



**EVALUATION FORM
SUMMARY**

**WA-ACTE FALL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE
November 5-6, 2015 – Great Wolf Lodge, Grand Mound WA**

Objectives/Purpose: This is a hands-on conference for individuals and school teams to attend! We will be sharing some of today’s best practices in bringing the philosophy and systems needed to integrate Career and Technical Education (CTE) and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) and the Arts for all students. Attendees will be provided the opportunity, time, and information on key components needed to develop a plan in delivering CTE and STEM & Arts for all students in their schools.

5=Excellent 4=Very Good 3=Good 2=Fair 1=Poor

1. The extent to which the written objectives have been met:	3.80
2. Participant perception of relevance and quality of the conference:	3.82
3. The extent to which the following activities have been met:	
a. Opportunities for participants to collect and analyze evidence related to student learning.	3.47
b. Professional certificate standards.	3.19
c. School and district improvement efforts.	3.48
d. K-12 frameworks and curriculum alignment.	3.24
e. Research-based instructional strategies and assessment practices.	3.41
f. Content of current or anticipated assignment.	3.67
g. Advocacy for students and leadership, supervision, mentoring/coaching.	3.62
h. Building a collaborative learning community.	3.96

General comments or suggestions for improving the conference:

- As an art teacher, I didn’t really get much out of this. There could have been more art involved in the sessions. Really liked the forensic science / skull session!
- There are several of us who are CTE math and business, WBL coordinators, marketing, and career choice teachers - will we be included in the near future? Would like to attend a robotics conference - middle schools are limited in advanced curriculum - only intro robotics is used. Why?
- Great panels - I wanted more - especially day 2. I realize not your fault some cancelled.
- Best I’ve been to in a long time!

- Overall great sessions and I expected more of a “fine arts” piece than was presented.
- Not a lot of teacher “take-aways”. Though STEM is important, there are so many other pathways that are missing. It would be nice to have these conferences involve all CTE areas of study. Also, have a “draft” of session offerings along the way would also be nice. A final can come with rooms, etc., but it is difficult to get teachers here when they don’t have any idea of the content of sessions.
- James Flatmo was a great speaker.
- Would like more on computer science to be covered.
- More art please!
- More content geared toward middle school.
- I really appreciate the CCI folks. They were very helpful and patient to help us do the certification setup.
- I like it that Boeing is involved. The possibility of field trips is a great idea so that more students can be exposed to these careers. Thanks for the coffee. Lots of new learning. A vibrant variety of offerings! Great job! Post the goals in the program.
- A session of collaboration of like teachers would be great!
- Thanks for all the opportunities to learn and grow.
- The technology needs to work along with sound for videos in presentations.
- The Whova app was good. Storing presenter info for everyone - great.
- Too many “sales pitches” not student oriented.
- Informed and motivated presenters - very enjoyable conference this year.
- An excellent variety of topics under a CTE tent. Presenters were all knowledgeable, passionate, approachable. All very open to questions and really wanted to shape their expertise.
- Signs with schedule for each room posted outside the rooms would have been very helpful.
- I learned a lot!
- Help for small to medium sized schools.
- How to work with gen 2 was taught by someone that did not feel like a teacher. It was FBLA based and not as advertised; however, infusing STEM in the arts was amazing!
- Some presentations were in small rooms with standing room only, but I guess that always a challenge.
- The Wi-Fi sucked and caused difficulties with at least two presenters. Otherwise it was great.
- The Microsoft presentation was dismal. The CAPE presentation was awesome. State should see how it could be done statewide.
- Love the “creating creators” session.
- More hands-on.
- Thanks.
- The conference was advertised as a conference for all CTE teachers...95% of courses were mostly science/technology. Where was the art courses? The last class of the day was packed with art teachers.
- The rooms were too crowded for the first two sessions.
- First-time attendee. Really learned a lot. I will go home with way too many ideas!
- The technology and internet connection was a real problem...76% of the workshops / keynote speech could not access videos, sandbox, etc.
- Nice one!
- Better tech coordination needed on presentations with presenters.
- I know a few classes were hands-on, but most of mine needed a bit more activities of some movements.
- I love this location. The location and facilities are fantastic! Great registration area it was comfortable and warm. I like the Whova app, but so many notifications and emails. I think it is great to communicate with others--some districts still require paper agendas to turn in for travel documents. Great food, snacks, and beverage service. I was hoping for Scott LeDuc to offer more sessions. I think it would be helpful to have sessions on CTSOs, budgets, extended days, advisory committees, programs of work. I learn from others and what they do in their classes/schools. E3 employability was fantastic--have them repeat at Summer Conference!
- I wish the sessions that were cancelled wouldn’t have been as I was really looking forward to them. I enjoyed last year’s keynote speaker much better.
- Good sessions!

- Not enough manufacturing sessions. Too heavy on robotics/computer sessions. More robust network.
- I was hoping the focus was fine arts, but the options were slim. One presenter had five very similar sessions. This had nothing to do with fine arts. Made our group think no one answered the call for presenters forcing one game guy to present over and over. One externship presentation was only valid for Pierce County Educators, so it wasted my time as a non-Pierce County. The app would not load on my devices and everything was focused around the app - sad - almost no one at our table could the app either.
- Great information and diverse offerings of workshops.
- All presenters' dress should be professional.
- The sessions have not been as interesting as they had been in previous years.
- The technology has been a problem - video and audio issues in many of the rooms has been a distraction. Please consider a different venue for this conference.
- Excellent facility, great info.
- Need more hands-on and more suitable for middle school. Many of the sessions could have just sent me the information in a webinar.
- Some of the sessions - internships, externships - were for what they have, but not how we could replicate and do it. Also, gaming classes give good overall intro and examples, but examples are written description sometimes confusing. How about showing the example with pics, video, of actual gaming badges, clue cards, etc.? Not concrete enough though we did get the idea.
- Actually the written description did not do the workshop content justice...the workshops far exceeded their "write-up" description. Great Wolf Lodge does not work well with changes. What about FCS integration?
- Less about existing programs. More presentations that have ideas that can be used in my classroom.
- Infusing STEM into the Arts - great! Would love printouts of directions for all activities (like lesson plans). The envelope with ideas was cool.
- Not enough arts - very disappointing. Didn't produce what was advertised! Terrible place for a convention (family, kids everywhere! - no sleep)
- Stop having this conference at Great Wolf! Conference was advertised as "arts" - not enough arts content at all. Friday art session was the best!
- I thought it was great!
- Possibly have a track area for each CTE area each rotation - conflicts in same time slots for each made it harder to choose (a good problem to have!).
- Great diversity of speakers/topics. Would like to have more arts integration presentations.
- Great. The conference is always a great time.
- More variety of presenters. Lunch was wonderful! Delicious breakfast. Cold.
- Include sessions across all CTE contents - focus was on engineering. CTE is so much more!
- Would like to see more school administrators present for networking and to learn from their perspectives.
- Not enough arts for a CTE art teacher.
- Great! Thanks!
- Bring other partners on board (employers, vendors, etc.) to the conference. The networking is great with other instructors, but it would have been valuable to have other participants to collaborate with.
- Two presentations that were "top" of my list to attend although fantastic - are not available in Snohomish County. Meaning - frustrating - perhaps this should have been written in the description - not available out of county.
- Great selections of speakers about opportunities and tools. I wish there were more options for problem-solving today's CTE challenges - CORE 24 cutting into our members, Running Start, skill centers, AP classes also cutting into #s. Drastic drop in funding this year, etc.
- For a STEM/ART conference there was not enough art!
- I would have liked information on CTSOs from the state (OSPI). Lots of us receive state funding for our STEM programs, but need information on requirements for these CTSOs! Why isn't Science Olympiad a CTSO? Even state director Sue Murphy didn't understand why Science Olympiad doesn't qualify like DECA, FBLA, or TSA! Please pass this information on to OSPI!
- Exceeded all expectations. Very inspiring presenters.

- First time at this conference - great setting/facilities. Good quality speakers overall - glad many were repeated.
- Provide an option to acquire a thumb/flash drive of presenter PowerPoints. Coffee all day was great.
- Conference was great! An improvement over last year with much better programs and resources available. I look forward to next year.
- Can you work with Great Wolf with temperature control? Should not have to wear ski coat in sessions. And Internet connection. This is an ongoing issue.
- Networking places / meeting times for specific disciplines. More arts sessions. (I plan on proposing one next year.) So far only visual.
- 90% of breakout rooms dealt with high school curriculums. Would like to see more concerning real world applications for middle school.
- Great food! Nice show & tell.
- I like the app for schedule and sharing content. The STEM in the arts & CAPE sessions were the best. I feel the Wenatchee Spring Conference is a better fit and has more content for my classroom.
- Just have room signs the 1st day so it would be easier to find the rooms. Nice having them the 2nd day. More presenters on Google apps for classroom.
- More sessions similar to WITEA.
- Internet! :(Check out needs to be noon here since conference ends then. Sessions weren't as good as last three years.
- It would be great to have an actual training on teaching tools (not exam tools) for 21st century skills from the expectations of the state.
- Come back to the lodge!
- Great presentations this year. Enjoyed the Lincoln welding (hybrid welding) demos, using linkages presentation, unmanned ground vehicles - but, as always, the best part was the connections to other teachers and getting new ideas from them.
- I did get a couple of nuggets and one great session on day 1 - due to cancellations and last minute moves I find myself with nothing to do at 8:30 Friday.
- Awesome material provided.
- Wi-Fi needs to be improved for presenters.
- The descriptions were usually a disappointment, but most of the sessions still were valuable.
- Signage for each room with a list of sessions.
- Wi-Fi was hideous - many presentations came to a standstill. Make all presenters next year have a work around or off-line presentation.
- Great sessions and food.
- Fantastic!
- A little more meat please!
- Opening session, Tacoma SD, and Rick Wigre were excellent!
- Scott Le Duc, Jim Flatmo, Isaiah Wyckoff, and Aaron Houk were fantastic and the sole reason I would return next year. (Scott is the only reason I came this year - his sessions last time were also fantastic.) The other sessions I attended (IT Academy) were too much fluff - if I can get the same thing online why am I here? I'll keep coming if I know I can get good sessions from known sources, but the rest of the conference is really hit or miss. Tech issues, session changes poorly communicated unless you have the app, disjointed lunch presentations, and awful roundtable seating make it frustrating as an attendee. Wi-Fi must be better - affected many sessions.
- The Wi-Fi connections were poor therefore creating major glitches in almost every session I attended. The offerings were poor and lacking in sessions for business education teachers. Work to balance content of sessions across all areas represented in CTE.
- Enjoyed several of the presentations! Thanks!
- Have more vendors.
- I know it is not totally preventable, but when sessions change Friday and you built your schedule Thursday based on the schedule it kind of sucks.
- I feel the conference was a little down this year. Presenters were the same as last year and hurt my options. No vendors? Remember - we paid a lot of money to be here. Please expand. Keynote speaker - Boeing sales pitch - keynote needs to inspire. Sorry...thanks for all you do.
- Would have liked more arts integration.

- Wish there would have been more art focus and how to CTE fund it.
- Better computer working (wife, etc.) for presenters.
- Have sessions that include all content areas of CTE - not many sessions had ideas on how to include FACSE into STEM practices.
- Tell presenters from education field that we want to know how to implement at our school rather than oh wow, look what you did.
- Such a great conference. Great sessions. Thank you for the huge improvement over the years.
- You should move to a place where the Wi-Fi allows videos to play. I was in three sessions where this was an issue.
- Great job with the conference. Learned a great deal about my field with the Next Move group from Tacoma School District providing a super session. The meals provided were fantastic!
- Food and facilities were great! Please include more on the arts. The Wi-Fi / Internet capabilities were very limited which hampered some sessions!
- As a counselor, I felt there weren't very many sessions pertinent to my position.
- Many sessions are repeats of previous years.
- Thank you for putting on this conference. I learned a lot and had a great time.
- I love this conference. I find that the topics taught here are directly applicable in class - love that! I enjoy the innovation and new up-to-day information.
- Solid presenters, save for the keynote. Great opportunity for networking!
- Good conference. Would like to see more specific lesson ideas - such as the one on art and forensics.
- With core 24 coming soon - more sessions on that would be helpful.
- Second year the keynote speaker had issues with presentation. Need room ID signs out earlier.
- I know it's tough, but a greater variety of presenters is always nice.
- More options for sessions. Fewer repeats. Wi-Fi seems slow here - maybe some additional network access points.
- Please make sure move access to technology.
- I am walking away with new ideas for my class - that is why I came!
- Infusing STEM Into the Arts was a great session that showed the actual application of units and lessons. I would like to see more of the unit ideas and also how STEM can be implemented in elementary all inclusion classrooms. The CAPE session was very applicable as well.
- More programming/STEM.
- Thank you!
- Conference seemed a little meager, limited sessions, mediocre keynote.
- Although the speakers who did share about STEM/Arts were great, I wish there were more presenters who fit that criteria!
- Funding for many of the "programs," assessments, etc., would be a great topic - grants, etc. I liked the focus on middle school STEM options. Leadership equivalency / CTSO topic for future. Would like to have had materials or links to all presentation PowerPoints - not many were offered.
- Juli and Delta High School was very good - nice job by Juli presenting! Maria Stevens was excellent. Had a great time with welding simulations. Sandbox was also cool. We are like kids - we learn hands-on also - more hands-on in this conference than in the past - excellent!
- Was great!
- I love the Great Wolf Lodge. Easy to get to, middle of the state. Great atmosphere. Wonderful presentation choices. Accommodations on food allergies. Overall, terrific conference. Thank you.
- Very impressed with the offerings this year.
- More hands-on. Less one-hour talk / slideshow.
- Talk to GWL about audio/video. It is so much worse than last year.
- Interesting sessions. Plan to use several of these ideas.
- Keep coming to Great Wolf Lodge.
- Thank you!
- The unfortunate Wi-Fi situation for presenters very frustrating.
- Great!
- Need to see curriculum / time to work.
- Great job on conference planning and facilitations!
- This is the second year where presenters have put out information / processes or online systems that would require teachers to violate either FERPA or state guidelines for reposting. Sessions need

to be reviewed prior to putting out this information. Last year site based learning crediting (Tahoma). This year e3employability.com

- How to write CTE framework! STEM in the sciences. STEM in the middle schools.
- CTE, STEM, and Arts was poorly addressed for classroom teachers. I did not attend any session that elaborated on actual teacher practices or grading, and very little on integration. The forensics session was the only one that was hands-on and applied directly to my classroom. A session on writing our framework would have helped.
- Felt you missed an opportunity to advocate for call to action by CTE to affect the Washington State legislature concerning MSOC formula. What can we do at this point to say them? Biggest historic loss for Washington State CTE if this funding disappears.
- If marketing to administrators need to have some administration breakouts.
- Organized social gathering to network better. WA-ACTE meeting (never had one) or discussion on what membership means. Better Wi-Fi for speakers (separate server). Rooms having class labeled better.
- More FACS related sessions.
- Would like to see more districts presenting and less sales presentations.
- Great...thanks! Less cancellations please.