

## Principal/Superintendent Preparation... *add Career and Technical Education (CTE) Understanding*

### BACKGROUND

Washington State strives to have highly qualified administrators who bring a range of skills and understanding to their administrative positions. With all that is happening in education new and current administrators are called on to serve in ever-widening roles and responsibilities.

Current principal/superintendent (P/S) preparation programs are delivering high-quality instruction and preparation for new principals; but one area that is glaringly missing from the standards required to become a P/S is enough understanding of what is required to properly offer and manage a CTE program within the building or district they are responsible for managing.

### CTE PROGRAM PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENT

Principal/Superintendent candidate's preparation programs have not been required to provide instruction in CTE and what is required in delivering high-quality CTE programs.

However, administrative candidates are often given the duties of managing their district program with little to no understanding of what it takes to manage and navigate the complex rules for state and federal compliance required to deliver high-quality CTE in Washington State.

CTE directors have increasingly complex requirements as state and federal changes are implemented to Career and Technical Education. Having just a traditional administration credential does not fully prepare one for the unique challenges that face Career and Technical Education directors. Completing the comprehensive local needs assessment, determining the Perkins assurances, understanding FTE and enhanced funding, ensuring access and equity for all in Career and Technical Education programs, and preparing for end-of-year

reporting requirements are just a few of the unique aspects CTE directors must face.

Districts have increasingly reduced the number of full-time CTE directors preferring alternative models where it is one of the many roles an administrator takes on within the district. Particularly in smaller districts, there are situations where current CTE teachers are paid an additional stipend or have an extra planning period to also perform the responsibilities of the CTE director. This model is seen in up to 2/3 of small districts.

### IMPROVEMENT

Washington ACTE is proposing a bill that will provide greater administrative performance through increased instruction and understanding through multiple modes of instruction.

#### Key elements:

- Programs would provide administration candidates to assure introductory CTE program standards are provided ensuring they are prepared to meet student and staff needs in CTE.
- In addition, provide an option for the development of a program instruction framework for demonstrating evidence of understanding CTE performance standards. Preparation programs would submit proof of these additions to their program instruction to PESB for approval.

### REQUEST

CTE performance understanding should be added to all administrative preparation programs in Washington State.

The bill would require programs to offer CTE understanding of program standards; providing all in and out of state candidates with options and flexibility to demonstrate effective performance.