



A Word From Your PRESIDENT

The Most Important Number

John Frank
WACTE President

This is the time of year when your professional association starts citing a lot of numbers. We do that for a purpose - i.e. to underscore the importance that the Wisconsin Association for Career and Technical Education (WACTE) plays in the economic future of the State of Wisconsin and, of course, your particular district.

The simple facts are that, without a skilled workforce, 21st century economic prosperity is unlikely. As such, WACTE is not only important to its members and the education profession, but also to all of our families, friends, and neighbors.

That's why we work hard to maintain a viable association that can promote the importance of career and technical education to both the private sector and the government. To this end, we are about to embark on our spring semester **membership campaign** with a goal of increasing our membership to a total of **640** members. Your participation in this campaign is absolutely essential!

Similarly, we will be hosting our annual **Legislative Seminar** at the Madison College (MATC) Downtown Campus on Tuesday, **February 21st**. To be most effective in advocating for full funding of secondary and post-secondary CTE programs, we need to have **60** WACTE members and **40** students to attend the Seminar and, then, visit our state legislators on the Hill. We need your voice in Madison that day!

Finally, the **76th Annual Conference** of the Wisconsin Association for Career and Technical Education ("Exploring New Horizons") will be held in Appleton on Thursday and Friday, **April 19th and 20th**. This networking time together is crucial to creating the concerted effort necessary for the continuation of CTE programs and employment opportunities across the state. To do this, we need at least **160** two-day registrants for the conference so that we have representation from all Locals and CTE programs across the state. Your advice and counsel must be part of that process!

That's a lot of numbers to digest in one page. That said, we have yet to mention the most important number of all and that is the number "**1**" and that "one" is **YOU**. To preserve CTE programs and personnel so that we can insure the economic well-being of Wisconsin and our friends and neighbors, **your** participation in upcoming WACTE events cannot be overestimated.

We look forward to your participation and to seeing you in Madison and Appleton later this year. If you want additional information about any of these events, simply go to our Website at www.wacteonline.org.

On behalf of all of your WACTE colleagues, **thank you** and see you soon!

In This Issue

WACTE Legislative Seminar

WACTE Annual Conference

76th Annual Conference Thread

Membership Campaign

WACTE Legislative Seminar

WACTE Legislative Seminar

We are seeking your help in promoting the WACTE Legislative Seminar in Madison, Tuesday, February 21st. As you know, the Legislative Seminar is not only valuable in informing our members of the latest legislative issues facing CTE and how to best advocate for our schools, but also promotes our organization as a whole.

With so much attention being focused on collective bargaining and recall elections, it is easy to overlook the numerous pieces of legislation that affect our profession and the students we serve. This year's seminar will have state and national legislative updates as well as advice from Paul Gabriel (Executive Director of the Wisconsin Technical College District Boards Association) on how to be more effective advocates for CTE. Also, a bipartisan panel of state legislators will discuss the issues and give their outlook for the future of CTE in the State of Wisconsin. A second panel will focus on student government associations around the state and how they are trying to raise awareness among the student body on issues that affect their education and rights (i.e. Voter ID, changes in financial aid funding, etc.).

In the next couple of days, we will be sending out invites to the Legislative Seminar to the general membership list. Please reach out to everyone at your institution, share the benefits of this seminar, and encourage them to attend (non-WACTE members are welcome and encouraged to participate). Also, if you haven't done so already, look into seeking funding from your local professional development departments to see if there would be funding available to subsidize some of the costs.

Further information about the seminar, registration, and housing can be found at

<http://www.wacteonline.org>. The deadline for registration is Monday, February 6th.

Thank you in advance for your help in promoting this event and all that you do to support CTE!

Spirit of 76 - Exploring New Horizons

WACTE Annual Conference

Join WACTE April 19-20 to Explore New Horizons in Appleton, Wisconsin!

Don't wait - start making preparations today to attend the 76th annual WACTE Conference (Exploring New Horizons) on April 19-20, 2012, by saving the date on your calendar, informing your supervisor of your interest in attending, and taking advantage of the early bird registration deadline - check it out at www.wacteonline.org!

You asked for it - we listened - here it is!

The conference has been shortened!!! It is now a two day conference - Thursday and Friday.

The conference focus will be on the many new challenges and opportunities facing career and technical education that come with declining revenue bases. Our opening and closing keynote speakers will address the opportunities for partnerships with the State and private sector.

A series of related break-out sessions will be offered: Career Pathways and Partnerships; Legislative, Political, and Economic issues affecting CTE; Best Practices in CTE Instruction; CTE Administration and Information Technology issues; and Health, Wellness, and Life Transitions.

You don't want to miss the 76th Annual WACTE Conference!!

See you in Appleton!

76th Annual WACTE Conference Thread

76th Annual WACTE Conference Radisson Paper Valley Hotel, Appleton April 19-20, 2012

As a teaser for the upcoming WACTE Conference, each edition of Hot Shots will feature a "thread" and subsequent topics that will be covered at the 76th Annual WACTE Conference.

Grab a cup of coffee and enjoy these conference highlights. When you are done reading these sections, you will want to go to www.wacteonline.org to register right away for the 76th Annual Conference in Appleton, Wisconsin.

Thread 3: Best Practices in CTE Instruction

Session 3.1 Best Practices of Past WACTE Teachers of the Year

A panel of previous recipients of WACTE's "Teacher of the Year" or "New Teacher of the Year" awards will share the secrets of their success in the classroom.

Session 3.2 Improving Instruction through Classroom Management

Can classroom environment, organization, and management improve teacher effectiveness and student academic performance? The answer is an unqualified "yes." This session shows you how.

Session 3.3 Best Practices in Project-based Instruction

Designing projects and other innovative activities to achieve collaboration between core academics and business & industry partners.

Section 3.4 Developing Partnerships with Business & Industry

A discussion of how to improve CTE program quality and classroom instruction through meaningful relationships with business and industry partners as well as tips and strategies on how to develop external partnerships.

Session 3.5 Best Practices in Assessment - Beyond the Test

The importance of assessment in CTE including strategies, other than traditional testing, for developing evaluation tools that measure student learning appropriately.

Session 3.6 Social Networking in the Classroom

Incorporating up-to-date social networking applications into classroom instruction, projects, and communication.

And this is only the beginning! Go to www.wacteonline.org for complete registration information.

See you at the 76th Annual WACTE Conference!

Spirit of 76 Membership Campaign

WACTE Membership Campaign

GOAL:

Increase membership to at least 76 new members prior to our 76th Annual Conference on April 19, 2012.

DEFINITION:

For purposes of this membership campaign, a "new WACTE member" is an individual who (a) either has never been a member of WACTE or is a previous member whose membership lapsed prior to December 31, 2009; (b) who has applied for membership between October 25, 2011 and April 6, 2012; and (c) whose 2011-2012 membership dues have been paid in full on or before April 6, 2012.

New recruits: Anyone that joins as a new member, as defined above, will receive a \$25.00 credit for any Professional Development activity in the 2012-2013 fiscal year. Example of uses: Registration fees for Annual Conference, Legislative Seminar, Support Staff Conference, One day Professional development workshops/webinars.

Campaign Prizes:

Individual grand prize: The WACTE member recruiting the greatest number of new WACTE members (as defined above) will receive: One night stay at the Hilton Madison and includes Breakfast at the Capital Club Lounge.

Other prizes: Any WACTE member who recruits one or more WACTE members (as defined above) name will be placed in a drawing for other prizes. Some examples: \$100.00 Gift certificate for the Colorado Bag n Baggage Company, gift cards for: 18 holes of golf, BP Gas, Applebees, Culvers, Texas Roadhouse just to name a few.

Individual Incentives for Membership Recruitment

Let's Meet.....Mike Gagner

10 Questions with Mike Gagner Blackhawk Technical College - BACTE President

What book have you recently finished or are you currently reading?

The Lincoln Lawyer by Michael Connelly

What is the most challenging aspect of your job?

Making sure the various reports and information I distribute to decision makers at the college are up-to-date and accurate.

Name three things on your desk right now that you could not live without.

The computer, phone, and calculator.

What is your favorite WACTE event and why?

Legislative Seminar - I enjoy the updates and the opportunity to tell the technical college story to our elected officials.

Why did you join WACTE?

I joined WACTE for the professional growth activities and the opportunity to meet other Career and Technical Education Professionals.

What is something unique about where you work?

I enjoy the pace and variety of what I am involved in from accreditation to reporting writing and surveying it makes the days interesting and enjoyable.

What form of technology most benefits you?

The computer, by allowing me to keep in touch, conduct research on various topics, and create the many reports requested by college staff.

Share a tip about how to successfully balance work with a personal life.

When you are at work concentrate on work and when you are with family and friends concentrate on them.

What is the best advice you have ever received?

Do it right the first time then you won't have to do it over.

Tell us something fun and unique about YOU.

I enjoy woodworking, photography, and spending time with my two grandsons ages 10 and 6.

For more information, visit:

www.wacteonline.org

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