“Please describe briefly the current status of your association. What are the issues and needs? What are your goals for next year? How can ACTE help?”

Colorado ACTE is alive and well! The Board members are energized and excited to learn more about how to support the organization with their leadership. Several divisions are thriving and a few are asking more questions about how to successfully serve their members. More people are getting involved through service on Division Boards and CACTE committees. Board members seem excited to receive a CACTE polo shirt and a couple of “free” meals at the Summit as thank yous for their service. Having Division Presidents actively involved with Board meetings and planning puts them in a position to recommend division members who are willing to become more involved.

The CACTE legislative specialist, Tonette Salazar, is generating a whole lot of excitement around legislative issues in Colorado. With Tonette’s help, CACTE was able to provide testimony to the House and Senate Education Committees in support of a bill supporting capital improvements, especially in more rural schools. Just prior to that, one of the major news channels in Denver did a 5 minute story on Green Mountain High School’s Math in Construction program - that was a crazy and exciting day! How invigorating to have the bill pass and have students present at the bill signing with Governor Polis! The students also got a brief tour of the Capitol from Tonette.

CACTE is working alongside CCCS to support Colorado CTE legislatively in the best ways that we can. Through her connections at the Capitol, Tonette discovered a huge disconnect in the way CCCS reports our Colorado Career/Technical Act (CTA) monies and the way CDE was reporting it - to CTE’s detriment. Thanks to many hours of work by Tonette and CCCS staff, this is being corrected back several years, in preparation for 2020’s “ask” of more funding for CTA.

Speaking of money, CACTE is also working with CCCS to support members’ learning about how Perkins V is being implemented in Colorado. The first keynote address at the Summit was the reveal of Colorado’s new CTE strategic plan and how it relates to Perkins V. Links to the CTE Strategic Plan summary and full document are posted on the CACTE website. While there is some hesitancy about what it all means, especially local needs assessments, there is also a lot of positive energy in both high school and postsecondary CTE programs!

CACTE is working on reaching the QAS status again. The bylaws have been updated and approved and the Policies/Procedures Manual was approved by the Board. The Board
approved payment of the 2019 premium for our non-profit association insurance. We moved the financial accounts to an institution that better represents the business ethics taught in CTE classes. We are using Quickbooks through TechSoup to help get the “books” in better shape and develop a written budget for the Association and for the CareerTech Summit. The Executive Committee was charged with developing an investment plan for some of the CACTE savings, which they will develop at the EC Fall Retreat at the end of October 2019. We know that a financial review is necessary and will work towards that before the end of the next fiscal year. Our idea is to use a community college accounting class for the review, thus supporting one of our own CTE programs with a real life project. :-)

CACTE uses Twitter, Instagram and Facebook, as well as the website, to provide news and current information to members and the public alike! Monthly (almost) e-newsletters, Connecting with CACTE, keep people informed – and anyone who wants to be on the email list can be included, not just members.

The Executive Committee and/or Board and/or Divisions need to create and implement a plan to continuously retain and recruit new members into the organization and to develop pathways for new member engagement.

The CACTE Board goals for 2019-2020 were developed based on the ACTE Strategic Plan, which CACTE has utilized to strengthen the link between the state and national organizations.

- MEMBER VALUE/ENGAGEMENT: Increase member involvement in division and state activities and events
- MEMBER VALUE/ENGAGEMENT: Develop recruitment and retention strategies for divisions
- PROFESSIONAL/LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT: Strengthen division leadership and legacy planning
- ADVOCACY/AWARENESS: Develop a year round state advocacy plan and CTE month (February) celebration guide
- INNOVATION: Meet all benchmarks for Quality Association Standards Award and encourage divisions to use QAS criteria as guidelines

ACTE can help by continuing to provide “nuts and bolts” training for state leaders, an opportunity to share ideas, and professional marketing materials. The support of the national staff is greatly appreciated!!!

**edited by Executive Committee**
**will be shared with Board at 11/6/19 meeting**