



Tim Knue, Executive Director, tim@wa-acte.org



Marianna Goheen, President, marianna.goheen@highlineschools.org

2012 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

The Purpose of the Washington Association for Career and Technical Education (WA-ACTE) is to provide leadership and services to our members as they prepare students for lifelong career success. We work closely with our K-12 workforce training/education and community/technical college partners to provide high quality CTE program opportunities for all students in Washington State.

I. HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Career and Technical Education is academic and technical content taught in an applied setting and is included in the definition of Basic Education by law. We understand and stipulate that the SBE's full 24 credit high school graduation requirements proposal have new flexibility and recognition of careers in the proposal.

Issues:

- **Career & College Ready:** The SBE has approved, but not yet adopted into rule, a 24 credit framework of Washington State Career and College Ready Graduation Requirements. Flexibility will be critical in a student achieving these new credit requirements. There are currently 7 Student Choice credits in the new proposal.

ASK: Expand the number of Student Choice credits that are clearly controlled by the student in their High School and Beyond Plan to the maximum possible within the 24 credit proposal.

- Graduation requirements outlined in the "required/automatic" credits should value CTE by directly naming/listing CTE for the Career Concentration credits or Occupational Education credit. The definitions of Career Concentration and Occupational Education credits continue to be weak in their direct connection to CTE.

ASK: That the "Occupational Education" credit be renamed "Career and Technical Education," which must meet a minimum of the Exploratory CTE Standards as approved by the OSPI Career and College Readiness Division. This would bring the name in line with the standards and WAC to be delivered.

II. CTE FUNDING

Career and Technical Education funding is vital to the delivery of high quality CTE programs to meet the needs of today's students by providing them with technical and 21st Century skills needed to be successful.

Issues:

- **State Leadership for Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs):** To provide revenue in order for OSPI to provide statewide support and leadership for CTSOs at \$100,000.

ASK: Return funding in budget for statewide leadership overseen by the OSPI CTE program supervisors in all seven currently approved CTSO programs and funding CTSOs in the state budget @ \$100,000.

- **WAVE Awards:** Three WAVE Awards per legislative district are no longer funded. This was one of only two state scholarships based on merit. In this tough economy all kids need help in financing their education after high school. This is the only state scholarship that honors those students who have a clear "career" path and are outstanding in their accomplishments.

ASK: For the return of the three WAVE Awards per legislative district (not retroactive) in the budget for CTE students.

III. CTE FUTURE INITIATIVES

Washington ACTE works with the OSPI, SBCTC, and WTECB to create and implement innovative programs in order to increase the seamless transitions for students throughout the K-20 system; including multiple career pathways for student success.

Career Pathways Act: 2SHB 2170 - Representative Probst's bill creating a coordinated Career Pathway System beginning in middle school and all high schools to provide programs of study.

2/15/12