

September 6, 2024

## 24-25 Theme: **ADVOCATE—Tell the CTE Story**

Christi Hack, Principal, Jessamine Career Technology Center, was installed as the Kentucky Association for Career and Technical Education (KACTE) president at the KACTE Annual Meeting held in Louisville at the Galt House Hotel on Tuesday, July 9, 2024. In acceptance remarks, she explained the year's theme, **ADVOCATE — Tell the CTE Story**. CTE professionals must speak up and reach out to stress the importance of CTE to Kentucky. She asks more members to get involved. Please see page 3 of this **News&Notes** for more details.

Joining Hack as 2024-25 KACTE officers are President-Elect Angela Gott, professor, Western Kentucky University; Past-President Josh Mitcham, director, FFA Leadership Training Center; Treasurer Dexter Knight, University of Kentucky; Sharon Collins, Kentucky Department of Education Office of Career and Technical Education (OCTE), and Kelli Norman, Council on Postsecondary Education. They and the 2024-25 KACTE Board were sworn in at the Annual Meeting.

The KACTE Annual Meeting marked the end of Mitcham's term as president. He offered a short stewardship report addressing his theme, **Moving the Needle**.

### **KACTE to Set Goals At Strategic Planning Session, Input Welcome**

The Kentucky Association for Career and Technical Education (KACTE) Board will meet in Bowling Green Thursday, September 12, and hold a Strategic Planning Retreat on Friday, September 13. The Retreat will examine the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats facing the association now and anticipated in the future. The discussion then will progress to developing goals and objectives at least through 2027. **KACTE members are welcome and encouraged to e-mail ideas, suggestions or general comments that can be considered at the Retreat.** Please submit your input to [kmstone1951@gmail.com](mailto:kmstone1951@gmail.com) by Wednesday, September 11, by 5 p.m. KACTE is your association — what do you want to see KACTE accomplish to further CTE in Kentucky and to support your career?



Pictured at the Kentucky Farm Bureau Career and Technical Education Awards Dinner held at the Galt House Hotel, Monday evening, July 8 are, from left, KACTE President Josh Mitcham; Carter Walden, Cleary Construction, Business/Education Partner; Mark LaMaster, Teacher of the Year; Catherine Poole, New Teacher of the Year; Cary York, Lifetime Achievement Award and Hall of Fame; Vanessa Ruda, Career Guidance; Rep. Bobby McCool, Meritorious Service on Behalf of Career and Technical Education; Jeff Blythe, Administrator of the Year; Taylor Nash, Kentucky Farm Bureau representative. Not pictured was Bryan Welch, Carl Perkins Community Service Award Recipient.

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"We tried to push forward," he explained. "We need a constant, steady push, on membership, advocacy. We need to steadily grow. Continue to work toward (larger) membership." He said he was happy with the way KACTE spent money during the year. There were accomplishments in advocacy and in professional development. He also was pleased there were some "fun things" that members could enjoy.

One bylaw amendment was adopted clarifying the terms and election cycle of the treasurer and secretary.

**THE CTE SUMMER PROGRAM** educators attendance was 1,814. The CTE Meeting Place attracted more than 70 vendors. Total attendance was more than 2,000 for the July 8-11 conference.

The attendees rated the Summer Program 4.4 (out of 5.0) with 89.3 percent rating it either excellent or good as a professional development opportunity. The professional development workshops, sessions and presentations were rated 4.4 with 88.6 percent rating them excellent or good. Other ratings were: registration, 96 percent; meeting rooms, 91.3 percent; food and beverage, 62.4 percent; publicity, 88.9 percent; CTE Meeting Place, 88.6 percent; the opening session, 89.3 percent; SCHED app, 83.2 percent; and special events, 83.3 percent.

The opening session rating was driven by keynote speaker John O'Leary who held the audience with his life story and his message how one person can make a great difference in others' lives. He noted how teachers have a special opportunity to make a difference in their students' lives. He previewed a motion picture of his life that will be released in 2025 called, "On Fire!"

A highlight of the CTE Summer Program was the KACTE member gala, held after the KACTE Annual Meeting aboard the Belle of Louisville. Although weather prohibited an Ohio River cruise, about 400 KACTE members and guests enjoyed a buffet, refreshments, music and dancing.

The 2025 CTE Summer Program will be held again at the Galt House Hotel, Louisville, July 28-31.

**THE FIRST KACTE BOARD** meeting will include a Strategic Planning Retreat to set goals and objectives establishing a path for future achievement. The expiring strategic plan sought accomplishments in advocacy, leadership, social media and marketing, capacity busting and membership. All KACTE strategic planning is guided by the purpose established in the KACTE bylaws: leadership and program improvement, policy development, knowledge connectivity, and awareness.

As a non-profit professional association, KACTE pursues several professional development efforts. Foremost is the CTE Summer Program, but highlight activities include the KACTE Leadership Fellows Program, that seeks to develop new KACTE and CTE leaders, and **CTE Learn**, an on-line professional development portal with more than 180 courses available, some free to KACTE members.

## **KACTE Action Schedule** **2024-25**

All times listed are Eastern.

- ➔ Sept. 12-13 — KACTE Board Meeting, Holiday Inn University Plaza, Bowling Green; strategic planning.
- ➔ Sept. 13-14 — KACTE Leadership Fellows Program, Holiday Inn University Plaza, Bowling Green.
- ➔ Sept. 25-27 — ACTE Region 2 Leadership Conference, Orlando, FL.
- ➔ Oct. 1 — CTE Learn Stipend Application Deadline.
- ➔ Nov. 14 — KACTE Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m., virtual.
- ➔ Nov. 25 — KACTE All-Member *News&Notes* e-mailed.
- ➔ Dec. 4-7 — ACTE Career Tech Vision Conference, San Antonio, TX. (Info at [www.acteonline.org](http://www.acteonline.org))
- ➔ Jan. 6 — 2025 Kentucky General Assembly Session convenes, 30-day session adjourns by April 15.
- ➔ Jan. 15 — 2025 CTSO Student Leadership Day registration deadline.
- ➔ Jan. 23 — KACTE Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m., virtual.
- ➔ Feb. 3 — 2025 CTE Summer Program Call for Presentation forms submittal deadline.
- ➔ Feb. 3 — 2025 CTE Summer Program Registration Form released.
- ➔ Feb. 10 — CTSO State Officer Legislative Leadership Training, Frankfort, Best Western, 5-8 p.m.
- ➔ Feb 11 — CTSO Student Leadership Day, Frankfort, Frankfort High Schools and State Capitol.
- ➔ Feb. 13-14 — KACTE Leadership Fellows Program, Frankfort, State Capitol and site TBD.
- ➔ March 7 — 2025 CTE Summer Program presentation titles posted to [www.kyacte.org](http://www.kyacte.org).
- ➔ March 16-19 — ACTE National Policy Seminar, Crystal City, VA, and Washington, DC.
- ➔ April 24 — KACTE Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m., site TBD.
- ➔ May 19 — All-Member *News&Notes* e-mailed.
- ➔ June 1 — Kentucky Farm Bureau CTE Awards deadline.
- ➔ July 28-31 — 2025 CTE Summer Program, Louisville, Galt House Hotel.
- ➔ July 29 — KACTE Annual Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Galt House Hotel.

## **Special Note on Membership**

KACTE's membership database and annual dues billing process will be managed by the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) beginning in September 2024. As a unified affiliate with ACTE, KACTE receives these services at no cost and uses ACTE's technology and expertise. **Watch for contacts from ACTE.**

# Advocate: *Tell the CTE Story*



Christi Hack, Principal, Jessamine Career Technology Center, and 2024-25 Kentucky Association for Career and Technical Education (KACTE) President, says it's time to **ADVOCATE** for our profession and our careers. Everyone — from parents to elected officials, students to potential employers — needs to know the quality of CTE, its potential to support Kentucky's economy, and the impact it can have on society by helping individuals attain their goals and raise their standards of living.

*"If not us, then who will?"* she asks of all Career and Technical Education.

- **Tell** about the 98 percent high school graduation rate of CTE concentrators.
- **Tell** about the 37,105 postsecondary credentials earned last year.
- **Tell** about the newly codified funding method for secondary CTE that provides each student an equal opportunity to achieve his or her academic goals.
- **Tell** about the new CTE. It is for any Student who seeks a career whether directly entering the workforce or through postsecondary education.
- **Tell** about your experience as a CTE professional. **You make a difference!**

## KACTE Member Benefits

- ☞ **Legislative Advocacy** -- KACTE is the only Kentucky association representing all CTE levels and pathways before both the U.S. Congress and the Kentucky General Assembly. A contract with a Kentucky Legislative Agent helps educate legislators.
- ☞ **Professional Learning opportunities**, include the Annual CTE Summer Program.
- ☞ **On-line professional development** through *CTE Learn*.

- ☞ **Leadership Skills** development, including the **KACTE Leadership Fellows Program**.
- ☞ **Teaching Resources** and access to ACTE's best practices database, podcasts and more.
- ☞ **Information sharing** at conferences, by e-mail blasts, and through mailed communication to members.
- ☞ **Recognition and Awards** for outstanding effort at work or for contributions to CTE and the community.

- ☞ **Support of Student Organizations**, including the annual Student Leadership Day in Frankfort.
- ☞ **KACTE's Website**, [www.kyacte.org](http://www.kyacte.org); Facebook page, @kyacte; and on X (formerly Twitter), @kyacte.
- ☞ **ACTE's Techniques Magazine**, the premier CTE publication.
- ☞ **Several scholarship, stipend, and grant programs** to support pre-service teachers, professional development, enhancing partnerships, and furthering CTE in Kentucky.

*KACTE Is Working for YOU! Your Membership Is Needed.*