Washington ACTE Wins National ACTE Quality Association Standards Award

Career and Technical Education Month, or CTE Month, is a public awareness campaign that takes place each February to celebrate the value of CTE and the achievements and accomplishments of CTE programs across the country. Please visit the ACTE CTE Month Webpage for more information on how you can celebrate CTE Month.

WA-ACTE Summer Conference
August 2-5, 2020
The Davenport Grand Hotel, Spokane
Look for Registration in March

Upcoming Conferences
WA-ACTE, Sections, Region V, and National ACTE Conferences

Washington ACTE Membership Webpage
Renew your membership for WA-ACTE, Sections, and/or National ACTE. Advocate for your CTE interests and achieve your career goals by ensuring your membership is current.

Join or Renew Membership Dues with a Check or Purchase Order
Join or Renew Membership Dues Online with a Credit Card
We are excited to announce a free training opportunity for legislatively funded Microsoft certification resources! 6 STEM clock hours will be offered for this training.

Join us to take a first look at the Microsoft Imagine Academy 2019 MOS curriculum as well as understanding all of the legislatively funded curriculum, exams, software and support. There will be an opportunity to take Microsoft certification exams and learn about the new Compass testing platform as well as certification reporting.

See the official flyer with dates and go to this link for registration. There are only 30 seats available for each training location so register now!

In this season of Thanksgiving, thank YOU for all you do to support and inspire students!!

To keep up to date on Microsoft certification happenings around the state, join our Washington Microsoft Office Certification Specialist Facebook group.

Kind regards,

Kathy Schmit
MCE, MCT, MIEE, Master Trainer
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**Wash. expands pathways to college, career**  
The Washington State Board of Education recently replaced federal testing requirements with seven potential pathways toward earning a high-school diploma. Officials say the new pathways help support alternatives to enrolling in a four-year college, including pursuing careers in the skilled trades and going to two-year institutions.

**District seeks to boost girls' confidence in math**  
A recent study has confirmed what many educators in Spokane and the nation already knew: the “math gap” between boys and girls has little to do with biology and almost everything to do with societal attitudes.

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**This second annual career event excited and inspired WHS students!**

Washougal WA - Washougal High School held their second annual Pathways Conference for students on Thursday, November 7. This year’s focus was careers in Hospitality, Tourism, Human Services, Ag, Food and Natural Resources. The event was designed to prepare students for the world of work while bringing a more personal approach to the standard "Career Day."

"We're really trying to provide students with exposure to a professional conference setting while giving them an 'up close and personal' learning experience from local business folks about career pathways that are of interest to them," said Margaret Rice, Washougal School District Career and Technical Education Director.

Conference planning began last year in order to identify and recruit a wide variety of professionals to speak. “We had representatives from Disney College to Agri business to event planning,” said Lisa Leonard, WSD Career Specialist and Work Site Learning Coordinator. “We are so grateful to all of our speakers who took time out of their busy day and away from their businesses to share their expertise. Many were either Washougal residents, alumni or own a business in Washougal.”

The conference keynote speaker was WHS Alumni Matthieu Grant, who spoke about opportunities and skills needed to work for Disney. Other break session speakers included Drew Bergerson, Quest Events; Alex
Yost, Our Bar; Mychal Dynes, Little Conejo; Michelle Weeks, Good Rain Farm; Robert Hensley, iFill Cup; Nathan Day, You Move Me; Beth Nelson, United Flight Attendant; Tera Yano, Sea Mar; Jayodin J. Mosher NIC-M, Interpreter for Sorenson; and LaDonna Davis, Cosmetology, Hairy Kari’s.

After a morning of speakers, students loaded buses to visit either Ilani Casino in Ridgefield or Skamania Lodge in Stevenson. “Both businesses went out of their way to show students a wide variety of career opportunities,” Leonard said.

The Ilani Casino Human Resources representatives provided students with a complete overview of career opportunities as well as a tour of their guest services. “They were very encouraging to the students,” said Leonard. “You could tell they are very passionate about what they do.” Students also heard about the company’s tuition reimbursement for full-time employees and how they promote from within.

“Students were able to hear about every aspect of guest services at Skamania Lodge,” said Leonard. “The team there is great! Our Culinary teacher would hope to build an apprenticeship program with Skamania for students interested in hospitality careers.”

“Our goal is to have a Pathway Conference each year covering all 16 Career Clusters over a 4-year period that way our students get the opportunity to participate in a different conference each year of their high school career,” said Rice.

A wonderful example of community and schools working together around CTE.

Washougal, WA -- Washougal High School Fine Arts Woodworking students have to think “outside the box” when faced with a design and manufacturing issue posed by a local business.

The Camas-based startup, Foodie in Training, offers subscribers a collection of tried-and-true recipes to help bring a family table experience back to today’s time-strapped, technology dominated household. Their members receive monthly recipes, how-to cooking videos and quarterly mailings of recipes to add to their collection; recipe cards which fit nicely into a robust Foodie in Training recipe box.

“The basic challenge was for students to make a better box at a better price,” explained Brent Mansell, WHS Wood and Metal Technology Teacher. “With the target finished price $10 per box, students had to think critically about materials used, including type of wood, hinges, stains, and nails, as well as how to reduce labor costs by choosing the best cut of wood and keeping in mind efficient assembly time.”

In a presentation to students in October, Foodie partners Stephanie Millman, Kelly Bruce and Kasey Morales, explained their recipe boxes were previously constructed by a crate manufacturer in Wisconsin from scrap
pallet materials. “After three orders, we found that they were too heavy and expensive to ship and the quality was not high enough to represent our brand,” Morales explained. “We like the rustic look of the existing boxes, the fact they are made in the USA, and the internal size that allows for the expansion of a recipe card collection.” What they were not satisfied with was the weight (leading to a high cost of shipping) and the overall appearance of the finished piece.

“We’re delivering a high quality, tactile experience,” explained Morales. “We want the boxes to look good enough to proudly display on kitchen counters.” The three most important aspects for students to consider were design, function and cost.

“We asked the students to keep the customers in mind,” said Millman. “Our target market includes Foodie members and gift givers. We asked them to do their own research and consult with their family about the project to get their thoughts.”

Once students heard the design parameters and expectations, they got busy taking measurements of box samples, jotting down notes on paper and creating new design ideas. Their next step was to take those ideas out to the wood shop to begin creating prototypes.

“Students are learning valuable lessons through this process,” said Mansell. “They are considering the needs of a customer in the look, function and quality of the final product. They are also realizing how their time is money and the importance of considering how manufacturing elements affect the cost to construct each box.”

“We are very excited to connect with a local business that can bring a real-world problem to our classrooms and students,” said Margaret Rice, Washougal School District Career and Technical Education (CTE) Director. “Not only are CTE students presented with an actual business challenge to solve, but once a winning box design is created, the Foodies will have a better product and will need ongoing manufacturing which could result in a job for students.”

“This has been a very exciting process for us,” said Morales. “We love providing this classroom opportunity for our high school students and are impressed with the enthusiasm they have brought to the project.” To demonstrate student pride, the final boxes will be signed by the individual students who built them.

WHS sophomore, Aiden Baalaer, admits that this project feels different from other class assignments. “It seems like we are working as a team on a real job,” he said. “It is challenging to make sure that every part of the box fits flush and perfect.”

Baalaer enjoys the hands-on aspect of woodworking. Before the box project he built a scribe and a cutting board. “In this day and age, it seems like more people are moving toward working with technology, so it is good to learn a skill that you use hands, tools and saws for,” he said.

“We would like to continue to work with local businesses to provide authentic business challenges for our students in the classroom,” said Rice. “Real-world application of 21st Century Skills like problem solving taught in this way are critical for students heading into the job market.”

Customers can get a look at the student created boxes and learn more about Foodie in Training at the upcoming Washougal High School Bazaar on Saturday, November 16. “We are excited to meet new customers and show off the wonderful talent of these WHS students!” said Bruce.

For more information about Foodie in Training contact Bruce at 360-771-7893 or find them online at www.foodieintraining.org.
Shine the spotlight on your CTE program by submitting an article on your CTE teachers and students!

## Career and Technical Educator Program Provider Contacts:

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