

# **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION: LEADERSHIP FOR SUCCESS**

*A Leadership Conference sponsored by*

*The Pennsylvania Association  
of Career and Technical Administrators*

*in cooperation with  
The Pennsylvania Department of Education*

**July 23-25, 2024**  
**Penn Stater Hotel & Conference Center**

**PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL ADMINISTRATORS**

**2024 PACTA Leadership Conference**

**CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION: LEADERSHIP FOR SUCCESS**

*July 23 – 25, 2024 • Penn Stater Hotel & Conference Center, State College, PA*

**AGENDA**

**TUESDAY, JULY 23, 2024**

10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**

1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **MEMBER NETWORKING SOCIAL**

**Senate Suites** Sponsored by CM Regent Insurance Company

1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **WELCOME**

**Presidents 1, 2** Darby Copeland – State President, Pennsylvania Association of Career and Technical Administrators

**OPENING REMARKS**

Carrie Rowe – Deputy Secretary, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education,  
Pennsylvania Department of Education

Introduced by Darby Copeland – State President, Pennsylvania Association of Career and  
Technical Administrators

2:00 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. **GENERAL SESSION**

**Presidents 1, 2** ***VISION OF CTE IN PENNSYLVANIA***

Judd Pittman – Director, Bureau of Career and Technical Education, Pennsylvania  
Department of Education

Introduced by Darby Copeland – State President, Pennsylvania Association of Career and  
Technical Administrators

2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **BREAK**

**Presidents Hallway** Sponsored by CM Regent Insurance Company

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. **GENERAL SESSION**

**Presidents 1, 2** ***EMPOWERING SELF-CARE IN EDUCATION!***

Darrell “Coach “D” Andrews – Motivational Speaker and Trainer, Darrell Andrews Enterprises

Introduced by Lisa Greenawalt – State President-Elect, Pennsylvania Association of Career  
and Technical Administrators

Sponsored by Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology

4:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. **TOWNHALL BREAKOUT SESSIONS****Room 206** *CTE EDUCATOR RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION TOWNHALL***Room 203** *APPRENTICESHIPS TOWNHALL***Room 204** *CTE FUNDING TOWNHALL***Room 205** *ACCESS TO CTE (ENROLLMENT) TOWNHALL***Room 202** *DUAL CREDIT/DUAL ENROLLMENT TOWNHALL*

*During these interactive sessions, participants will collaborate in small groups to share their ideas and insights on the challenges facing Pennsylvania Career and Technical Education. The focus will include discussing what is working well, identifying existing roadblocks or barriers, and determining the next steps to be taken.*

5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. **DINNER RECEPTION****Courtyard** Sponsored by Allegheny Educational Systems, Inc.6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. **BARBECUE PICNIC/DINNER (Casual Dress)****Courtyard** *NEW RETIREES AND LIFE MEMBERSHIPS*

Presented by John Augustine – State Past President, Pennsylvania Association of Career and Technical Administrators

Sponsored by NOCTI

8:00 p.m. – 10:30 p.m. **HOSPITALITY SUITE****Senate Suites & Terrace** Sponsored by Questeq

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 2024

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. **CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST IN EXHIBIT AREA**

**Presidents 3, 4** Sponsored by EF Educational Tours

10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

**Room 105 AUTHENTIC COLLABORATION TRAINING**

Tiffany Cover – Principal, Clearfield County Career and Technology Center  
MaryAnn Volders – President of Secondary Education, Central Pennsylvania Institute of Science and Technology

*Some of our local career and technology centers (CTCs) have worked together to design and implement an Authentic Collaboration Training (ACT) program for teachers. ACT provides the opportunity for teachers to visit other CTCs, walk through various programs, and see models of educational strategies being implemented. The host CTC facilitates discussions about what is seen, which leads teachers to share what they have learned and how they might employ these concepts back in their respective schools.*

**Room 106 WALK AND TALK: BUILDING CONNECTIONS ACROSS REGIONS**

Cathleen Plesnarski – Executive Director, Eastern Center for Arts and Technology  
Scott Rogers – Administrative Director, York County School of Technology  
Kevin Sprong – Director, Crawford County Career and Technical Center

*Unlock the power of building professional relationships with our thoughtful “Walk and Talk: Building Connections Across Regions” activity. This session is designed to foster meaningful connections, both personal and professional, through thoughtfully crafted question cards that encourage deeper conversations. Facilitated by the three PACTA Regional Presidents, participants will be matched up with professionals from outside of their region.*

**Room 104 UNVEILING SUCCESS: HOW SREB EMPOWERED PENNSYLVANIA TAP RECIPIENTS – PANEL PRESENTATION**

PDE/BCTE Track

Linda Floyd – Director, State and District Partnerships, Southern Regional Education Board  
Debra Cullen – Instructional Coach, Southern Regional Education Board  
Marty Sugerik – School Improvement Consultant, Southern Regional Education Board  
Mark Covelle – Administrative Director, Middle Bucks Institute of Technology  
Lisa Greenawalt – Executive Director, Lehigh Career and Technical Institute  
Michelle Armstrong – CTE Director, Philadelphia School District  
Stacey Minahan – Assistant Director of Career and Technical Education, Schuylkill Technology Center - South Campus

*Discover the transformative power of SREB's TAP services and gain valuable insights to propel your own institution's success! Join this session for a dynamic panel discussion featuring Pennsylvania sites that leveraged SREB's expertise through the TAP program. These institutions will share results from their collaboration with SREB consultants including: strengthened secondary CTE programs through in-depth reviews and guidance, pioneering initiatives with innovative services to enhance student experiences, boosting high-quality CTE teacher engagement for a more dynamic learning environment, prioritizing social and emotional well-being for both students and instructors, and forging and maintaining strong business partnerships for long-term program sustainability.*

**Room 202**

Student Services Track

**POP-UP AHN CHILL ROOM**

Roslyn Korai – Behavioral Health Manager, Allegheny Health Network Chill Project  
 Paige Cholewinski – Behavioral Health School Educator, Allegheny Health Network Chill Project  
 Chloe Scott – Behavioral Health School Educator, Allegheny Health Network Chill Project

*Learn about the new imagination from AHN Chill Project: the Pop-Up AHN Chill Room. These highly adaptable Pop-Up AHN Chill Rooms are mental health resource rooms which provide a calm space with evidence-based coping skills. Users' time in these rooms is facilitated by behavioral health professionals. For this breakout session, participants will have the chance to learn and engage with evidence-based coping skills tailored to address the unique experiences of working in Pennsylvania CTE schools.*

**Room 203**

Facilities Track

**ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION AND EXCHANGE OF IDEAS**

Facilitated by Kevin Rice – Executive Director, Steel Center for Career and Technical Education  
*Join this facilitated discussion to share best practices, discuss issues, and get feedback from your peers at other schools. Bring your ideas and your biggest issues to share.*

**Room 204**

Finance and HR Track

**ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION AND EXCHANGE OF IDEAS**

Facilitated by Danielle Mehalick – Business Manager/Board Secretary, Greater Altoona Career and Technology Center

*Join this facilitated discussion to share best practices, discuss issues, and get feedback from your peers at other schools. Bring your ideas and your biggest issues to share.*

**Room 205**

Information Technology Track

**ESSENTIAL SKILLS OF THE MODERN TECH LEADER**

Tim Smith – CoSN Representative/CTO State Chapter Chair

*This presentation equips technology leaders with the essential skill set to navigate the ever-evolving learning landscape. We'll explore a strategic framework that blends technical expertise with visionary thinking and effective leadership practices tailored for the unique needs of the education sector.*

**Room 206**

Building Administrators Track

**ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION AND EXCHANGE OF IDEAS**

Facilitated by Kirk Williard – Career and Technical Distinguished School Leader Manager, PDE Technical Assistance Program

*Join this facilitated discussion to share best practices, discuss issues, and get feedback from your peers at other schools. Bring your ideas and your biggest issues to share.*

11:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS****Room 105****ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND CTE**

Debra Cullen – Instructional Coach, Southern Regional Education Board

*AI is all the rage. It doesn't have to be scary; it can be a gold mine for CTE teachers! Join this session that will guide you in creating scenarios and other activities to help you give students experiences in the classroom that will prepare them for the world of work!*

**Room 106****INNOVATIVE PATHWAYS: EXPLORING GERMANY'S TECHNICAL EDUCATION BLUEPRINT**

Mark Covelle – Administrative Director, Middle Bucks Institute of Technology

*Join participants from the PSBA Trust Institute's international study group who traveled to North Rhine-Westphalia in April 2024 to learn about Germany's educational system widely known for its dual-track career technical/academic education for students. The career technical track combines theoretical education with practical training in real-world jobs. In this session, learn how the German model can serve as a blueprint for how our educational systems can improve the technical training and apprenticeships for our students. The presenter and study group will share their experiences and key learning from their study*

*group trip which included meeting with federal, state and local officials; educational system leaders; and corporate leaders working together to educate and train a skilled workforce.*

## **Room 104**

### **PDE/BCTE Track**

## **EDUCATION PROGRAM OF STUDY UPDATES AND SHARING SESSION**

Lisa Golding – CTE Advisor, Bureau of Career and Technical Education, Pennsylvania Department of Education

Kurt Lynch – Director, Keystone Central Career and Technology Center

Kelly Cahoon – Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Lehigh Career and Technical Institute

*The number of Education Programs of Study has been growing across the Commonwealth. This presentation will outline the origin of the CIP 13.0101 Education, General program, the strategic initiatives of the department, and hopes for the future. After the overview, there will be a participant-driven sharing session featuring schools who have started the program. If your school is interested in learning more about this program that introduces students to the education profession, this would be a great session to attend.*

## **Room 202**

### **Student Services Track**

## **THERAPY DOG'S IN CTE?**

Joe Luther – Executive Director, Admiral Peary Area Vocational-Technical School

Dawn Becquet – Executive Secretary/Dog Handler, Admiral Peary Area Vocational-Technical School

*Integrating therapy dogs into CTE programs can contribute to a more supportive, inclusive, and nurturing learning environment, ultimately enhancing student success and well-being. However, it's important to ensure that proper training, supervision, and policies are in place to ensure the safety and well-being of both the therapy dogs and the school community.*

## **Room 203**

### **Facilities Track**

## **LAYING THE GROUNDWORK FOR FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION AND REMODELING PROJECTS AND GRANTS**

John Augustine – Administrative Director, Greater Johnstown Career and Technology Center

Tricia Rummel – Assistant Director, Greater Johnstown Career and Technology Center

Randy Roxby – Building & Grounds Supervisor, Greater Johnstown Career and Technology Center

Matt Zern – Financial Officer, Greater Johnstown Career and Technology Center

*Planning facilities construction and renovations requires meticulous groundwork. This presentation covers project initiation, feasibility studies, budgeting, and grant acquisition. Key topics include regulatory compliance, stakeholder engagement, and timeline management. Learn strategies for navigating challenges and maximizing grant opportunities to ensure successful project execution and community impact.*

## **Room 204**

### **Finance and HR Track**

## **PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BUSINESS OFFICIALS UPDATE**

Hannah Barrick – Executive Director, Pennsylvania Association of School and Business Officials

*This session will provide updates and review current initiatives of the Pennsylvania Association of School Business Officials, focusing on legislative updates and areas of member support, professional development, and certification for PACTA members whose serve in school business operations roles.*

## **Room 205**

### **Information Technology Track**

## **AI AND TECHNOLOGY LEADERSHIP**

Adam Dawson – Director of Information Technology, York County School of Technology

Brett Adam – Director of Technology, Berks Career and Technology Center

Dipal Kapadia – Director of Information and Educational Technology, Lehigh Career and Technical Institute

*The interactive session will explore the transformative impact of AI on technology departments in schools, focusing on how AI tools can enhance educational outcomes and streamline administrative tasks. Join this session to discuss the challenges and ethical considerations of integrating AI in educational settings. The presenters will share insights,*

*strategies, and experiences on harnessing the power of AI to revolutionize school technology infrastructures.*

## Room 206

### Building Administrators Track

## **AN ADMINISTRATION'S GUIDE TO AI ADOPTION AND INTEGRATION IN CTC**

Michael Stein – CTE Innovation Systems Coordinator, Berks Career and Technology Center

*This presentation will introduce AI, discuss its potential impacts on career and technical education, and explore both the benefits and challenges of implementing AI in a CTE environment as an administrator. The goal of this presentation is to equip school leaders with the knowledge to understand and determine the level of AI use and implementation at their center.*

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. **CTE LEADERSHIP AWARD/LUNCH**

### **Presidents 1, 2**

Presented by John Pulver – Executive Director, Pennsylvania Association of Career and Technical Administrators

Sponsored by Educational Solutions Enterprises

1:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

## Room 105

### **TITLE IX REGULATIONS AND UPDATE**

Annemarie Harr Eagle – Attorney at Law/Partner, Weiss Burkardt Kramer LLC

*Title IX is a federal law that mandates how elementary, secondary, and postsecondary institutions must respond to allegations of sex discrimination in educational programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance. Join this session to receive information and updates on these regulations.*

## Room 106

### **CREATING A POSITIVE SCHOOL CLIMATE THROUGH DEIB**

Cathleen Plesnarski – Executive Director, Eastern Center for Arts and Technology

Lou Geld – Technology Manager, Eastern Center for Arts and Technology

Gerry Rooney – CTE Supervisor, Eastern Center for Arts and Technology

*As our communities become more diverse, how can you ensure your school is ready and able to create an inclusive environment for all students? How do you know and understand the experiences your learners are having in your school? This session will be a show-and-tell of practices Eastern Center for Arts and Technology has implemented, such as equity audits, climate and culture surveys, student focus groups, instructional videos, professional development, equity committees, and disaggregating data. Let us help make your pathway easier by providing you with resources you can take back with you.*

## Room 104

### PDE/BCTE Track

### **NAVIGATING FRCPP CATS AND THE APPROVED PROGRAM TECHNICAL EVALUATION**

Mindy Freidin-Mansfield – Specialized CTE Advisor 2, Bureau of Career and Technical Education, Pennsylvania Department of Education

Tammy Keisling – CTE Advisor 1, Bureau of Career and Technical Education, Pennsylvania Department of Education

*During this presentation the presenters will walk you through what is expected during an Approved Program Technical Evaluation (APTE) review and answer questions you may have in preparing for your visit. The process for new program approval submission from start to finish will be reviewed. Also, learn how to update your approved/reapproved programs as required by the synchronization of FRCPP CATS and APTE review. Important CATS submission dates for the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school year will be provided.*

**Room 202**

Student Services Track

**ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION AND EXCHANGE OF IDEAS**

Facilitated by Peggy Grimm – Career and Technical Distinguished School Leader,  
PDE Technical Assistance Program

*Join this facilitated discussion to share best practices, discuss issues, and get feedback from your peers at other schools. Bring your ideas and your biggest issues to share.*

**Room 203**

Facilities Track

**LEVERAGING SYSTEMS THINKING FOR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT AND EXPANSION**

Nathan Minium – Executive Director, Lycoming Career and Technology Center  
Craig Skaluba – Superintendent/Superintendent of Record, Muncy School District/Lycoming Career and Technology Center

*Is it time for a change? Consider how systems thinking is used to leverage multiple systems of school improvement to develop program and facility expansion options. This session will highlight the transformation of an Occupational CTC over the past three years. Participants will leave with strategies, ideas, and resources on how to: capitalize on change by developing an entry plan, utilizing a needs assessment, and establishing a school vision, goals, and core values; utilize multiple systems for school improvement (APTE review, PDE comprehensive plan, CATS report, teacher induction plan, advisory committees, feasibility study); and develop new program of study options in conjunction with a facility renovation/expansion plan.*

**Room 204**

Finance and HR Track

**ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION AND EXCHANGE OF IDEAS**

Facilitated by Danielle Mehalick – Business Manager/Board Secretary, Greater Altoona Career and Technology Center

*Continue sharing best practices, discussing issues, and getting feedback from your peers in this second facilitated discussion. Bring your ideas and your biggest issues to share.*

**Room 205**

Information Technology Track

**E-RATE UPDATES**

Julie Tritt Schell – State Coordinator, Pennsylvania E-Rate Coordinator Alliance

*During this session will provide information and updates about FCC's E-Rate Program and FCC's Cybersecurity pilot program.*

**Room 206**

Building Administrators Track

**GOAL SETTING AND THE ACT 13 LEA – SELECTED MEASURES**

Amy Lena – Advisor to the Deputy Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Education  
Laurie Kolka – PVAAS Statewide Team for PDE, Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit  
Amanda Lerew – Act 13 and FRCPP Content Support Specialist, Pennsylvania Department of Education

*Self-reflection is integral for personal growth. Goal setting (as part of the LEA Selected Measure) is a critical component of Act 13 evaluation. Self-reflection, when paired with goal setting, has the power to create meaningful connections between past practices and future actions. The presenters will explore the importance of self-reflection, coaching, and feedback using the Teacher Self-Reflection resource to guide educators through the process of using available data to reflect on their past practices. They will also discuss how each of the steps in the process can be used to complete the LEA Selected Measure (SPM) for use in Act 13's Educator Effectiveness evaluations.*

2:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

**Room 105****INDUSTRY INVOLVEMENT MATTERS!**

Kathleen McNally – Chief Executive Officer, NOCTI  
Heidi Speese – Customer Care and Outreach Manager, NOCTI

*Let's continue the conversation on engaging industry partners about the value of the Pennsylvania Skills Certificate and NOCTI certification. Exploring the power of collaboration can help to identify ways for NOCTI to support creating awareness with this important group*



*of stakeholders. Together we can leverage the awesome power of CTE to benefit students as they enter the workforce and employers as they seek employees with the skills to be successful.*

## **Room 106**

### **LEGAL UPDATE**

Annemarie Harr Eagle – Attorney at Law/Partner, Weiss Burkardt Kramer LLC

*Join this session to receive legal updates and information impacting school administrators and CTCs.*

## **Room 104**

PDE/BCTE Track

### **ACT 13 EDUCATOR EFFECTIVENESS: TEST YOUR SKILLS!**

Amy Lena – Advisor to the Deputy Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Education

Laurie Kolka – PVAAS Statewide Team for PDE, Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit

Amanda Lerew – Act 13 and FRCPP Content Support Specialist, Pennsylvania Department of Education

*Now that we've had some time to work with the big picture of Act 13 Educator Effectiveness, it's time to refine your skills! The presenters will cover the who, what, when, where, why, and how of the Act 13 Educator Effectiveness evaluation process from beginning to end. They will also highlight some of the most common questions heard from the field and encourage you to bring yours as well. Come with your unique scenario and receive help through the evaluation process so that you have a deeper understanding of implementing Act 13 in your local setting.*

## **Room 202**

Student Services Track

### **PRE-APPRENTICESHIP STRATEGIES AND BEST PRACTICES**

Danielle Demirovic – Pre-Apprenticeship Supervisor, Apprenticeship and Training Office, Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry

*The pre-apprenticeship division at the Apprenticeship and Training Office will share success stories and best practices surrounding pre-apprenticeship and its implementation into CTE programming. The presenters will highlight six programs during this session and explore the unique details that set each program apart. The flexible nature of the pre-apprenticeship program model can offer some exciting and creative solutions to existing CTE programming. Bring your own questions and ideas to the conversation as we further explore exciting possible collaboration between education and workforce development.*

## **Room 203**

Facilities Track

### **ACCESS FOR ALL – VIEWING YOUR FACILITY THROUGH AN ADA LENS**

Cynthia Gross – MOA Coordinator, Bureau of Career and Technical Education, Pennsylvania Department of Education

*Public buildings must serve the public. That cannot happen if the buildings themselves are not accessible to all people that make up the public – students, staff, and community members. In the past 10 years, the presenter has reviewed more than 50 secondary and postsecondary CTE facilities for compliance with Section 504 and Title II as they relate to physical accessibility. Common findings noted during these reviews, along with suggestions for possible remedies, will be shared. Participants are encouraged to bring photos if they have specific questions.*

## **Room 204**

Finance and HR Track

### **HEALTHCARE COST UPDATE**

Shawn Hughes – Executive Vice President, Client Retention, BSI Corporate Benefits

*The session will be focused primarily on healthcare cost concerns including large dollar claims, overall population health, provider contracts, and high-cost medication and the specific, proven strategies that can be implemented to control these rising costs. There will be a deeper focus on high-cost drugs. We will address gene therapy drugs in the marketplace/pipeline as well as speak to GLP-1 strategies as it pertains to weight loss coverage.*

**Room 205**

Information Technology Track

**PAIU STATEWIDE SENTINELONE INITIATIVE**

David Martin – Director of Technology, Capital Area Intermediate Unit

*Cybersecurity threats are a persistent challenge that requires vigilant and proactive management. As leaders, it is imperative to understand why a managed Endpoint Detection and Response (EDR) solution can be a game-changer in identifying and mitigating potential cybersecurity threats before they escalate into major incidents. Our discussion will involve our PAIU statewide initiative for SentinelOne. We will share how we chose SentinelOne as the statewide solution, what it is and why it is important, how to participate in the statewide initiative, and what is on the horizon.*

**Room 206**

Building Administrators Track

**SYSTEMS DESIGN BENCHMARKING IN CTE**

Lenny Sweeney – Pennsylvania State Director, National Center on Education and the Economy  
Joann Hudak – Education Consultant, YouScience

*The National Center on Education and the Economy (NCEE) has conducted over 35 years of research in benchmarking education systems that are designed for excellence and efficiency, where all students are provided the necessary supports for success. Elements found in jurisdictions with highly developed CTE systems will be explored. In addition, the session will focus on the professional learning and systems redesign work that NCEE has provided to PA districts and CTCs. Finally, learn details of how NCEE is staffing the PA Commission on Education and the Economy.*

3:00 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. **REFRESHMENT BREAK IN EXHIBIT AREA****Presidents 3, 4**

Sponsored by Southern Regional Education Board

3:45 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. **BREAKOUT SESSIONS****Room 105****FROM CLASSROOM TO CAREER: UNLOCKING GLOBAL POTENTIAL AND 21ST CENTURY SKILLS IN CTE STUDENTS**

Meghan Schafer – State Manager of Educational Partnerships-Pennsylvania, EF Education First  
*In an increasingly interconnected world, preparing CTE students to solve problems on a global scale is paramount. Join this session as the presenter delves into the importance of immersion learning in bridging the gap between classroom learning and real-world careers, unlocking student potential and equipping them with the skills needed to thrive in a globalized career landscape. Acquire strategies to implement in your schools and programs to cultivate essential 21st century skills, including cultural awareness, growth mindset, collaboration, self-awareness, communication, agency, critical thinking and problem solving, and social-emotional intelligence in CTE students, preparing them for global success.*

**Room 106****PREPARING STUDENTS FOR THEIR FUTURE, NOT OURS**

John Augustine – Administrative Director, Greater Johnstown Career and Technology Center  
*If we are preparing students for today's workforce, are we preparing them for their future or ours? This roundtable open discussion will focus on future technologies that are NOW! And we will brainstorm what we think the future of CTE will look like.*

**Room 104**

PDE/BCTE Track

**PERKINS AND APPROVED PROGRAM TECHNICAL EVALUATION REVIEW**

Staff of Bureau of Career and Technical Education, Pennsylvania Department of Education  
*Be part of the solution and join BCTE team members in a conversation, as they share themes from 2023-2024 monitoring visits. During this active session participants will review themes across statewide monitoring visits then discuss ways to best support school communities towards continuously improving career and technical education programs.*

**Room 202****SPECIAL EDUCATION ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**

## Student Services Track

Joe Terch – Director of Special Education, York County School of Technology  
Jarret Stehr – Assistant Director of Special Education, York County School of Technology  
*Join this roundtable session for an in-depth conversation on special education in CTCs. Be ready to engage in discussions, exchange ideas, and share best practices and innovative solutions with your peers. Together, we can support each other in addressing ongoing concerns.*

## Room 203

### Facilities Track

#### **FINANCIAL STEPS AND CONSIDERATIONS WHEN PLANNING A CONSTRUCTION PROJECT**

Fred Redden – Executive Director, Clearfield County Career and Technology Center  
Audrey Bear – Managing Director, Piper Sandler Co.

*The session will provide an introduction to financing capital projects from initial design phase to the conclusion of the financing process. Attendees will learn the necessary steps of the financial process with case study examples from Pennsylvania CTCs. Learn who is involved in the different steps of the process from issuer of the debt to the payment process for future year.*

## Room 204

### Finance and HR Track

#### **COSTARS IN A NUTSHELL**

Isaiah Smith – Marketing Manager, Department of General Services-BOP

*This presentation will provide the do's and don'ts about the COSTARS program. Learn how to search for COSTARS exclusive contracts. The presenter will provide general information about the COSTARS program and its benefits to members and suppliers.*

## Room 205

### Information Technology Track

#### **MODERNIZING COMMUNICATIONS FOR TODAY'S FAMILIES**

Amy Serrano – Regional Sales Director, ParentSquare

*When it comes to communication in schools, parent and community expectations have shifted. The strategies and tools used 10 years ago are not working today, yet many are still in place. During this session, attendees will learn modern tips and tools for engaging families across the various layers of their school community – classroom, school, district, and groups (parent groups, student clubs, and athletics) – and considerations for technology leaders. We will also share how using a unified platform, rather than several different tools and apps, can help you protect privacy and security, streamline support and training, and gain visibility and oversight.*

## Room 206

### Building Administrators Track

#### **NEW TEACHER INDUCTION PLAN**

Tiffany Cover – Principal, Clearfield County Career and Technology Center

*This session will showcase a new teacher induction plan using the Canvas Learning Management platform for more accountability, stability, and support.*

4:45 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

## Room 104

#### **POWERFUL CTE PRACTICES: A SNAPSHOT OF PERSONALIZED SUPPORT FOR SEVERAL TAP CENTERS**

Marty Sugerik – School Improvement Consultant, Southern Regional Education Board

*This session will showcase how four unique centers are implementing SREB Powerful CTE Practices. Participants will gain insight on the process for design and implementation of personalized CTE Practices to meet specific needs such as: new teacher differentiated coaching, data-driven decision making with interdisciplinary integration, simulating Workforce processes. (Student Leadership Roles / Employee Performance), leveraging student engagement with PA work and career standards, and engaging partnership in design, implementation, and measurement of authentic performance tasks.*

- Room 105**      ***TELLING YOUR STORY – USING SOCIAL MEDIA AND PODCASTING TO AMPLIFY CTE***  
 Mark Covelle – Administrative Director, Middle Bucks Institute of Technology  
 Lauren Doherty – Assistant Administrative Director, Middle Bucks Institute of Technology  
*Storytelling is essential to sharing our authentic message in career and technical schools. Join this session for a presentation where the presenters explore practical strategies to improve your social media presence by incorporating the authentic voices of students, including employing student media associates and utilizing emerging media platforms like TikTok to engage younger populations. Discover how building trust and autonomy, embracing authenticity, and involving students in content creation contribute to a more compelling narrative. The presenters will also discuss the strategic selection of platforms, content ideas, and various outputs to strengthen your message. Any remaining time will be devoted to a live podcast demonstration.*
- Room 106**      ***BRIDGING THE GAP: WEATHERIZATION WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PILOT PROGRAM FOR CTE SCHOOLS***  
 Mike McMonigal – Workforce Development Program Manager, Clean Energy Center at Penn College  
 Bill Probst – Construction Trades Instructor, Keystone Central Career and Technology Center  
*Participants will learn about the Weatherization Workforce Development Pilot Program designed by the Clean Energy Center and Earth Forward Group to address the growing demand for skilled workers in the weatherization industry while providing valuable opportunities for CTE students. By partnering CTE schools with employers, offering free Building Performance Institute (BPI) training, and providing necessary equipment, this program seeks to expose construction cluster students to the weatherization sector, thereby fostering interest, skill development, and ultimately increasing the weatherization workforce.*
- Room 202**      ***USING NOCTI LONGITUDINAL AND CURRENT DATA COMPARISONS TO IMPROVE CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION***  
 Todd Luke – Owner, MAX Teaching  
*Session will allow for presentation of NOCTI summary reports as a longitudinal and current year tool to celebrate strengths and illuminate challenges within your site and how you can utilize technology to improve curriculum and instruction.*
- Room 203**      ***FROM CONCEPT TO CAREER: AI AND XR AS CATALYSTS FOR ENGAGEMENT AND SUCCESS***  
 Michael Herrera – Executive Director, Upper Bucks County Technical School  
 Ben Peterson – Director of CTE Solutions, zspace.com  
*Discover how educational leaders across the northeast use creative approaches including AI, AR, and VR to engage and inspire students. This session will demonstrate how students at Upper Bucks County Technical School research, learn, and experience a variety of concepts and the associated career pathways in STEM, health science, advanced manufacturing, agri-science, transportation and more. Based on this exploration, students are able to develop plans for postsecondary study and/or earn valuable certifications.*
- Room 204**      ***SCHOOL LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT IN PA: WHAT'S WORKING, WHAT'S NOT WORKING, AND HOW TO IMPROVE IT***  
 Jared Shade – Superintendent, Upper Dauphin School District  
 Claudia Morrell – Chief Executive Officer, STEM Equity Initiative  
 Taryn Bayles – Professor, Swanson School of Engineering, University of Pittsburgh  
*The completion of a recent National Science Foundation (NSF) project with multiple schools in PA highlighted the challenges of classroom teachers in implementing positive change without the support of the school and district leadership. In addition, schools have differing and complex challenges resulting in high turnover among their leadership. This session will present the collective learning gathered from the field related to recruiting, retaining, and*

*supporting educational leadership. We will also gather the participants' input and seek leaders interested in formulating and piloting new ideas through a partnership to submit an NSF proposal to develop strong, supported, and valued school leaders in PA.*

**Room 205**

***ELECTRIFYING YOUR AUTO TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS***

Mike Galler – Supervisor of Career and Technical Education, Bethlehem Area Vocational-Technical School

*Have an interest in electric vehicles and bringing the concept into your school? Plan to join this session for an in-depth look at the process behind electric vehicle conversions and how to implement the process into CTE Auto Technology Programs. Bethlehem AVTS recently completed their first conversion that involved a 1970 FIAT 124 Spyder with the partnership of Electric GT in Huntington Beach, CA.*

**Room 206**

***MEETING THE DEMAND FOR SMART MANUFACTURING SKILLS IN THE WORKFORCE***

James Wall – Executive Director, Smart Automation Certification Alliance (SACA)  
Brad Chandler – Account Manager, Allegheny Educational Systems, Inc.

*Smart manufacturing is revolutionizing industry, and skilled technical talent plays a crucial role in driving this transformation. Manufacturing has evolved significantly, with new technologies shaping the landscape. Key drivers of this evolution include: 5G wireless tech, industrial IoT (Internet of Things), industry 5.0: integrating humans and robots collaboratively, smart factories, and robotics. This session will share how schools can accelerate the availability of training for these career pathways by leveraging industry-driven micro-credentials to shape workforce training programs. As manufacturing continues to evolve, investing in skilled technical talent is essential for sustainable growth and competitiveness in the 21st century.*

**EVENING ON YOUR OWN**

## THURSDAY, JULY 25, 2024

7:45 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. **BREAKFAST**

**Deans Hall** Sponsored by NECA Penn-Del-Jersey Chapter

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. **PACTA MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**Presidents 1, 2** Darby Copeland – State President, Pennsylvania Association of Career and Technical Administrators

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. **REFRESHMENT BREAK**

**Presidents Hallway** Sponsored by NECA Penn-Del-Jersey Chapter

10:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. **GENERAL SESSION**

**Presidents 1, 2** *TEAMWORK THAT MAKES THE SCHOOLS DREAMWORK!*

Darrell “Coach “D” Andrews – Motivational Speaker and Trainer, Darrell Andrews Enterprises  
Introduced by Kevin Rice – State Secretary/Treasurer, Pennsylvania Association of Career and Technical Administrators

Sponsored by Smart Futures

11:30 a.m. **CONFERENCE WRAP-UP**

**Presidents 1, 2** Darby Copeland – State President, Pennsylvania Association of Career and Technical Administrators

**PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL ADMINISTRATORS**

**2024 PACTA Leadership Conference**

**Career and Technical Education: Leadership for Success**

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS SCHEDULE**

|   | <b>Tuesday<br/>4:15 PM - 5:00 PM</b>                                   | <b>Wednesday<br/>10:15 AM - 11:00 AM</b>  | <b>Wednesday<br/>11:15 AM - 12:00 PM</b>  | <b>Wednesday<br/>1:15 PM - 2:00 PM</b>  | <b>Wednesday<br/>2:15 PM - 3:00 PM</b>                                | <b>Wednesday<br/>3:45 PM - 4:30 PM</b>  | <b>Wednesday<br/>4:45 PM - 5:30 PM</b>  |
|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| <b>104</b><br>PDE/BCTE<br>Track                   |  | <i>Unveiling Success: How<br/>SREB Empowered<br/>Pennsylvania TAP Recipients -<br/>Panel Presentation</i> | <i>Education Program of Study<br/>Updates and Sharing Session</i>                                       | <i>Navigating FRCPP CATS and<br/>the Approved Program<br/>Technical Evaluation (APTE)</i> | <i>Act 13 Educator<br/>Effectiveness: Test Your<br/>Skills!</i>       | <i>Perkins and APTE Review</i>  | <i>Powerful CTE Practices: A<br/>Snapshot of Personalized<br/>Support for Several TAP<br/>Centers</i>             |
| <b>105</b>  |  | <i>Authentic Collaboration<br/>Training</i>   | <i>Artificial Intelligence and<br/>CTE</i>  | <i>Title IX Regulations and<br/>Update</i>  | <i>Industry Involvement<br/>Matters!</i>                              | <i>From Classroom to Career:<br/>Unlocking Global Potential<br/>and 21st Century Skills in CTE<br/>Students</i> | <i>Telling Your Story - Using<br/>Social Media and Podcasting<br/>to Amplify CTE</i>                              |
| <b>106</b>  |  | <i>Walk and Talk: Building<br/>Connections Across Regions</i>   | <i>Innovative Pathways:<br/>Exploring Germany's<br/>Technical Education<br/>Blueprint</i>               | <i>Creating a Positive School<br/>Climate Through DEIB</i>                                | <i>Legal Update</i>   | <i>Preparing Students for Their<br/>Future, Not Ours</i>  | <i>Briding the Gap:<br/>Weatherization Workforce<br/>Development Pilot Program<br/>for CTE Schools</i>            |
| <b>202</b><br>Student<br>Services<br>Track        | <i>Dual Credit/ Dual Enrollment<br/>Townhall Session</i>               | <i>Pop-Up AHN Chill Room</i>  | <i>Therapy Dog's in CTE?</i>  | <i>Student Services -<br/>Roundtable Discussion and<br/>Exchange of Ideas</i>             | <i>Pre-Apprenticeship<br/>Strategies and Best Practices</i>           | <i>Special Education<br/>Roundtable Discussion</i>  | <i>Using NOCTI Longitudinal<br/>and Current Data<br/>Comparison to Improve<br/>Curriculum and Instruction</i>     |
| <b>203</b><br>Facilities<br>Track                 | <i>Apprenticeships<br/>Townhall Session</i>                            | <i>Facilities - Roundtable<br/>Discussion and Exchange of<br/>Ideas</i>                                   | <i>Laying the Groundwork for<br/>Facilities Construction and<br/>Remodeling Projects and<br/>Grants</i> | <i>Leveraging Systems Thinking<br/>for School Improvement and<br/>Expansion</i>           | <i>Access for All - Viewing Your<br/>Facility Through an ADA Lens</i> | <i>Financial Steps and<br/>Considerations When<br/>Planning a Construction<br/>Project</i>                      | <i>From Concept to Career: AI<br/>and XR as Catalysts for<br/>Engagement and Success</i>                          |
| <b>204</b><br>Finance / HR<br>Track               | <i>CTE Funding<br/>Townhall Session</i>                                | <i>Finance and HR - Roundtable<br/>Discussion and Exchange of<br/>Ideas</i>                               | <i>Pennsylvania Association of<br/>School Business Officials<br/>Update</i>                             | <i>Finance and HR - Roundtable<br/>Discussion and Exchange of<br/>Ideas continued</i>     | <i>Healthcare Cost Update</i>   | <i>COSTARS in a Nutshell</i>  | <i>School Leadership<br/>Development in PA: What's<br/>Working, What's Not Working,<br/>and How to Improve IT</i> |
| <b>205</b><br>IT Track                            | <i>Access to CTE (Enrollment)<br/>Townhall Session</i>                 | <i>Essential Skills of the Modern<br/>Tech Leader</i>   | <i>AI and Technology<br/>Leadership</i>   | <i>E-Rate Updates</i>   | <i>PAIU Statewide SentinelOne<br/>Initiative</i>                      | <i>Modernizing<br/>Communications for Today's<br/>Families</i>  | <i>Electrifying Your Auto<br/>Technology Programs</i>   |
| <b>206</b><br>Building<br>Administrators<br>Track | <i>CTE Educator<br/>Recruitment and Retention<br/>Townhall Session</i> | <i>Building Level Administrators -<br/>Roundtable Discussion and<br/>Exchange of Ideas</i>                | <i>An Administrator's guide to AI<br/>Adoption and Integration in<br/>CTE</i>                           | <i>Goal Setting and the Act 13<br/>LEA - Selected Measures</i>                            | <i>Systems Design<br/>Benchmarking in CTE</i>                         | <i>New Teacher Induction Plan</i>   | <i>Meeting the Demand for<br/>Smart Manufacturing Skills in<br/>the Workforce</i>                                 |