

CTE DIRECTIONS

Career and Technical Education News and Information Educator Edition

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Message from Mary Shumway and Gary Wixom



Utah CTE Pathways: See the Vision

In Utah, secondary CTE programs are referred to as CTE Pathways and postsecondary programs are referred to CTE Programs of Study. A CTE Pathway is a sequence of courses within a student's area of interest that connects from high school to college for a specific certificate or degree leading to a successful career. Through a selected CTE Pathway secondary students are better prepared to transition smoothly to postsecondary CTE Programs of Study. Empowering students to make choices that will save them time and money in their education and career decisions, equates to a seamless transition from high school to college and career. This results in a better trained workforce, a better state economy, and higher levels of tax revenue to fund education.

Our goal and our *vision* is to see more secondary students better prepared to transition smoothly to postsecondary programs, entering postsecondary programs, and achieving credentials, certifications, and degrees. There are several state initiatives that can assist all of us in reaching our goal. They are: [The Governors' Education Excellence Commission](#), [Higher Education's 2020 Plan](#), the Utah [Board of Education Promises to Keep](#) (P2K), and the K-16 Alliance Workforce 2020 Plan. Each initiative outlines plans to address issues in Utah's education and workforce needs in order to produce a productive Utah economy.

The "Utah High School to College and Career Pathways" initiative is the template in accomplishing the vision in these plans. CTE Pathways are a significant part of the solution to education, workforce and economic concerns outlined in each of the reports listed above. Each of these plans challenges our K-16 system to align all education and training so that students will transition from secondary to postsecondary education and onto success in their chosen pathway. It is important that CTE professionals see the vision and be part of the plan to increase the number of students who are moving from secondary to postsecondary education, attaining critical skills needed for the workforce of the future.

CTE has become the leader in ensuring flexible, relevant learning opportunities to engage students and provide a real work, career oriented curriculum so that students have the skills they need to be successful in the technology and information driven economy of today and tomorrow.



Career Highlight – Jobs in Tourism and Leisure

Vacation jobs are often associated with travel, lodging, food, entertainment or leisure. However, in addition to workers in transportation, travel agents, hotel personnel, groundskeepers, and food service workers that might spring immediately to mind, almost any occupation might be a vacation job, given the right setting. For example, cruise ships need Electricians, Retail Workers, and IT Specialists, too. Furthermore, "sustainable tourism" is growing in popularity. Sustainable tourism promotes economic development, cultural preservation, and environmentally friendly tourism in underdeveloped countries. More traditional occupations in tourism and leisure such as Destination Marketing Manager, Resort Activities Director, and even Tour Guides are learning to use new social media tools to draw customers and to provide better service.

Read more about opportunities in tourism and leisure in the *Occupational Outlook Quarterly*: <http://www.bls.gov/opub/ooq/2010/winter/art01.pdf>
If you're interested in working for a cruise line, check out www2.cruising.org/shipboardEmployment.cfm. And if you're a student in travel, tourism, or hospitality, you'll want to review available scholarships at www.tourismcares.org/scholarships. Safe travels!

Student Highlight – Shannon Earnshaw

Shannon Earnshaw, a student at Timpview High School, wrote a letter to her district representative during the legislative session asking for Career and Technical Education funding not to be cut. Shannon emphasized the importance of CTE saying, *Taking these classes has helped me to better discover what I want to do with my life and in my professional career. Because of the classes and opportunities that have been offered to me in high school I will graduate as an endorsed Medical Assistant. Being able to take classes for free in high school is such an incredible opportunity. I am grateful for the career programs that I have been a part of at Timpview.*

Utah CTE thanks Shannon for being an advocate for CTE and taking the initiative to write to her district representative.



CTE Moment – the Results



At 10:00 a.m. on February 23, Career and Technical Education students and staff in secondary schools across Utah were invited to capture a "CTE Moment." The resulting photographs were submitted to CTE staff at the Utah State Office of Education in what – happily – became an onslaught of hundreds of photos depicting students engaged in CTE across the state. Congratulations to Timpview High School who submitted the most photos.

Ann Decker commented, "This was an opportunity to showcase our CTE students achieving success in some impressive CTE programs, and turned out to be a lot of fun."

Other schools that deserve special recognition and thanks for their support of the event include: Box Elder High School, Brighton High School, Canyons TEC, Cache County District, Hillcrest High School, Jordan High School, Logan High School, Lone Peak High School, Mountain High School, Mount Jordan Middle School, Murray High School, Southwest ATC, Spanish Fork High School, South Cache 8-9 Center, Timpanogos High School, Wasatch High School and West High School. Thank you to all who participated!

"CTE Moment" photos have been posted in an album on the UtahCTE Facebook page at http://on.fb.me/UtahCTE_photos, will be compiled in a presentation to be posted to the UtahCTE YouTube channel, and will be used in a variety of UtahCTE publications/resources.

CTE Moments at Timpview High School – 1st Place



CTE Moments at Alta High School – 2nd Place



ProStart State Competition

Congratulations to [Provo High School](#) who was the 1st place winner of the ProStart State Culinary Competition and to [Cedar High School](#) who was the 1st place winner of the ProStart State Management Competition. Both teams now advance to the National ProStart Invitational in Kansas City on April 21-25. Other teams that placed in the top ten will be recognized at the ProStart Awards Banquet on May 6, at the University Park Marriott Hotel. UtahCTE.org wishes the Provo and Cedar City teams the best of luck as they prepare and compete in the National ProStart Invitational.

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