTE survey, collecting responses from state directors and local CTE administrators from across the U.S. This year we focus on a question that has been top-of-mind for many state directors: how to

draw industry experts into secondary schools. We shared results from the survey at the Fall Meeting in October, and will release the full report in December.

- *Phase One snapshots:* After a review of application materials, state presentations and interviews with coaches, Advance CTE is drafting brief snapshots on the work done by each of the Phase One states during the grant period. Each snapshot is focused on the lessons all states can learn from each of the NSFY state accomplishments and innovations.

**State CTE Director Listserv:** We have seen an increase in the State Directors' use of the email listserv, which has been a conscious effort on behalf of staff to boost the cross-state sharing and create a community. For those queries that are not sensitive, we have started posting them on the [Members Only section](#) of [careertech.org](#). The most recent requests - regarding CTE governance, staffing and accountability - have been added to this page. Additionally, we will post the public research requests that we receive from national organizations, which can also be found on this page.

### Meetings/Events

Event Name	Date	Total Participants	Total Participating State Directors	% of Participation Goal (if applicable)
Putting Learner Success First Webinar	11/15/16	71	15	NA
Excellence in Action Webinar	11/18/16	18	3	NA

**Excellence in Action Webinar:** On November 18, Advance CTE held *Insights into the Excellence in Action Award* to provide information about the 2017 award application, featuring Desert View High School, a winner from 2016 and Dr. Sarah Heath, a member of last year's selection committee. Presenters provided tips on how to fill out their application, and insight into what an award-winning program of study entails. The webinar had 38 people registered. It was [recorded](#).

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

In May, Advance CTE and six partner organizations released [Putting Learner Success First: A Shared Vision for the Future of CTE](#), establishing a bold vision for all of education, which includes, but is not limited to Career Technical Education (CTE). Since the release, tens of thousands of copies have been distributed across the country and state and local leaders have begun to signal their commitment to its implementation. Over 25 states have including *Putting Learner Success First* in their professional development and/or strategic planning in some capacity.

In October and November, Advance CTE continued to release a number of new resources, including:

- [An updated chart](#) highlighting shared vision supporters' and other national organizations' existing and planned initiatives that are addressing and advancing the principles and actions of the vision. This will be updated on a quarterly basis.
- A [blog post](#) from the Chamber of Commerce on what the vision means for their members
- A [webinar](#) with presentations from ACTE, US Chamber of Commerce, CCSSO and NSC.

We have also been doing monthly blog posts on Putting Learner Success First, with the November [post](#) focused on state adoption and support of the vision.

Looking ahead, Advance CTE has a number of resources and activities planned including:

- Launching a member-driven committee to identify best practices and support the implementation of the vision (December)
- A short video showing a world where the vision is a reality (February 2017)
- A two-page document on the role of postsecondary leaders in supporting the new vision with National Council of State Directors of Community Colleges (January 2017)

**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:*** With the Presidential and Congressional elections finalized, Advance CTE has been assessing the new political landscape for the remainder of the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress and into the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress. Advance CTE and ACTE also developed a transition package for the incoming Trump Administration. These resources can be viewed in [the members-only section of the website](#). The results of the election, coupled with reticent Senate leadership, have significantly diminished the likelihood of Perkins reauthorization this year. Moreover, Congress is set to pass another short-term continuing resolution (CR) into next year which will require Advance CTE to focus predominately on appropriations issues for the coming months.

#### **Sub-Advocacy Plan Activity:**

**WIOA:** There has been no new WIOA-related activity in November.

**HEA:** Advance CTE is deepening its advocacy relationship with the National Skills Coalition and other employer groups in anticipation of Congressional consideration of HEA in the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress. At this time, we expect Congress to begin considering HEA early on next year, but a full reauthorization will most likely be a multiyear process that may outlast the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress.

**ESSA:** USDE recently released final regulations for ESSA state plans, accountability systems, and other major provisions of the law. Advance CTE was successful in securing changes to these final set of rules regarding the law's "fifth" accountability indicator which allows states to focus on aspects of career readiness.

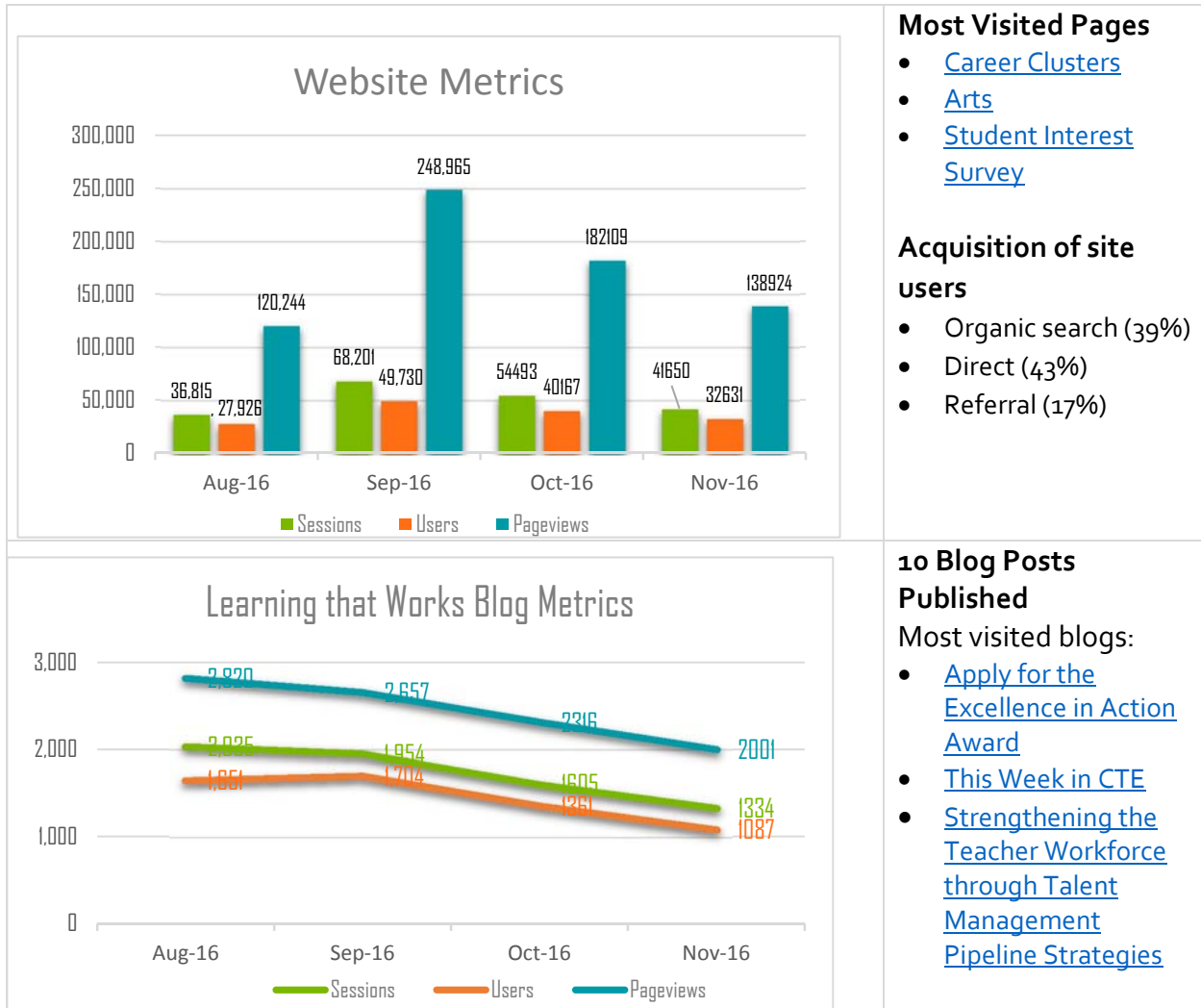
**Budget / Appropriations:** President-Elect Donald Trump signaled to Congressional Republicans a preference to extend the current FY 2017 CR into next year. This puts the current fiscal year's budget on autopilot for several more months and will most likely make the funding situation for education programs, including Perkins, extremely tight. Advance CTE is redoubling its efforts in this area to ensure Perkins is adequately funded moving forward. In the interim, the most recent rescission some states received on their October 1 allocation will stay in place until comprehensive funding legislation is passed sometime next year.

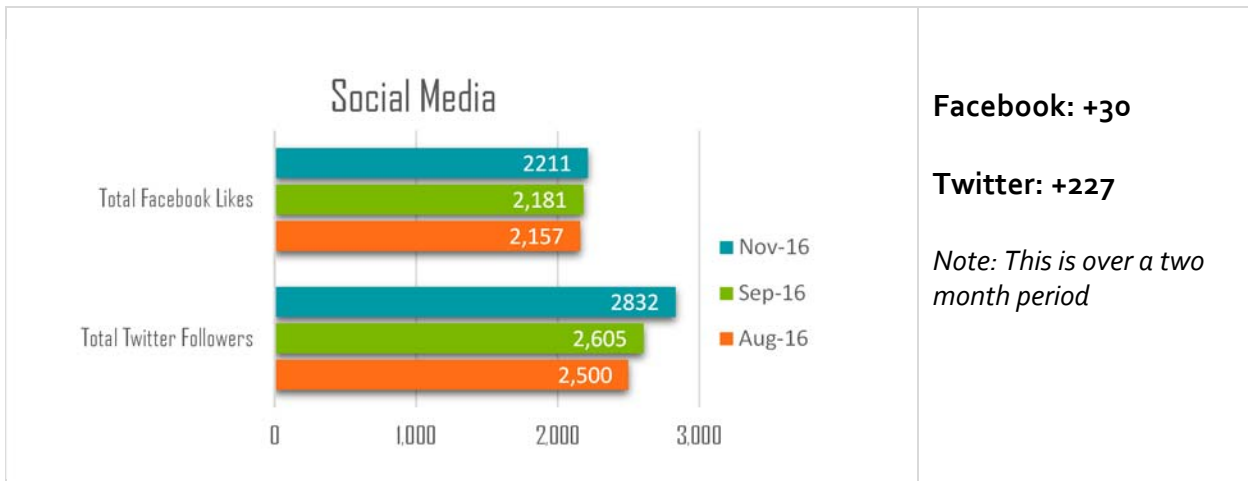
**Perkins:** Advance CTE and ACTE have continued to promote Perkins reauthorization in this Congress before the end of the year. However, it is extremely unlikely at this juncture that the law will be renewed before the end of the year.

**Congressional Offices Engaged in November 2016:**

- Sen. Enzi (R-WY)
- Sen. Casey (D-PA)
- Sen. Alexander (R-TN)
- Sen. Murray (D-WA)
- Sen. Roberts (R-KS)
- Sen. Hatch (R-UT)
- Sen. Kaine (D-VA)
- Rep. Kline (R-MN)
- Rep. Foxx (R-NC)
- Rep. Scott (D-VA)

**Communications Update:**





**Media**

Advance CTE had one media hit in October:

- [Storm Clouds Over Ed-Tech Law’s Renewal](#), Education Week

Advance CTE has no media hits in November, but did have an interview with a reporter from [ASCD’s Policy Priorities Publication](#), and provided background materials resulting in interviews with at least one State CTE Director.

**Excellence in Action Award**

Advance CTE has continued to market the award application through partners, members, blogs, social media, website, and a webinar. Applications are open until December 14. Staff is finalizing the 2017 selection committee and review process.

**Strategies for Attracting Students to High-Quality CTE**

Advance CTE has selected a research firm to conduct qualitative and quantitative research on the messages that will most resonate with parents and students encouraging them to select and enroll in CTE programs of study. Staff is finalizing focus groups to take place in January, and the State RFP that will be released in December.

**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	
<b>PRESENTATIONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presented on a webinar on career-ready accountability for the Pritchard Committee, based in Kentucky</li> <li>• Presented at and attended a Tennessee Work-Based Learning Workshop</li> <li>• Presented a keynote and breakout at Connecticut’s State CTE Conference</li> <li>• Presented to CTE Consortium Administrators and Featured Session Speaker at the Minnesota CTE Works! Conference</li> </ul>
<b>EVENTS ATTENDED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity, STEM Equity Pipeline Advisory Meeting</li> <li>• OCTAE, Advancing Equity in Education Conference</li> <li>• National Career Academy Coalition Board of Directors’ Meeting</li> <li>• College Board College Credit in High School Working Group</li> </ul>

**OTHER PARTNERS  
ENGAGED**

- Bill Symonds of Global Pathways Initiative
- Workforce Matters
- Kick off Meeting with Edge Research (Siemens Foundation Grant)



# Advance CTE Newsletter

November 2016

*Your voice from the nation's capital*



## Dear Members,

During this season of gratitude, we'd like to thank you for being a member of Advance CTE and for your leadership and commitment to ensuring access to high-quality CTE programs. This commitment will be even more critical as we collectively embark upon the work to inform the nation's newly elected officials, at all levels of government, about CTE. Having unity in how we describe CTE's accomplishments, as well as our collective hopes and aspirations for how CTE can help all learners find success will amplify the message and its impact. We hope [Putting Learner Success First](#) will be part of what you share with your newly elected officials.

[Learn more](#) about how states are supporting this shared vision including integrating the principles into state strategic plans and presenting it to stakeholders across the state. Also, if you haven't already, be sure to let us know how you plan to support *Putting Learner Success First* [here](#).

We hope our new resource, developed in partnership with Ford Next Generation Learning - [In Their Words: Why Business Leaders Support CTE, Career Pathways and Career Academies](#) - provides you with additional fodder to make the case for CTE. And speaking of making the case for CTE, don't forget to spread the word about the [Excellence in Action awards!](#) Applications are open until December 14, and are awarded to outstanding programs of study across the country. Share the application with your network, and lift up the innovative and inspiring programs of study in your state.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Green,  
Executive Director

### In This Issue

[Member News](#)

[View from the Hill](#)

[State Policy Overview](#)

[Resource Center](#)

[Where We've Been](#)

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### Member Resources

[Member Directory](#)

[Advance CTE Rebrand](#)

[Organizational Resources](#)

[State-Specific Tools & Resources](#)

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

## Member News

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Advance CTE wishes to thank Jeanne Roberts, Arizona's State CTE Director, for her leadership and years of service. Jeanne plans to retire on January 3, 2017. Please follow this [link](#) to see and share the job posting. Additionally, Pennsylvania State University is seeking [applicants](#) for an Assistant or Associate Professor of Education.

One of the benefits of being a member of Advance CTE is having access to a professional staff who can conduct research on the latest issues and trends. Check out the Members-Only section of our website for a sampling of the recent [research requests](#) from members and national organizations.

If you have a research request, please contact [Andrea Zimmermann](#), Senior Associate for Member Engagement and Leadership Development.

## View from the Hill

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In a surprise turn of events, Donald Trump won the November presidential elections and will become the 45th President of the United States. Congressional Republicans retained their majority in the U.S. House of Representatives, giving up only a handful of seats to Democrats. In the Senate, Republicans also retained a narrow majority in the chamber. With these elections finalized lawmakers on Capitol Hill will reconvene briefly at the end of 2016 for a lame duck session of Congress to work on additional appropriations legislation to fund the federal government past the first week of December. Rather than passing a full-year funding bill, Advance CTE expects a newly empowered Republican majority to pass a short-term continuing resolution (CR) which would last until March 2017. Nevertheless, Advance CTE is advocating for a full-year funding bill to provide certainty to programs like Perkins and restore the across-the-board cuts triggered by the most recent CR. With work on funding legislation likely to be minimal during the lame duck session, Advance CTE does not expect Congress to complete its work on the reauthorization of the Carl D. Perkins Act before the end of the 115th Congress.

You can find the [Presidential Transition Package](#) for the incoming Presidential Administration authored by Advance CTE and ACTE in our members-only section.

## State Policy Overview

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With the dust settling from state and national elections, we are beginning to get a clearer view of how the 2016 elections may impact CTE. The Education Commission of the States created [this infographic](#) to highlight changes in state education leadership and provide a snapshot of how the election may impact state education policy. Meanwhile, voters across the states decided on issues ranging from CTE funding to governance. We highlighted these initiatives and how states voted [on our blog](#), but have provided them again below:

- In **California**, voters approved a [\\$9 billion bond](#) to create the 2016 State School Facilities Fund, directing money to fund school construction and modernization projects across the state. A sum of \$500 million from the fund will be appropriated for updating CTE program facilities. The measure passed despite criticism from California Governor Jerry Brown, who called the investment large and inefficient.
- A [measure](#) in **Oklahoma** that would have levied a one-cent sales tax to increase revenue for public education and teacher salaries was rejected. The proposal included a 3.25 percent allocation to the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education, which amounted to approximately \$20 million.
- **Oregon** voters passed [Measure 98](#) to establish a College and Career Readiness fund. The measure calls on the state legislature to allocate \$800 per pupil, which can be used to establish and expand CTE programs, college-level educational opportunities (including dual credit programs), and dropout prevention programs in high schools.
- And **South Dakota** voted to amend the state constitution and allow the state technical college system to be governed separately from the Board of Regents. Under [Constitutional Amendment R](#), the legislature will now determine a new governance structure for the state's four technical institutes.

## Learning that Works Resource Center

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With Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) plans due in early 2017, several states have

undertaken efforts to redesign their accountability systems, making sure to not just comply with requirements set out in the federal law but also to align systems with state priorities for student achievement and success. Some states have already adopted new systems, but others have yet to finalize their core indicators. Fortunately, the Learning that Works Resource Center contains guides, tools and reports that can help states address common challenges related to [data and accountability](#).

**Report - [How States are Making Career Readiness Count: A 2016 Update](#)**

This report, an update to the 2014 "Making Career Readiness Count," from Achieve and Advance CTE, includes state-by-state information on how and which career-ready indicators states are including in their reporting and accountability systems, and highlights promising practices in several states.

**Policy - [Kentucky: Unbridled Learning Accountability System](#)**

Kentucky is regarded as a leader in accountability and assessment, particularly when it comes to CTE. The state's accountability system, known as Unbridled Learning, uses a weighted point system to recognize schools and districts for meeting college and career readiness benchmarks.

**Tool - [Career Readiness: A Business-led Approach for Supporting K-12 Schools](#)**

This paper from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation explores different approaches for measuring career readiness in state accountability systems and defines the role that employers can play in this process.

## ➤ Where We've Been

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Advance CTE staff participated in a variety of events, presentations, conferences, briefings and meetings with key partners, agencies and organizations:

- Presented at Minnesota State and the Minnesota Department of Education's CTE Works! Summit
- Presented at Connecticut's Statewide CTE Conference
- Attended the National Alliance for Partnerships for Equity's STEM Equity Pipeline National Advisory Board Meeting
- Attended the NCAC Board of Director's Meeting
- Attended Asia Society's CTE Advisory Meeting
- Attended Department of Defense Education Activities Pathways Meeting



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