

## **2020 CTE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR**

*Nikki Carter*

*CTE Director*

*Widefield School District*

Nikki Carter is a champion of Career & Technical Education within the Widefield school district, the Pikes Peak Region, and across Colorado. She works tirelessly to support CTE, building strong industry partnerships and programs for the students in her district. She is not afraid to take risks, she is well organized, thoughtful, and compassionate, all the qualities that ensure that she fulfills her commitments with professionalism and grace. For these reasons and so many more, we are excited to honor Nikki Carter as the CACTE CTE Administrator of the Year!

Ms. Carter has worked in CTE for 15 years in the Widefield School District 3. She served as a Business Teacher, Work-Based Learning Coordinator and is currently the CTE Director. Prior to her employment in education, she worked in the aviation industry as a flight attendant, flight attendant trainer and then as corporate trainer with Harrah's Entertainment.

A few years ago, the CTE program within the Widefield district was small and Nikki was fulfilling the role of CTE Director without compensation. It is that level of commitment to CTE that she has always had and continues to convey to others. Over the next several years, the CTE program grew under her leadership. While still wearing many hats and overseeing myriad programs, her commitment to the CTE program and its growth and sustainability was steadfast. Through countless hours both on and off the clock, Nikki ensured that teachers AND students were served in the most effective way possible. This included the sustainment of traditional CTE programming as well as the inclusion and development of novel and innovative CTE programs in concert with the vision of new and existing CTE teachers. In doing so, she grew Widefield's CTE program from approximately 10 teachers to approximately 50 teachers. One of her CTE teachers wrote "Out of those 50 teachers, and the thousands of students that they teach, I would posit that all teachers and many of those students would tell you that they felt well supported and were on a path to success due to the work of Nikki Carter."

In addition to overseeing Perkins, program approvals, assurances, and CTA reporting, she supports The MiLL, (a shared CTE campus with the Peyton School District) by building course schedules, completing evaluations for construction and welding teachers, and monitoring day-to-day operations. Nikki is the de facto principal of The MiLL!

Nikki serves on the board of the Colorado Business Educators, is a member of the Leadership Council with Pikes Peak Business Education Alliance, and represents her district on the Workforce Action Team in Colorado Springs. She has a published article in ACTE Techniques magazine and has co-presented at CACTE and Region V conferences about The MiLL partnership. Nikki is the incoming president-elect of CACTA.

Nikki's understanding and belief in CTE programming makes her a perfect recipient of the CACTE Administrator of the Year Award! Congratulations, Nikki Carter!