How keen are your eyes? Did you notice Josh Davies as co-author of this article on page 14 in the Nov/Dec issue of Techniques? Josh is one of CACTE and ACTE’s frequent exhibitors and PD session presenters. He is CEO of The Center for Work Ethic Development, headquartered in Denver. He said the biggest challenge was writing an article that would still be relevant upon publication months later. It’s always fun to see a familiar name in the Techniques magazine. :-) Way to go, Josh!

FIVE NEW COURSES AVAILABLE ON CTE Learn!

Check out these new courses on Colorado CTE Learn:

1. **EC110** – Reaching High-Levels of Student Engagement
2. **EC120** - Teacher’s Guide to Suicide Prevention
3. **LC110** - Creating a Safe CTE Learning Environment
4. **LC130** - Developing Soft Skills in CTE
5. **LC150** - Best Practices in Supervising and Coaching CTE Teachers

Visit CO CTE LEARN!
REGISTRATION FOR VIRTUAL VISION IS STILL OPEN - $300 FOR MEMBERS! Remember that even if you can't attend "live" due to your schedule, you can access ALL of the sessions online at your convenience!

As we get closer to Virtual VISION, ACTE is excited to offer our annual conference on a dynamic virtual platform. Gain access to hundreds of sessions in a mixture of live-streamed, simulive, and on-demand formats, all of which you will be able to access post-event! This event will happen on Nov. 30–Dec. 4. Virtual VISION will offer immersive and expanded programming that addresses cutting-edge CTE issues during these unprecedented times. We are looking forward to an opportunity to engage, gather, and learn with you at Virtual VISION this year!

The program, with dates/times, is available now. Remember that it is changing weekly, so check back frequently for updates and new sessions.

Each Division is featured on a certain day, so if you can't get a sub for the whole week, maybe you can at least attend "live" on your Division Day, and watch other meaningful sessions later from the recordings.

Over 40 Colorado folks are registered to attend this new experience - yay! And at least 6 people are presenting - yay!

IF YOU ARE PRESENTING AT VISION, PLEASE LET CACTE KNOW THE DATE/TIME SO THAT CACTE CAN SUPPORT YOU virtually! If you are doing a breakout recording for VISION, please also let CACTE know so that your work can be celebrated! Please email cacte@cacte.org with details.
Ask Your Members of Congress to Support Senate-proposed Increase in Perkins Funding in FY21

ACTE makes it SOOOO EASY!

Taking this action is supported/encouraged by the CACTE Legislative Committee!

On Tuesday, 11/10/20, Senate Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education (Labor-H) Appropriations Committee Chairman Roy Blunt (R-MO) released his proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Labor-H appropriations bill, which included a $75 million increase for the Perkins Basic State Grant. This bill will serve as a negotiating position for the Senate as it works with the House on final FY 2021 appropriations bills. The House passed its education appropriations bill in July with a smaller, $18 million increase for Perkins.

After years of declining federal support for CTE, the past three federal budgets (FY18, FY19, FY20) have included modest increases for the Perkins Basic State Grant program. Your advocacy these past few years has been critical to securing increases in Perkins funding, and so we need your help again to ensure that Congress understands the important role CTE plays during these challenging times and the need for significant additional resources.

We encourage you to click here to ask your policymakers to support the Senate’s proposed $75 million increase in funding for the Perkins Basic State Grant program in FY 2021.

Members of Congress prioritize action requests from their constituents, so contacting them makes a huge difference. Through your work on a daily basis, you can provide a critical viewpoint on why they should be prioritizing CTE and workforce programs during this pandemic. We highly encourage you to customize the sample letter to include information or personal stories related to what your school, district, or community are facing in light of the pandemic and why Perkins funds are critical.

You can also call the U.S. Capitol switchboard at (202) 224-3121. An operator will then connect you with your requested office. This can be particularly effective if you have a contact in the congressional office that you can ask for directly. For sample talking points, please see below:

- CTE will play a critical role in helping our nation’s economy recover from the pandemic, which is why Congress should prioritize funding the Perkins Basic State Grant program in FY 21.
- Significant investment in the Perkins Basic State Grant program is needed to help upskill and retrain the over 40 million Americans who are out of work. Many of these jobs are likely to be significantly changed or impacted as a result of Coronavirus, requiring workers to garner new skills to remain competitive.
- CTE is proven effective. Nationwide, CTE concentrators’ graduation rate is 10% higher than their more traditional counterparts.
FY 2021 must include a significant investment in CTE to ensure that CTE programs have the capacity and resources to nimbly and adequately support urgent workforce needs in local communities.

Your ACTE membership and dues directly impact our ability to serve as your advocate for CTE programs on Capitol Hill, and our efforts would not be possible without your support. Learn more about ACTE’s policy activities and the latest news on ACTE’s CTE Policy Watch blog. If you have any questions, please contact the ACTE Public Policy Department.

**ADVOCACY - MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER!**

To be an effective advocate, it is important to understand the legislative process. For this month’s advocacy update, I am sharing information from the Colorado General Assembly website linked below.

As we prepare for the February 2021 CTE Virtual Showcase for Legislators, a basic understanding is essential - this resource provides an excellent overview of the legislative process in Colorado!

Copied from the website: A Citizen’s Guide to Effective Legislative Participation

Thanks for making a difference!

Mimi Leonard
CACTE Advocacy Committee Chair

**ACTE INCLUSION, ACCESS, EQUITY & DIVERSITY (IAED)**

"ACTE is focused on issues that matter to you and the nation..... ACTE promotes high quality CTE programs for diverse audiences. We continue to build an inclusive culture that encourages, supports and celebrates the diversity of the CTE community. We are committed to equity, access, inclusion, and diversity throughout our organization."
The CACTE Board is also addressing IAED as a priority. Stay tuned for more information. We encourage you to read and digest the article on pg 10 of the Nov/Dec issue of Techniques entitled "The Untapped Potential of Culturally Responsive Teaching in CTE". There are several suggested resources listed with the article.

From Nov/Dec Techniques magazine, pg 58: "The rise in diversity across the United States means today’s students will be working and living with people from a wide array of backgrounds. It also means instructors increasingly have diverse populations of students in their classrooms. ACTE has partnered with Asia Society to create new FREE tools and online professional development to assist educators in creating culturally responsive classroom that is respectful of diversity and inclusive of all perspectives and backgrounds."

To learn more, click the screenshot of the FREE course description on Colorado CTE Learn!

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**LEAD**

**CACTE is a 2020 QAS WINNER!**

QAS = Quality Association Standards

Your CACTE Board has been working hard over the last few years to earn the QAS recognition from ACTE. The QAS award recognizes state associations for implementing policies, procedures and structure that demonstrate a high level of service and attention to member value. There are nine major criteria to be met, with numerous sub-criteria under each main item.

**Colorado is one of 26 states that will be recognized with the QAS at the State Leadership Gathering on Friday, December 4 at 9 am MT.** Please email cacte@cacte.org if you are interested in attending the Gathering to support CACTE. You do not have to be registered for Virtual VISION to attend.
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FALL PLANNING RETREAT

The CACTE Executive Committee met the weekend of Nov 7-8 for an intense time of planning to help keep CACTE moving forward! As #COVIDlife seems to roll, our original plan of 5 people in the room and 2 on Zoom ended up with 3 people at the Embassy Suites Loveland and 5 on Zoom. Don’t worry - those in the room were masked and socially distanced, as you can see in the photos. :-)

Topics addressed included using the QAS Criteria to evaluate CACTE’s progress, IAED issues, the CTE Virtual Showcase for Legislators, the 2021 CACTE CareerTech Summit, a 2021 Member Needs Assessment, preliminary budgeting for 2021-22, and goals for the executive director. Stay tuned to these newsletters as the discussions come to life!

A big thank you to President Jessica Teal, President-Elect Janet Renden, Secretary Nat Sobin, Treasurer Josh VanAuken and Past President Robert Van Dyke for giving up their weekend to participate. Special thanks to CO CTE Director, Dr Sarah Heath for her invaluable contributions on Saturday. We cherish the working relationship of CO CTE and Colorado ACTE!
EXERCISE ONE OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP RIGHTS - VOTE!

The ACTE election will be open Dec 4, 2020 - Jan 4, 2021. Colorado members will vote for ACTE President-Elect and Region V Vice President. CVATA, HPS and ACE division members will also vote for Division Vice Presidents. Read more about the candidates and their views in the Nov/Dec Techniques magazine, which you should have recently received.

Your membership dues must be current to vote in the ACTE election.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE UPCOMING ACTE, CACTE & CACTE DIVISION EVENTS!

- Region V Business Meeting, Nov 19, 4:00-5:30 pm (MT)
- ACTE Virtual VISION Conference, Nov 30-Dec 4, 2020, virtual
- CATFACS Winter Conference, Jan 28-29, 2021, virtual
- CVATA Mid Winter Conference, Jan 28-30 2021, TBD
- CTE Virtual Showcase for Legislators, Feb 3, 10, 17 & 24, 2021
- CACTA Mid Winter Conference, Feb 10-12, 2021, TBD
- ACTE National Policy Seminar (NPS), March 22-24, 2021, Washington, DC
- Region V Leadership Conference, April 14-17, 2021, Lake Tahoe, NV
- 2021 CACTE CareerTech Summit, July 18-22, Embassy Suites, Loveland
- 2021 ACTE VISION Conference, Dec 1-4, New Orleans
- (fingers crossed for in person events!)