

# CAREER TECH

A newsletter for Alaska ACTE Members  
[www.alaskaacte.org](http://www.alaskaacte.org)



## HAPPY NEW YEAR - A PROMISING FUTURE FOR CTE

*By Missy Frazee, President*

Happy New Year to you! As the President of Alaska ACTE, I'd like to take a moment to thank you for all the work you do for Alaska. Building a strong Alaskan workforce is no easy task. We are battling economic challenges, social challenges and resource challenges that make our work even more important to the prosperity of our state.

Alaska ACTE is committed to helping education and industry unite to address our workforce challenges. Our mission is to **provide leadership to ensure that all students have access to quality Career & Technical Education**. We are the network that aligns education and industry to develop a strong Alaska workforce.

As we head into the next decade, your association is committed to increasing our communication and outreach to you. We want to highlight the incredible CTE programs in school districts, colleges, universities and training centers across the state. Our goal is to help you connect to more partners, build stronger CTE programs and help students close out the next decade as part of a **STRONG ALASKA WORKFORCE**. Each newsletter will highlight different regions of our state to share program highlights in secondary education, post-secondary education and industry.

Although we cannot predict the future, we can use knowledge and research from the last decade to advocate for CTE in our state. Research shows that students who engage in CTE are more likely to graduate high school, persevere through post-secondary education, and earn a higher wage upon graduation. In fact, graduates with technical or applied sciences associates degrees can out earn bachelor's degree holders by \$11,000! (*Schneider 2013, College Measures*)

In the coming year, look for Alaska ACTE news on professional development opportunities, region updates, volunteer opportunities and networking events. You are part of a network of CTE professionals and your success is important to us. You can also follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter!

# NORTHERN REGION UPDATE

By: Ronnie Hawley, Northern Region Rep



Alaska ACTE's Northern Region is represented by the programs in the North Slope Borough and includes the North Slope Borough School District (NSBSD) and Ilisagvik College.

## North Slope Borough School District

[www.nsbds.org](http://www.nsbds.org)

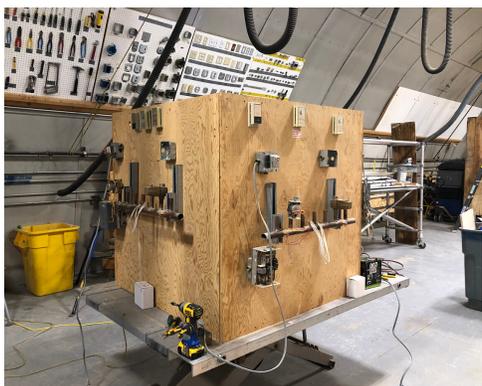
NSBSD provides a variety of CTE programs to students including wood shop, carpentry, welding, hydroponics, business and drones. The district partners with Alaska EXCEL, ANSEP, Project Lead the Way, Ilisagvik College and numerous local businesses to bring high quality programs to students.

### **Nunamiut School**

Students at Nunamiut school participated in a week long intensive program in December to learn about culinary arts, native arts, sewing and behavioral health.

### **Tikigaq School - Hydroponics**

Tikigaq School implemented a hydroponics growing cabinet to introduce students to the lifecycle of food production. High school students checked Ph and water levels while middle school students harvested the food for use in the school's kitchen.



## Ilisagvik College

[www.ilisagvik.edu](http://www.ilisagvik.edu)

A lot is happening on the Ilisagvik campus. CDL and Drivers Ed preparation happened in Barrow, Kaktovik, Nuiqsut, Pt. Hope and Wainwright. Students were able to study and test online for the proctored DMV exams. This allowed students to complete DMV forms for their permit or off-system license from their home village. These are critical requirements for many jobs in the region! The driving program in Barrow now includes the new addition of a stop light.



On campus the school held NCCER education in Carpentry, Welding, Project Supervision and Heavy Equipment. New courses in Hydronic Systems and Fuel Gas & Fuel Oil Plumbing Systems were introduced in the Fall.

In efforts to reach students, Ilisagvik hosts weekly middle school outreach programs to introduce students to the programs available on the campus.

# SOUTHCENTRAL REGION UPDATE

By: Tyler Gilligan, Southcentral Region Rep



Alaska ACTE's Southcentral Region comprises schools, colleges and training programs in Anchorage, Mat-Su, Prince William Sound, Kenai Peninsula and Kodiak. With the densest population of the state, the South Central region is in no short supply of phenomenal CTE training programs!

## Mat-Su School District

<https://www.matsuk12.us/domain/94>

Mat-Su's Wildland & Fire Fighting CTE Program of Study in Mat-Su provides an opportunity for students to engage in a sequence of courses that prepares them for "Red Card" credentialing through the Department of Natural Resources, for post-secondary articulation and for skilled entry into the forestry and fire fighting industry. Students are provided work-based learning with the Departments of Natural Resources on their Hot Shot Fire Fighting Crews and with the Parks and Recreation Departments clearing and maintaining trail systems. This program has clear connections to Emergency Management careers, Emergency Medicine careers, Outdoor Survival skills and training, Environmental Science careers, and to a life of adherence to a top level of required physical fitness.

## Alaska Vocational Technical Education Center - AVTEC

[www.avtec.edu/department/alaska-maritime-training-center](http://www.avtec.edu/department/alaska-maritime-training-center)

The State of Alaska has more coastline than all of the United States combined, making Alaska's maritime environment very challenging. The Alaska Vocational Technical Center (AVTEC) is home to the Alaska Maritime Training Center, a United States Coast Guard (USCG) approved training school with forty USCG approved courses. As one of the few maritime training schools in the country offering Ice Navigation courses and one of the first schools in the country with the newly USCG updated and approved Qualified Member of the Engine Department (QMED) Junior Engineer course, the AMTC at AVTEC stays busy preparing Alaskan's for work in the maritime industry.

High school students can begin their maritime training through AVTEC's online Nautical Skills course. Student learn about maritime careers, chart navigation, safety, nautical rules, knot tying and more!

# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE - HIGHLIGHTS

By: Missy Frazee, President



"This conference is vital to the foundation of CTE efforts in Alaska. Thank-you for the continued commitment to providing this PD and networking time."  
PDC Attendee



Each year the Alaska ACTE hosts a Professional Development Conference (PDC) in Anchorage to provide education and industry an opportunity for professional growth and collaboration. More than 150 teachers, administrators, faculty and industry spent 4 days in hands-on workshops, breakout sessions, and program tours to learn best practices in CTE. The conference was headlined by keynote speaker, Dr. Kevin Fleming (*photo top right*).

Each year the association recognizes outstanding educators, counselors and CTE supporters during the conference at the Awards Luncheon. This year the association honored six individuals who exhibit excellence in CTE (*from right to left pictured in top left photo*).

**Career Guidance Award:** Laralinn Hill, Mat-Su Borough School District

**Leadership Award:** Julia Renfro, Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education (AKCIS)

**New CTE Teacher of the Year:** Adam Wood, East High School Metal Fabrication

**CTE Teacher of the Year:** Brian Marvin, Northwestern Alaska Career and Technical Center

**Innovative Program Award:** Becky Toussaint, Alaska Resource Education

**Community Contribution Award:** Ben Craig, Anchorage Technology Forum

## Hands-on Workshops

New to the conference this year were full-day, hands-on workshops in Culinary, Health Science and the Educators Rising curriculum. Culinary teachers participated in CHOPPED: Prepare, Eat and Compete where they learned to prepare an appetizer, main dish and dessert before participating in a Chopped-style competition. Participants left the workshop with 4 lessons plans and a full belly! Look for a growing list of hands-on opportunities next year.

## 2020 Professional Development Conference

Save the date for the 2020 Professional Development Conference to be held **October 11-14, 2020** at The Hotel Captain Cook in Anchorage, Alaska. A call for presenters will come later in the Spring.

